

Western Maryland Area Health Education Center

PSYCHOLOGY AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING CAUCUS

MINUTES

February 23, 2015

Allegany College of Maryland, CE Room #6 – Cumberland, Maryland

CALL TO ORDER: Paul McCusker called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm and asked everyone to introduce themselves as we had several new faces in attendance. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Paul asked Melissa Clark if she would like to go ahead and present the ECHO presentation first. She explained her new role as the ECHO Program Coordinator and the plans for the upcoming ECHO year. She also showed a video and distributed ECHO flyers and answered many questions from the attendees, who were very interested and supportive of the program.

Paul then asked everyone to review the attached minutes from the November 24, 2014 meeting and after review, the minutes were approved as written. Paul noted that they are written in an engaging style. The following individuals were present:

Mike Motter

Paul McCusker

Melissa Clark

Joy Taylor

Jack Zealand

Anne Sheetz

Antoinette Wiseman

Christa Snyder

Spencer Deakin

Lauren Lyon

Stephanie Watson

Judith Altemus

REPORTS

Continuing Education

Christa Snyder gave the CE report. She announced that she is working on fall planning but also has several courses planned for May and June, including "Bullying: Empowering the Bystander"; another course, "Layers of Forgiveness: Relieving Trait Anger in the Compulsive Gambler"; on October 8, 2015 "Compassion Fatigue" and a course on "Ethics" by a WVU presenter. She also announced that the Psych and Professional Counseling Caucus profit for the "Difficult Patient" CE held last fall was \$432.10.

There was discussion regarding training ideas that the caucus would like pursue including "crisis intervention or trauma with George S. Everly, Jr. at Loyola, as a recommended instructor. He presents lectures that are skill and research based. Christa will follow up on that suggestion.

There was also discussion regarding online courses with the National Psychologist Publication www.pdresources.org and that they are very reasonably priced.

WMAHEC Board of Directors

Mike Motter announced that the December 16, 2014 board meeting was his first as Chair and that the meeting included a lot of dialogue from the caucus representatives. The next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2015.

Treasurer's Report

Antoinette Wiseman gave the Treasurer's Report and announced that as of January 31, 2014 the caucus has \$1,343.21 in the account as of this date.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update to Caucus Member list & Mailing List

Joy distributed the listserv for updates and Paul McCusker signed the PTF for today's lunch.

Update Regarding CE Programs

Joy reported that she had email from J & K about their email glitches and that they now have a new email account. Joy has included that information in each one of the binders that are available for loan.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was discussion regarding Mental Health Awareness Month in May, 2015. Joy made arrangements with Bretta Reinhart to have a Proclamation with the County Commissions again this year, however, there was discussion that the caucus would like to pursue a different activity and suggestions included an article for the newspaper. Paul and Mike volunteered to be on a committee to work on this article that they hoped would educate people on counseling and the types of practitioners and maybe a "Myth Buster" orientation to the article. We hope to have it included in the Health Journal of the Cumberland Times News. Mike thought that he had some contacts with both the newspaper and Allegany Magazine, so he will touch base and follow up with them. Joy will cancel the Proclamation request with Bretta and in lieu of that Proclamation, we will have a news article to recognize Mental Health Awareness Month this year

Psychological or Professional of the Year Award

There were a lot of suggestions for the process this year. The caucus members asked Joy to reach out to Sarah Pinardi, the 2014 WMAHEC Professional Counselor of the Year, to see if she would like to help out the caucus on the selection committee this year. Jack Zealand made a recommendation for Lee Ross to receive this award, however, after discussion it was agreed that it may be more appropriate for him to receive an AHEC award as apposed to a caucus award. Joy will check with Susan Stewart and follow up with Jack and Toni Wiseman regarding this idea to see what options there would be.

The caucus suggested that the nomination form go out to all the caucus listservs and request them back by May 1, 2015. So the nomination request will go out of first week in April and ask for nominations to be back by May 1st so that there was time for the selection committee, which is Toni, Judith and Anne, to choose an awardee and order the plaque before the June 9th Annual Award Dinner.

Caucus Brochure

The caucus brochure was attached to the meeting packets today. It was commented how nice they look and it would be helpful to have the brochures emailed to the listserv, so Joy will follow up with Jackie for that.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None.

Paul adjourned the meeting at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Taylor/Jackie Booth