

ITRA Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, October 6, 2006
University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Introductions

Members Present: Doug Boleyn, Jennifer Fisher, Allison Ball, , Mandi Parker, Adria Swinonos, Renee Barbu, Connie Williams, Ann Sullivan, Megan Schwalm, Annie Obrecht, Abby McDermott

Members Absent: Mollie Wilhite, Mackenzy Herrick, Martin Wright, Rachel DeKeyser, Marcy Matthias, Joe Wilson

Guests Present: Abrah (UNI Student), Lori (UNI Student sitting in for Joe Wilson),

Doug called the meeting to order at 10:05

Announcements

- ❖ Emily Linn has resigned from her position of President-Elect.
- ❖ Megan Schwalm has volunteered to take Emily's position.
 - A motion to induct Megan as President- Elect was made by Ann Sullivan. Renee seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously. No further discussion occurred.
- ❖ Jennifer is the ATRA state representative for Iowa.
- ❖ ITRA was recognized as Co-chapter of the year at the ATRA conference in Florida as we have been active from a legislative standpoint and for our conference attendance. ITRA also gave ATRA \$1000.00 for the Medicare project.

Review of Minutes

- ❖ **The board did not review the minutes from the last meeting. This will need to be done at the December board meeting.**

Financial Report

- ❖ Jennifer shared that the current balance was \$6,542.93.
- ❖ Jennifer deposited the conference check which totaled \$7, 723.37.
- ❖ Jennifer wrote a check fro \$1000.00 to ATRA Medicare Project.
- ❖ **No motions were made to accept the financial report. This will need to be done at the December meeting.**

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Public Relations/Website
 - ❖ Paul Beck, a student at UNI working to update our webpage, was present to show us what he has been working on. He was also present for the board to give suggestions and input for the content of the information provided
 - ❖ Paul still needs to know the benefits of TR. Why would someone want to pursue a career in this field? Why should someone become a member of IRRA? Also, why should doctors, other healthcare professionals, or consumers utilize TR? Doug will provide him with this information.
 - ❖ *Paul needs pictures!!!* If you have any pictures from your facility please put them on a disk and bring them to the next meeting. Placing the pictures on a disk allows for better quality.
 - ❖ *FOR BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT* please send Paul a biography about yourself for the website. He also took our pictures today, so bring a picture of yourself to the next meeting.
 - ❖ *The job postings on the website need to be updated.* If you know that one of the postings is incorrect please contact Paul. Also, if you have a listing that you would like to add, contact Paul (paul_beck72@hotmail.com). If you have a specific link to your facility it would be greatly appreciated if you could include that in the information that you send.

- ❖ Allison Ball's boyfriend stated that he is willing to maintain the website after its completion. He works with computers and building websites on a daily basis.
- ❖ The webpage is structurally sound, but is lacking in content. Paul would greatly appreciate our help to finish up this project. Without our input and feedback we have a poor website. PLEASE HELP!!! Paul would like to finish this up for us.
- ❖ The ITRA website is www.iowatra.org.

2. By-Laws

- ❖ By-laws are in the hands of the CAC. Doug does not foresee a reason for them to not be accepted as written. CAC did not have the opportunity to review them at the last ATRA conference, but we should be able to change them in March.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Conference Update

- ❖ If anyone is interested in speaking, or knows someone who is, please forward this information to Megan ASAP!
- ❖ We need to be confirming speakers and getting contracts sent out. All speaker information needs to be to Sarah Vitt at UNI by December 1.
- ❖ Speaker information needs to include the goals and objectives of the session, description, résumé, and equipment needed for presentation.
- ❖ The board discussed several speaker options. Board members will be contacting the persons mentioned and getting their information to Megan ASAP!!!
- ❖ Sandra Negely is the President of ATRA. She works in mental health and was a driving force for TR licensure in Utah. Doug is trying to get in touch with her for keynote and breakout sessions.
- ❖ Ann Sullivan stated she, along with Senator Dvorsky and others, would be willing to do afternoon keynote session.
- ❖ Paul Beck stated he would do a computer tutorial presentation.
- ❖ Adria will contact the ASPIRE program and Northstar Community Services.
- ❖ Connie stated she would do VOICES. She will need a 2 hour time period.
- ❖ Karla Belzer will do a session.
- ❖ Marsha Carter to do a session on inclusion.
- ❖ Glen Sanken to do a session on Freeze Framer Interactive Learning System.
- ❖ Rich MacNeil
- ❖ Taichi
- ❖ Horticulture-someone from Harmony House will be contacted.
- ❖ Connie will call Dale Atkins.
- ❖ Child life
- ❖ Music Therapy
- ❖ Allison is contacting co-workers about initiatives based activities.
- ❖ Jim and Loretta Verbout
- ❖ Jerry Hitzhusen
- ❖ Beth and Gary from Covenant are a possibility.
- ❖ Renee volunteered to do a session.
- ❖ Rod Dieser will be contacted to find out about research going on.
- ❖ Hospice
- ❖ Annie stated she would do a Movement To Music session
- ❖ Art therapy

2. Legislative Update

- ❖ Medicare Project
 - Continues to be a work in progress.

- There have been many different interpretations as there are so many fiscal intermediaries involved.
- We have 50 signatures from the house side and just received enough from the senate.
- Doug emailed 2 template letters in which you need to change the date and some info.
- Fax the letters to Senator Harkin and Senator Grassley ASAP. The fax numbers are included on the email Doug sent. Make sure you send the correct letter to the correct Senator! 😊
- Try to get each person from your department to fill one out. Students, other healthcare providers, consumers, etc. can also send a letter. You may need to change a little more of the information for them.
- ATRA requests that you email them a copy of the letters that are sent, www.atra-ir.org.
- THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT. PLEASE HELP OUR PROFESSION OR WE MAY ALL BE OUT OF A JOB IN THE FUTURE!!!

❖ Licensure

- The Iowa bill was written using the North Carolina and New Hampshire bills, both of which were successful.
- We will need support to contact representatives in each area of Iowa.
- Licensure will require that a person be a CTRS and will come with a fee of \$50-100. **This figure is an estimate not an exact.**
- Licensure will help us to be a part of the 3 hour rule. It should also assist with increased wages and jobs.
- Licensure will assure that qualified persons are delivering appropriate care.
- Our bill was reviewed by ATRA who gave us some suggestions. Those changes were made and our bill was approved by ATRA.
- We will have a day on the hill around the end of January to meet with representatives. A talking sheet will be drawn up to use during conversation.
- We should have the bill back from Senator Bob Dvorsky in a couple of weeks.

3. Newsletter

- ❖ Need to get articles to Karla Belzer by October 13. (www.karlabelzer@yahoo.com)
- ❖ Conference Update-Megan
- ❖ Special events program with Ken-Megan
- ❖ Licensure- Doug
- ❖ Chapter of the year- Karla
- ❖ Ann's retirement-Megan
- ❖ Ken's fall prevention class- Doug

4. Next Meeting

- ❖ Next meeting will be held in Iowa City on December 8th. Megan will secure a room and be in touch with everyone to share directions and location.
- ❖ Megan made a motion to accept location for next meeting and Connie seconded the decision. Motion passed unanimously and no further discussion.

Ann made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Renee seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously and no further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 12:07