

**Western Maryland Area Health Education Center
Washington County Social Work Caucus
Minutes
July 14, 2014**

Sandra Weaver called the meeting to order at 11:43 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. She asked everyone to review the attached minutes from the May 12, 2014 meeting. The following members were present:

Judith Brown	Heidi Moore	M. Ann Freysz
Fredric Hirsch	Carol Suker	Kay Higgins
Sandra Weaver	Ligia Teodorovici	Linda Yale
Ellen Anderson	Nikki Snider	Joy Taylor

Judith Brown explained that the Maryland Correctional Institution had a power outage and a lot of social work staff were sent home, so she believes that Kamala and Mary Ann would not be able to attend today's meeting so Joy will take the minutes.

The minutes from the May 12, 2014 meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report

Kelsey Wilkes was not in attendance but she forwarded her Treasurer's Report to Fred Hirsch who announced that as of May 31, 2014 there is a balance in the WC/SW caucus account of \$2,925.84.

Committee Updates:

Continuing Education:

There was a request for a "trauma informed practice" training and it was recommended that Tammy Campher and/or Ensley from Safe Place could present. Tracy So, who is a therapist at the Child Advocacy Center, could also provide that training; her contact number is 240-420-4313.

Joy also announced that we have the MS Society presenting at the next meeting, per their request. Sandy Weaver will be providing training from Hospice on November 10, 2014 and Joy also wanted to contact Officer Ryan Shifflet from the Washington County Sheriff's Dep't to do a Gang Task Force update. Those are the programs that are in the works right now.

Hagerstown Community College Project

Joy read Brian Rogers' email about wanting to partner with the Washington County Social Work Caucus on some upcoming course planning, but he did not show up and Joy did not have any further information.

Legislative Network

Fred reminded everyone to check the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiner newsletter online. He gave the updates regarding the Comar regulations with duty to report and supervisory responsibilities. There was discussion regarding those updates.

He also recommended a speaker that he heard recently regarding gay & lesbian & transgender information and understanding the resources. He will forward the speaker name to Joy for future reference.

NASW-MD

Anita Rozas was not in attendance so there was no report.

Social Work Month

Fred Hirsch reminded everyone that we had discussed at the last meeting about adding the "Social Worker of the Year" Award to the Annual Social Work Month celebration so we will have to start the social worker of the year nomination process earlier to make sure that we can get that award completed by March. He suggested that the Social Work Month Planning Committee begin meeting in September, so this will be added to the meeting agenda so that we can form the committee and establish dates to begin the planning process. Sandy Weaver let everyone know that most of the planning happened via email and that it was a very successful model from last year. Brooklane was suggested as a possible location to consider for the next Social Work Month celebration. The theme would be a "Caring for the Caregiver" program for 2015. It was suggested that a "Cultural/Spiritual/Diversity in Language for All" program be considered also. So once the Planning Committee is identified, their first tasks will be to find a location, choose a topic for the CE, and find a speaker to present a full day CE.

REPORTS:

Board of Directors

Fred Hirsch gave the report and announced that the Annual Awards Dinner held on June 3rd was lovely and that Susan Stewart continues to do well in her leadership, especially in light of all the challenges. Western Maryland AHEC is still in litigation with the City of Cumberland and the reimbursement sought is really more actual moving costs than damages. It was mentioned that the buffet style dinner is better and faster than the sit down dinner served at the Annual Awards Dinner this past year, and that the awards were wonderful.

OLD BUSINESS:

Joy Taylor sent around the contact list for updates and Sandra Weaver signed the PTF for today's lunch. Joy collected caucus meeting announcements. There was discussion about the purpose of collecting the meeting announcements and how to make that process more efficient. Most members thought that it was an incentive to RSVP for the meeting and then show up at the meeting. This is to reward the effort of RSVP-ing to the meeting and then following through with actually attending the meeting. We will discuss this again at the next meeting again, if necessary.

NEW BUSINESS:

Annual Plan and Bylaw Review

Joy asked everyone to review the attached Annual Plan and Bylaws so that they are updated for FY15. There were no recommendations for changes. Fred Hirsch made a motion to accept the Annual Plan and Bylaws as they are written and Kay Higgins seconded it. Joy will make the date changes and we will then review again next year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ligia announced that both she and Tammy received their LCSW-C in May and everyone congratulated them on that big achievement.

There was also discussion at this time regarding concern about license renewal and the CE series being split by the license renewal date. Fred answered Ellen's question and said even though they are split in the series for her to submit the courses and she should be fine.

Sandy also posed a concern about the difficulty with the hospital employees getting to the meeting at DSS. She thought that we needed to give thought for ideas to enhance attendance, with perhaps a meeting location change. Fred will check at Robinwood to see if there are any options there to make it easier for some of the hospital social workers to participate.

PRESENTATION:

The business meeting was adjourned at 12:45 and Linda Yale presented the "Developmental Disabilities Administration Eligibility" at that time.

Next Caucus Meeting will be Monday, September 8, 2014, 11:30-1:30pm @ DSS

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Taylor/Jackie Booth