**January 20th, 2018**

**8:35am-9:55am**

In attendance: Dean Leone, Nancy Sachner, Ellen Nasper, Ryan Ochoa, Allison Brownlow, Elaine Hunter, Anne Singer, Ashley Clayton, Nir Yeduhai, Mickey Silverman, Barbara Marcus, Elinor Kotchen, and Rachel Torello.

Absent: Carrie Christensen, Jill Delaney, Wendy Stewart, Susanne Weil

**I. Vote to Approve Previous Minutes**

Ellen Nasper moved to approve the minutes from the board meeting on 12/2/17, Barbara Marcus seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**II. Update on Membership Renewals**

Ashley Clayton updated the board on membership renewals. As she said, there are currently 148 active members and 117 who still owe dues. It was agreed that the deadline for membership renewals would be the end of February. Ashley will remind members to update their online profiles. The Paypal system has been down, so people have been mailing in their checks. Fortunately, Paypal is now up and running. As Ashley reported, 12 new members joined CSPP during the fall semester. Because Jill Delaney, CSPP’s treasurer, was absent from the meeting, Ashley indicated that she would send the checks she has to Jill via certified mail.

**III. CE Credits for Regional Events**

Allison Brownlow informed the Board that she had been approached by a CSPP member who is also a regional rep for NASW about applying to NASW to obtain CEUs for mini meetings. CSPP currently pays $300 to get CEUs for 5 clinical conferences per year, but with an extra $100, it can get 6-10 total meetings approved. For psychologists, there is a different submission process. The extra 5 CEUs can be distributed among the regions to be used at the regional mini meetings. Allison suggested a $3 attendance fee at mini meetings in order to get 2 CEUs. Allison moved for CSPP to pay the extra $100, and she will do the legwork for social workers and also look into what is involved for psychologists. Elaine Hunter seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

**IV. Fairfield County Event Update & Proposal**

Rachel Torello presented for Susanne Weil, who is the Fairfield County Regional Representative, as she was not in attendance. Fairfield held a meeting of the Film Club in December, which drew 10 attendees. There is an upcoming meeting entitled “What’s New in Psychopharm” where a psychiatrist will speak. In the fall Susanne initiated the Sociopolitical Group, which is a subgroup of the Fairfield region. They have scheduled Bandy Lee, who is the nationally known author of the book “The Dangerous Case of Donald Trump,” to speak in March. Susanne plans to hold the event at the Fairfield Museum for a fee of $330. Rachel raised concerns about safety, as Dr. Lee has received death threats. Rachel suggested the event be open only to CSPP members with a preregistration and no walk-ins. The board raised questions about the role of this talk within the context of CSPP and the political implications of hosting this event. Ellen Nasper moved to go forward with hosting this event, Mickey Silverman seconded, and one person opposed the motion. Ryan Ochoa explained his concerns about alienating potential members. It was suggested that CSPP also host a speaker expressing a more conservative viewpoint, as a counterbalance. Several board members expressed a desire to have more information about the nature of Dr. Lee’s talk and to hear from Susanne directly. Nancy Sachner proposed delaying the event in order to have more time to think it through at the upcoming Board retreat. Allison Brownlow suggested setting clear parameters with Dr. Lee about what she can speak about. Nancy moved to postpone the event, Ellen seconded, and three people supported the motion. Ellen spoke about the need for regional reps and committee chairs to have a degree of autonomy and emphasized the importance of not undermining their judgment and decisions. Rachel clarified that the vote stands to go forward with planning the event, as there were 3 people in favor of postponing it, 9 in favor of going forward, and 1 abstention.

**V. Newsletter**

Mickey Silverman reported that she hopes for a winter issue of the newsletter to come out in late February. The committee has lost 3 members, and Mickey said that she has had a hard time getting committee members together and recruiting new members. The current committee members are Mickey, Ashley Clayton, Kathryn White, George Hagman, and Cheryl Silverstein, with Allison Brownlow as an “adjunct member.” Mickey inquired whether she could put a notice soliciting newsletter submissions on the welcoming table at the clinical conferences. Elaine Hunter suggested sending it out via CSPP’s listserv instead and also suggested that she could make a tab on the website about the newsletter, to outline guidelines for submissions. Mickey indicated that she is going to solicit entries about how the current socioeconomic climate has been affecting clinicians’ practices. She inquired about whether she can use sociopolitical content in the newsletter, and the board agreed.

**VI. Clinical Conference Committee**

Ellen Nasper reported on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. It held a recent workshop on race in which Susan Nathiel presented a case and Maria Oliva provided commentary. As Ellen said, the workshop was successful and well attended. Ellen then updated the board on her progress on securing speakers at the clinical conferences for the 2018-2019 academic year. As she said, Steven Kuchuck requested that CSPP increase his honorarium to $2000-$2500, which the board agreed is too much. Dorothy Holmes is already presenting at the Yale Child Study Center next spring, which would make a talk at CSPP redundant. As Barbara Marcus informed the board, WNEPS is hosting a dinner with Dorothy Holmes on Friday, May 11th, , 2019, which is the night before her talk at the Child Study Center, and WNEPS has suggested that the dinner be held jointly with CSPP. Ellen mentioned that other potential clinical conference speakers are Mary Joan Gerson, who does couples therapy, Ghislaine Boulanger, who has introduced psychoanalytic ideas in public schools, Jessica Benjamin, and Karen Lyons Ruth, who studies attachment. The board raised concern about there being too many speakers who focus on attachment. It was then suggested that Karen Lyons Ruth could be in the spring, since CSPP is cosponsoring a conference on attachment this March. The board agreed for Ellen to move forward with this planning.

**VII. Board Meeting Scheduling**

Rachel Torello spoke about the possibility of changing the time of the board meetings. The downsides of the current timing are that it is expensive to use the NHLC, the meetings are early in the morning, it makes for a long day to attend both a board meetings and a clinical conference, and it can be too emotionally stirring to have the meetings right before the conferences. Ellen Nasper suggested holding 2 retreats per year so that the board could talk about emotionally charged material at the retreats instead of right before the clinical conferences. Nancy Sachner added that the bulk of committee work should be done by the individual committees, allowing the board to be more efficient at meetings. Ashley Clayton then suggested that board members be more committed to reading committee reports ahead of time, so as to stay on track at the meetings. It was noted that it would be very difficult to schedule a different time for the board meetings and ensure high attendance.

Rachel Torello moved to end the meeting, Ryan Ochoa seconded the motion, and it was unanimously adjourned.