**CSPP Board Retreat**

**September 9th, 2017**

**10:00am-3:00pm**

In attendance: Dean Leone, Mickey Silverman, Allison Brownlow, Elaine Hunter, Ashley Clayton, Jill Delaney, Susanne Weil, Ellen Nasper, Anne Singer, Carrie Christensen, Elinor Kotchen, Nancy Sachner, and Rachel Torello

Absent: Nir Yeduhai, Barbara Marcus, Ryan Ochoa, and Wendy Stewart

**I. Attachment Conference**

Ellen Nasper updated the board on her plans for a joint conference on attachment to be sponsored by CSPP, the Attachment Network of Connecticut, and the Yale Child Study Center. The conference is scheduled for Friday, March 2nd, 2018 and will be held at Gateway Community College. Norka Maiberg and Arietta Slade will be speaking, and the conference will bring together people from community organizations, DCF, and people in the school system. The focus will be on the clinical applications of attachment throughout the lifespan and how to apply attachment theory in various settings. The board debated how much to charge as the attendance fee and discussed the need for the conference to be a service to the community and not financially prohibitive for people to attend. The United Way has promised to give between $1000 and $1500 to cover some expenses. To keep costs down, the board discussed not providing lunch to attendees. Ellen moved for CSPP to donate $2000 to the cover some of the costs, Ashley Clayton seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

**II. Scholarship Committee**

Carrie Christensen spoke about the proposals that the Scholarship Committee has made. The committee consists of Carrie as the chair, Maria Oliva, Ellen Nasper, and Elaine Hunter. They have proposed that the recipients be able to attend a year of CSPP’s clinical conferences. Applicants can be members or nonmember of CSPP and must have or be working towards a graduate degree in the helping professions. They need to submit a cover letter, resume, letter of recommendation, and a statement of interest. Applications will be accepted starting September 1st, and the applicants will be notified of the committee’s decision by December 15th. The committee plans to advertize through the local colleges, community mental health clinics, and NASW. The committee has developed a rubric to rate the applicants’ qualifications. The board debated the language used in advertising the scholarship, to seem inclusive and not overly traditional. The committee will start advertising the scholarship in the coming weeks, so as to award the first recipients for the 2018-2019 academic year. Elaine moved to accept the proposal, Mickey Silverman seconded it, and it was unanimously approved.

**III. WNEPS Joint Conference**

Barbara Marcus is currently working on putting together a joint conference with CSPP and WNEPS, scheduled for Fall 2019.

**IV. Clinical Conference Committee**

Rachel Torello posed the question of whether the topics of the clinical conferences have fit with CSPP’s mission and whether the conference committee has been following protocol, as far as getting approval from board for the topics and speakers selected. Everyone agreed that the conferences are going well and that the board has been adequately consulted.There was discussion about whether there still needs to be a clinical conference committee because, as Ellen Nasper said, she finds it easier and enjoys the process of interfacing with the speakers on her own. The board discussed how committee members may end up feeling excluded from the process. On the other hand, everyone agreed that the conferences have been very successful and well-planned and that maybe it is too unwieldy to have multiple people involved in the planning process.

**V. Regional Updates**

*Fairfield Region- Susanne Weil*

Susanne reported on a recent mini meeting of a patient with borderline personality disorder who presented her story, which was well attended. It was held at the Westport Library, which people agreed may be less intimidating than going to someone’s home. Susanne also reported on the upcoming mini meetings for the year. There is an ongoing group in Fairfield that will meet 2x/year to address how to cope with issues under the current political administration. Rachel clarified that these meetings need to be open only to CSPP members.

There was then a discussion of the protocol for scheduling mini meetings. The regional representatives need to get approval to hold an event from Carrie first, then send the info to Elaine for her to post on CSPP’s website. Ideally, 2 events will not be held on same weekend. If that is not possible, then they can be on the same weekend but different days. If that is impossible, they can be on the same day but held at different times.

*New Haven Region- Allison Brownlow*

Allison informed the board that there will be a mini meeting on the movie “The Sea” in November. She asked that members speak with her if they would like to present at a mini meeting.

The board spoke about having a workshop about making a professional will and possibly a workshop series on professional logistics, i.e., the nuts and bolts of private practice.

Rachel reported that Ira Moses sent her a note informing her that his wife Marsha is no longer interested in serving as CSPP’s counsel. He suggested Mr. Pinkpank as an attorney. The board spoke about following up with him or with Elizabeth Winkleman, who is a lawyer and psychologist.

*Eastern Connecticut Region- Ann Singer*

Ann spoke about how therapists in Eastern Connecticut don’t tend to be psychodynamic and how there are not many therapists there seeking out professional contacts, which explains why CSPP does not have many members in that region. Ann currently runs a group in New London of primarily EMDR practitioners (though psychodynamic), but none are members of CSPP.

**VI. Advertising**

The board weighed what kind of advertising is the best way to attract new members. It was agreed that CSPP no longer needs a paper brochure, but Elaine will continue to print small cards with CSPP’s website address. Dean Leone agreed to have a large permanent sign made to display at clinical conferences. Rachel indicated that she would get permanent nametags for board members to wear at the clinical conferences. Ashley said that she would send a list of new members to Nir Yeduhai to put a star (\*) on their name tags.

**VII. Update from Treasurer**

Jill Delaney reported that CSPP currently has $51,000 in the bank. It previously had $70,000, but Jill just paid a check to the New Haven Lawn Club of approximately $15,000. CSPP is currently doing well financially and has a comfortable cushion.

**VIII. Board Meetings**

Dean suggested that the board meet 4x/year and not before clinical conferences, so as to save money on reserving space at the NHLC. This issue to be discussed further at the next board meeting.

**IX. Newsletter Committee**

Mickey Silverman spoke about the need for more members on the Newsletter Committee. She would like to vary the content of the newsletter and would like more members to submit entries. The board suggested that Mickey send out emails to the membership soliciting entries on specific topics. Mickey is aiming for the next issue to come out in November or December.

**X. Membership**

The board spoke about the lack of diversity within CSPP’s membership. Everyone agreed that there should be efforts to give more voice to members of color.

**XI. Dale Ortmeyer Memorial Conference**

The board discussed the format of next week’s clinical conference, in which Jonathon Shay is speaking, which will be the first annual Dale Ortmeyer Memorial Conference. Inge Ortmeyer will be there with one of their sons and his wife. Wendy Stewart plans to give a speech honoring Dale at beginning of conference. It was noted that Nir will need help with the registration table. Rachel agreed that she would send an email to the board informing them of what time to meet on Saturday. There will be an abbreviated board meeting before the conference.

Jill Delaney agreed to send a reminder to the membership of the Listserv guidelines.

Meeting adjourned.