

**MSHA Executive Board
East Lansing, MI
September 11, 2015**

Members Present: Kathy Rigley-Rowell; Angelique Boerst; Carolyn Doty; Gordon Krainen; Laura Lenkey; Kelli Pierce; Lori Tavigian; Melissa Witsil

Members Absent: Beth Economou; Emmylou Garza-Prisby; Terry Lange-Winkle; Julie Pratt; Sherry Riedel

Staff Present: Kim Wesoloski; Dawn Kutney

Called to Order: Kathy called the meeting to order at 9:15 am.

Minutes and Agenda: Kathy moved that we accept the minutes, second by Emmylou Garza-Prisby. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Kim Wesoloski reported that everything looks good with the finances.

Office Report: Dawn Kutney reported she is working on the et cetera. The newsletter should go out at the end of September. If you have an article please email to Dawn no later than September 19th. Waiting on renewal materials to come back from the printer then Kim will be working on the dues renewal.

Committee Reports

- A. Conference:** Dawn Kutney reported that Terry Lange-Winkel is working on procuring an audiology speaker. Angelique has sent her some names and she will follow up on them. It was suggested that Terry contact Yvette Hyter from WMU who could possibly speak on children and adolescents affected by abuse, neglect and prenatal alcohol exposure. Terry will be following up on that. Melissa suggested we have better signage or have student volunteers to help direct people to rooms. Kathy suggested we have generic signs made up to help people find rooms. Dawn told the EB that most of our meeting rooms are on the second floor of the hotel and are big enough to have classroom seating. It was suggested that we advertise the conference seating in conference materials. Thursday is completely open. The only thing we have is Sporcle Trivia on Thursday night at the Welcome Reception. Carolyn asked about the budget before she looks for another speaker. Dawn suggested we ask people within the state that would possibly be willing to give back to their association by not asking for an honorarium. Lori suggested we promote CEUs for the Forum Lunches at the conference. The Amway Grand hotel reservation will be completely online.
- B. Advocacy:** Kelli Pierce reported it was a quiet summer. She has received the new draft of the ABA Licensure bill. Kelli will be looking over the draft and making comments by September 25th. Senator O'Brien's bill (SB353) has been introduced and referred to the Committee on Insurance, but has not moved from there. It has to do with coverage for Autism, and reducing requirements for team evaluation (Autism Centers for Excellence) and instead allowing individual physicians to provide the diagnosis
- C. Audiology:** Angelique Boerst reported she gave testimony at the hearing for SB449 introduced by Senator Zorn which requires insurance providers to include coverage for hearing aids for children who are deaf/hard of hearing. 64 insurance companies already have coverage for children and 20 states offer coverage. Angelique's impression is that the insurance companies would oppose any type of insurance mandate. Noah Smith from Capitol Services did attend the hearing and provided some ideas for next steps in terms of what types of information to collect next. Angelique believes that some time will be spent reworking the wording on the bill.

- D. Health Care:** Carolyn Doty reported the committee is working on speakers for the 2017 MSHA Conference. She reported she will be working on the 2016 Health Care Workshop which will be held at St. Joe Health System in Ypsilanti on September 29, 2016. The workshop will also be a webinar/taped for later broadcast. Carolyn asked for suggestions for a speaker. Carolyn was a little disappointed that the Aphasia Video hasn't been viewed by more people. She and Melissa will work on an article for the *et cetera* promoted it. The committee has two nominations for the Outstanding Clinician Award and Matt Green from Media Lounge (directed/produced the aphasia video) has been nominated for the Distinguished Service Award. Dawn asked Carolyn to please send the rationale letter for the distinguished service nomination so that she can forward the information to the Honors Committee. Carolyn and Julie will be mentoring Tamara Baubie to take over the VP position in 2017.
- E. Membership:** Gordon Krainen reported that membership numbers look good. Kathy likes the idea of a state wide Meet and Greet. How would we get the word out? We only get one free email blast from ASHA and the idea is to reach non MSHA members. Jackie Gale from Grand Rapids is already in the process of scheduling a meeting in the Grand Rapids area for October or November. After some discussion it was decided to do a state wide Meet and Greet on November 4th with Gordon, Melissa and the Members-at-Large working together to plan the event. Melissa will contact ASHA to see if we can do an email blast to invite people. Melissa will email Jackie Gale to see if they can coordinate the dates. Gordon presented a Life Membership application for Gary Lawson.
- MOTION: Angelique moved that we accept Gary Lawson for Life Membership. Seconded by Melissa. Motion passed.**
- F. Public Relations:** Melissa Witsil suggested having the Meet and Greets every other year in the fall on the opposite year of the HealthCare Workshop. She reported the Social Media Committee is trying to add more to the Facebook page. The Public Relations Committee is looking for ways to promote the aphasia video. Melissa and Carolyn will write an article for the *et cetera* and possibly submitting the article to CSAP for publication in their newsletter. It was suggested playing the video at the conference especially at the Awards Lunch since Matt Green will probably get the Distinguished Service Award. Melissa asked about updating the website for mobile devices. Kim will check with Veith to get a quote on updating the platform and the homepage of the website.
- G. Public Schools:** Lori Tavtigian reported that she has some new committee members but have had trouble getting together this summer. She is working on updating some of the forms in the Speech Guidelines. She would like to present the update forms at the conference. She hopes to use this as an enticement for school SLPs to come to the conference. There was a discussion regarding caseload sizes. This is a huge issue across the state. She will continue to work on committee membership, the conference and communication with the membership.

New Business

- A. Audiology Restructure:** Joan Mele-McCarthy, ASHA VP for Government Affairs and Janet Deppe, ASHA Director State Advocacy joined the meeting via Go to Meeting to discuss the upcoming audiology merger. Angelique gave some background information regarding the merger. The merger will take effect January 1, 2016 and will merge MAC into MAA. The new organization will be called the Michigan Audiology Coalition. The MAA membership will vote on the merger at the MAC Conference in October. The first transitional Board meeting was held on August 31st. Janet Deppe reported at the Board of Directors meeting in September ASHA will establish a sub-committee to look at the model of changing both professions. Both Janet and Joan want this decision to be well thought out since any change could/would impact all 52 ASHA recognized groups. The MAC has had an attorney and Kathy asked if ASHA would help MSHA with an attorney. Janet answered no ASHA would not help with an attorney but she suggested we may need an attorney if we have a bylaw change. Both Janet and Joan expressed ASHA's desire to have a thoughtful review and analysis of the issue. They both

suggested for the time being we keep the status quo until ASHA has thoroughly investigated the issue. Melissa asked if it might be helpful to survey our membership regarding the merger. Janet said that ASHA can help with a survey by creating the survey, emailing it and then compiling the results. Kathy asked Angelique if a meeting between MSHA and MAC would be helpful. Angelique thought that might be a good idea. Kathy will draft a letter to MAC explaining that we are waiting for a reply from ASHA regarding the restructure.

- B. Lobbyist:** Kathy reported that Stephanie Johnson has resigned from Capitol Services and has taken a new position with Kandler Reed Khoury and Muchmore. Kathy has spoken with her and we can continue our relationship with her at the new firm honoring the terms of our current contract. Kathy also spoke with Noah Smith at Capitol Services and we can continue our relationship with the existing contract. **MOTION: Kelli moved to renew our contract with Capitol Services. Seconded by Lori. Motion passed**

Kathy adjourned the meeting at 12:40 pm.

Next Executive Board and Advisory Assembly meeting is October 30, 2015 in East Lansing.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Wesoloski for Beth Economou