

AMERICAN HIPPOThERAPY ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting during NARHA Region 2 Conference, NJ
Meeting Minutes, March 14 2009

ATTENDANCE: Meredith Bazaar, Mary Beth Marzulli, Lori Garone, Gina Taylor, Sarah Pictor
Executive Director: Bonnie Cunningham

Quorum established
Call to order: 5:00 pm EST

Seeing that there were 5 AHA Board members attending the Region 2 Conference, Meredith called a Board meeting. At this time, since a quorum was established, there will not be a conference call scheduled in March.

Conference update: the responsibilities of the Board members during conference in May will be emailed to each member prior to conference.

There will be a meeting after the conference for the full Board including the exiting and entering Board members.

Vendors for the conference are still needed. Mer will follow up with HRH and NARHA to inquire about their participation. She will also be contacting SmartPak.

Discussed the surplus of educational materials that AHA has on hand. Decision made to include the packets in the conference bags.

The Education Committee would like to give a good push at conference for the new courses being offered. Faculty responsible for the development of the courses need to wrap up the planning and finalize the content.

Fund raising: Meredith reported that she has sent out Family and Friends letters to over 50 folks and encourages everyone to do likewise. This is a personal way to solicit support. Linda in the office will assist with the mailing. Mer will send a template of the letter. Bonnie asked that Gina summarize the AHA survey for inclusion in the letter.

On-line education: Bonnie spoke with Michelle Karnes, Learning Partners regarding on-line courses. Preparing for the offering of CEU's will continue to be investigated. After the conference, a letter will go out to the membership regarding their requests for topics.

The agreement between Texas A&M University and AHA has been finalized. The posting of the course on AHA website will be done when terminology and mentorship issues are resolved. Next step is the agreement between Sarah Pictor (TAMU course instructor) and AHA.

Name change: discussion ensued regarding the name change for AHA. Change is inevitable and the desire is for simplicity with clarity. Acronyms may help convey who we are; however, inclusion for more disciplines is needed. All agreed that "association"

should remain in the name. Mer would like to be able to present 3 options at conference and have the members give feedback.

Nominating committee: With Rose leaving the Board at the end of her term, AHA Board doesn't have a parent voice. Lori will be making inquiries for a potential Board member who is the parent of a child involved with hippotherapy and also has marketing skills. This would address 2 areas of need for the Board profile.

The Board voted to accept Jacqueline Tiley for a position on the Board. Letters of recommendation have been excellent.

Liaisons: discussion regarding options to improve the commitment from and the recognition of Regional AHA Liaisons.

- Website: list the job description for liaisons
- Offer a "Meet and Greet" with the Board
- Have a "Liaison of the Year"
- Develop a liaison evaluation and responsibility list
- Perhaps "re-district" the Regional and State lines to re-organize the territories
- Bonnie will ask Linda to send a list state by state

AHA office location: discussion ensued regarding the move of the office for AHA to a more central location. At this time, the proposed timeline would be for August, 2009 to have the new location up and running. Possibilities should be submitted to Meredith for consideration. Looking for central states such as Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana. An office manager job description will be reviewed by the BOD.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Pictor