

# AHEC West

## PSYCHOLOGY AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING CAUCUS

### MINUTES

May 22, 2017

Allegany College of Maryland, CE Room #18 – Cumberland, Maryland

**CALL TO ORDER:** Anne Sheetz called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm and welcomed everyone. The following individuals were present:

Michael Motter  
Richard Kerns  
Paul McCuster

Anne Sheetz  
Misti Slaughter  
Christa Snyder

Susan Stewart  
Judyth Altemus

Reading of the minutes and approval was deferred to allow time for report by Susan Stewart and discussion.

### REPORTS

#### AHEC West

AHEC West Executive Director Susan Stewart briefed the Caucus on the need to eliminate administrative support for its health-professions caucuses as a result of a new federal grant that seeks uniformity in the work of AHECs nationwide. As a result, AHEC West's relationship with the Psychology and Professional Counseling Caucus will end as of August 31, 2017. One of the big issues facing the Caucus is how to spend or otherwise dispose of the \$802.41 in the Caucus treasury. The money cannot be transferred to any new entity that will take the place of the current Caucus, as the organization must be a certified 501-c 3 non-profit, which is a lengthy and burdensome process. Members present discussed the possibility of providing the money for a scholarship, but that process would be difficult as well, in establishing criteria, seeking applications and determining a recipient. A special interim meeting was scheduled for noon, Thursday, June 20, 2017 at the Allegany College Continuing Education building to discuss the status of the Caucus funds. Anne encouraged members to develop ideas for the funds. The group decided that at least part of the funds could be used to expand our professional clinical DVD and CD library which is available for caucus member use. All caucus members were encouraged to bring a list of audiovisuals they would like to group to consider purchasing prior to the August 31, 2017 deadline.

Susan also reported that the new grant directs AHEC West to develop interprofessional training programs, including the need to integrate behavioral health into the primary care setting, and encouraged Caucus members to consider being part of that effort. The new grant, which takes effect September 1, 2017, provides for a year of planning, so that such programs would begin in late 2018.

In related discussion, Christa reported that she will continue working with the Caucus on future continuing education; however, she will be unable to perform the administrative tasks –

developing the agenda, taking minutes, coordinating communications – that have been performed by AHEC *West*.

#### Continuing Education

Christa reported on a number of Continuing Education programs being planned for the fall. Details for most are still being finalized.

#### AHEC *West* Board of Directors

Mike Motter deferred the Board report on Susan's earlier discussion. The move away from Caucuses had been approved by the Board earlier in the spring.

#### Treasurer's Report

Judith reported an account balance of \$802.41.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

##### Professional Counselor or Clinical Psychologist of the Year

Dr. Paul McCusker is to be this year's awardee at the Tuesday, June 20, 2017 AHEC *West* Annual Awards dinner being held at Rocky Gap Lodge & Resort.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

New business was discussed by Susan Stewart earlier.

#### **CASE STUDY:**

The case study was deferred to the August meeting.

Anne adjourned the meeting at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Richard Kerns