

LMA
LOUISIANA PSYCHIATRIC
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
Executive Council Meeting
Minutes
March 18, 2018

Participants: Kathleen Crapanzano, MD, President, Rob Dahmes, MD, Treasurer, Mary Jo Fitz-Gerald, MD, APA Assembly Representative, Mark Townsend, MD, Immediate Past President, Catherine McDonald, MD, Past President, Lee Michals, MD, Secretary, Carine Nzodom, MD, Resident-Fellow Representative & Cathy Thompson, Executive Director

The meeting began at 8:05 a.m. A quorum was established at 8:12 a.m.

Minutes from the December 12, 2017 Council meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

2018 Spring Meeting –

Mrs. Thompson reported preliminary registration numbers, the number of participating exhibitors and sponsors and an estimate of revenues and projected costs for the Spring meeting. She reported that a favorable bottom line will be realized from the event.

2018-2019 Elections Report –

Discussion was held regarding the proposed officer nominees for 2018-2019. The committee reported that bylaws require individuals in key positions to term out after one year with a succeeding term of one year. The nominating committee further stated that when officers leave or chose not to move up the ranks, it can leave them no option of putting forth qualified nominees, so they need more time to determine the 2018-2019 nominations. Discussion was held regarding open positions and possible nominees. A motion to suspend the bylaws for one year, keeping officers in the same positions for 2018-2019 to give Council members time to review and make recommendations to streamline the current election process was made and seconded.

MOTION APPROVED

By a vote of 5 to 1, Council members suspended the bylaws for one year keeping current officers in place through 2018-2019. Council members will review and provide options to streamline the elections process back to Council for approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report –

SCHEXNAYDER FUND

Dr. Dahmes provided a report from the March 7 Schexnayder Fund Committee. In summary investments managed by Eagle Capital increased 32.05% or \$196,387.65 and those managed by Regatta (in lower risk category investments) increased 9.81% or \$160,608.00.

OPERATING ACCOUNT

Comparing year end 2016 to 2017, Dr. Dahmes stated that income primarily from dues decreased 7.24% with an overall decrease in revenues of 15.26%. He mentioned that due to the age of the membership, this decline will likely continue unless new full dues paying members can be recruited to take their place. Dr. Dahmes stated that total expenses decreased by 0.2% and overall operating costs are exceeding revenues which is negatively affecting the bottom line. He said the line items representing the majority of the cost overrun are the spring meeting and fall meeting which increased by 61.43% and 5.15% respectively. He suggested Council members consider providing one annual meeting per year in lieu of two. Discussion was held regarding which meeting could be eliminated. Based on fall football schedules and recent flooding and hurricanes in August and September, Council members decided to forego the fall meeting in 2018. They agreed to continue to meet with Mississippi Psychiatric Association and collaborate with both Louisiana and Mississippi Councils for Child & Adolescent Psychiatry. And if Mississippi agrees, ask them to host their meeting on the gulf coast with LPMA will hosting every other year. And based on past attendance experience it was agreed that spring meetings be held in New Orleans. It was recommended that Louisiana Association for Addiction Medicine be asked if to continue to collaborate in future meetings.

2018 Spring Meeting Planning –

Discussion took place regarding venues for the 2018 Spring Meeting. The Hyatt and NOPSI in New Orleans came up as possible locations. It was suggested and agreed by Council members that breakout sessions with topics including ethics, adult psychopharmacology, child, and addiction medicine.

Dr. Crapanzano said planning for next year's meeting will begin in the next few weeks and asked Mrs. Thompson to follow up to obtain a date to meet to discuss planning dates and times. She also stated that Council meetings will continue to be held quarterly with dates and times to be announced in advance for calendar scheduling.

Other Business –

Dr. Crapanzano stated there is a problem with the current Physician's Emergency Certificate (PEC) law as written. She reported that current language, although likely an oversight, could place residents at risk of not having medical malpractice insurance coverage if they issue a PEC. Discussion was held regarding a resident's license progression during training. It was mentioned that because program residents are considered by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME) as "permitted" in lieu of licensed under a program until they obtain an independent medical license, may be the reason the language may exclude them.

Dr. Crapanzano reported that plans are underway to correct the language in the law. She mentioned this may have to be done legislatively or may possibly be handled by working with the LSBME. Dr. Crapanzano said she intends to ask LPMA members to support action to revise current law.

Dr. Crapanzano suggested LPMA may want to consider providing a listserv for members to discuss like issues and concerns. Discussion ensued regarding the number of emails that can occur on a listserv and whether it should be made available as an "opt in" to participate. Mrs. Thompson will investigate the logistics of incorporating a listserv and report her findings back to the Council.

Dr. Fitz-Gerald suggested the creation of a women's group may be a good idea to embrace the large number of women now coming into the practice of medicine. She asked Mrs. Thompson to send her a list of women psychiatrists in the state and to let her know which LPMA members are eligible for Distinguished Fellowship.

Next Meeting Date –

The Council will meet quarterly with meeting dates and times to be determined.

Adjournment -

Having no other business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting ended at 8:55 a.m.