

Wyoming Acupuncture Society

Member Meeting

April 14, 2018

Present at the meeting: Alisha Bynum, Solieana Abernathy, Jude Buchanan, Traci Wilson, Kate Johnston, Michael Patty, Chris Dewey, Kirsten Peckham-Olson

Attending via internet: Rhonda Lewis, Barbara Smith, Becky Hawkins, Carrie Guschewsky, Paul Guschewsky, Carol Mersereau

The meeting was called to order by Alisha at 1 PM.

Traci read the minutes from the previous meeting. Alisha moved to approve the minutes as read, seconded by Michael. Motion carried.

Carrie presented a summary of the Treasurer's report. All bills and invoices to WAS have been paid. Alisha moved to approve, seconded by Traci and motion carried.

New Business

Alisha announced changes to website. Now that practitioners must be licensed to practice in Wyoming, all members are listed on the "Members" page of the website. Listed separately are all licensed practitioners on the "Find a Practitioner" page.

Continuing education

Members discussed the possibilities for upcoming CEU presentations for WAS membership and other practitioners. A survey had been sent out for interest in 3 topics: Insurance Billing, Fertility and QPR training (Suicide intervention). The greatest area of interest was for Insurance Billing. Rebecca Hawkins would be interested in providing a Kinesio Taping class with enough notice. NCCAOM will also provide a presenter for a Safety and ethics training if WAS requests one.

The goal agreed upon would be to provide one training opportunity per year, possibly to coincide with the yearly member meetings. Also discussed was the payment of NCCAOM fees for the presenters, to pass some savings on to the attending members.

Chris Dewey also brought up the idea of members presenting case studies during the member meetings to also work toward CEUs for the attending members.

Election of Officers

Alisha, Traci and Kate reached the end of their 2 year term on the board and will retire. Kirsten Peckham-Olson was nominated for the position of Board President by Kate, seconded by Alisha and motion carried. Chris Dewey was nominated for the position of Vice President by Alisha and seconded by Kate, motion carried. Michael Patty was nominated for the position of Secretary by Traci, seconded by Jude and motion carried.

Old Business

Worker's compensation

Alisha contacted Eli Bebout and the WAS lobbyist regarding acupuncture coverage under Worker's Comp. It is possible that a new bill will have to be drafted to add acupuncturist to the list of practitioners who can be reimbursed by W.C.

During discussion, Becky said she had previous experience with this topic and believed that acupuncturists may be added by W.C. She will find out more from her contacts about what steps we can take and report back to WAS.

Dry Needling

Kate spoke with Mina Larson at NCCAOM and the direction of they are encouraging is to positively promote the differences between acupuncture and dry needling, including the number of hours of education, the scope and efficacy of Chinese medicine etc .

A committee was formed including Kate, Michael, Kirsten and Solieana to do media and marketing on this subject.

Opioids

Kate provided a press release detailing the benefits of acupuncture for opioid addiction that can be sent out by practitioners to their local media outlets. Eli Bebout is working on legislation regarding this issue and Alisha and Kate are both working to increase awareness of our medicine as part of the solution.

Alisha has a presentation that can be used by practitioners to educate MDs, other healthcare providers, press and public on the topic. She will be making this available to the membership to use as they wish.

Other Business

Tribute

To recognize the passing of our member Roger Andrews, a tribute on the website was discussed. Alisha spoke with Roger's family to share the condolences of the group.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be October 13th in Sheridan.

Respectfully submitted,
Traci Wilson
WAS Secretary