**Connecticut Society for Psychoanalytic Psychology**

**Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting**

**Saturday, November 23, 2013**

**8:30 AM to 10:00 AM**

**Attendees:**Elaine Hunter, Anna Badini, Carlo Codato, Lois Fox, Michael Kahn, Jane Keat, Ira Moses, Ellen Nasper, Nancy Sachner, Mickey Silverman, Ann Singer, Wendy Stewart, Rachel Torello, Barbara Marcus, Angelica Kaner (CSPP member and representative of WNEPS to discuss the CSPP-WNEPS Joint Conference)

**Absentees:** Dale Ortmeyer, Dean Leone, Jill Delaney, Allison Brownlow

**I.** Ellen Nasper moved that the minutes from the last Board meeting (10/19/2013) be approved. Nancy Sachner seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.

**II. Registrars’ Update: Anna Badini & Carlo Codato.**

To date, 29 people have signed up for today’s conference. We usually receive a number of additional walk-in registrations on the day.

**III. WCSPP’s Request and Our Response: Elaine Hunter.**

Westchester Center for the Study of Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy (WCSPP) has complained about its members receiving email blasts for our conference, because it is also running a conference today. Elaine discussed the issue with WCSPP president. WCSPP and CSPP have a number of members in common, and Elaine did not agree to remove WCSPP members from our email lists. Elaine and the WCSPP president did agree that, in the future, they will try to discuss their schedules in advance. Elaine since realized that our CSPP-WNEPS Joint Conference is already set for the same date as a WCSPP conference next year. Jill Delaney serves as CSPP’s liaison to WCSPP, and Elaine will ask her to do some more work smoothing things out.

**IV. Membership Committee Issues: Rachel Torello and Wendy Stewart.**

Rachel described the process by which people apply to become members and the committee reviews applications. In order to discuss one membership-related issue confidentially, Ellen Nasper moved that we call an executive session. Carlo Codato seconded the motion. The Board voted in favor. Angelica Kaner left the room for this portion of the meeting. The executive session was then ended by a unanimous vote.

**V. Joint Conference Committee: Barbara Marcus and Angelica Kaner.**

Barbara and Angelica announced that the 11/22/2014 conference on masculinities is set. Donald Moss and Michael Diamond will speak. Sid Phillips will be the moderator. WNEPS and CSPP will share expenses and profits 50/50. The Board reviewed the budget, which has a proposed registration fee of $85. (Please see Attachment A to these minutes for more information about the format of the conference and for the proposed budget.) Barbara explained that even a conservative estimate suggests a profit of approximately $2000 for each organization. Mickey suggested advertising the conference in gender and sexuality related journals. Some funds for advertising are included in the budget. Ellen Nasper moved to accept the budget. Ira Moses seconded the motion. The Board discussed that the Joint Conference Committee should be free to increase the registration fee if necessary. This motion was then unanimously approved by the Board.

**VI. Long Range Planning Committee: Nancy Sachner.**

Nancy reviewed the current proposed changes, which are outlined in detail in Attachment B below.

The Board discussed the issue of defining membership categories in Article Three. The definition of retired members (seeing no more than 5 patients per week, in current draft) is problematic, since professionals in administrative roles may also see fewer than 5 patients a week, but should not be considered “retired.” The category of “individuals whose interests and professional work are closely identified with the interests of the Society” is problematic as currently included within a subset of members who must be licensed or license-eligible. The Board agreed that Student members are not full members and are not permitted to vote, and that this needs to be clarified in the by-laws and enforced.

The committee believes that there should be some way of terminating membership for ethical violations, and the Board agreed. Article Eleven refers to this, but is not specific. The committee will work on how to allow for this without CSPP taking on an adjudicative role.

The Board noted that liaisons are not included on the Board in the current by-laws. The committee will add this to Article Four to allow them to be on the Board. Mickey Silverman asked if the Editor of the newsletter could be included as member of the Board. The committee will discuss this further.

Rachel Torello agreed to check with APA re: how long applications should be kept by CSPP, to include in Article Five.

The Board agreed to the change in Article Six that gives the Board the authority to dissolve as well as establish standing and ad hoc committees.

The Board agreed with Article Ten’s revision to include email ballots.

The committee will return to work on the issues raised. The Board acknowledged the hard work of Nancy Sachner and committee on this difficult task.

**VII. Membership Renewal and Directory Issues: Ellen Nasper.**

Renewals are down over last year. 115, out of a membership of 175, have renewed so far. Stephanie Kloos has resent the renewal letter to those who have not yet renewed. Ellen will also have a stand at the conference today for members to renew on site. Ellen reported that, so far, 4 members are Early Career Professionals, 6 are retired, and 2 are students. 32 people want materials by paper. The Board considered the possibility that an email solicitation to renew may be more likely to get lost in an inbox than a mailed request. The Board agreed to discuss this issue at the retreat.

The proposed alternative format for the membership directory, suggested by Michael Kahn, will also be discussed at the retreat. The proposed alternative would have smaller print and would include an additional categorization by office location and by clinical specialty.

**VIII. Diversity Committee report - Ellen Nasper.**

Ellen reported that the committee’s discussions have been very wide ranging, with many suggestions proposed. Michael Kahn has drafted a questionnaire for the membership about diversity issues.

**IX. Dee Unterbach's Proposal for Strategic Outreach – Elaine Hunter.**

Elaine presented Dee’s proposals for a possible ad hoc committee on strategic outreach, as follows:

Proposed committee goals would be:

1. Increase public knowledge of CSPP  
2. Increase membership  
3. Increase attendance at conferences   
4. Increase number of "hits" to our web site

Suggested actions include:

1. Offering one free conference to potential members.

2. Increasing our visibility on Google searches.  
3. Soliciting organizations, academies, agencies where members are involved to alert people to the personal benefits they have derived from their membership.

4. Providing in-service trainings at these organizations and mentioning CSPP as an organization that provides fine opportunities to learn more and meet colleagues.  
5. Distributing fliers at sites where members are connected.

6. Targeting under-represented groups for membership.

The Board expressed appreciation of Dee’s enthusiasm. Members commented that these proposals seem to represent overlaps with the missions of many other committees, but that Dee could be asked to prioritize and then try to integrate some of her ideas with the work of existing committees. Elaine Hunter suggested that the Speaker’s Bureau represents the most significant separate idea. Nancy Sachner recalled that this has been attempted in the past, but may be worth trying again. The Board agreed not to establish a new ad hoc committee at this point.

**X. Clinical Conferences – Ira Moses.**

Ira noted that, given the increase in the Lawn Club fees, we need to shift our expectation on profit goals in light of the level of attendance CSPP has realized over the last several years.  The attendance has been relatively steady but for one or two blockbuster events over the years.  The need to expand our mailing list is imperative in order to increase attendance.  Michael Kahn reiterated that the Finance Committee has noticed the ongoing shortfall, and all agreed there is a problem with the organization having a small email blast list. Elaine Hunter stated that we are working on increasing our email list. Ira proposed that the conference in January or February should be more of a clinical case conference with CSPP members presenting. The Board agreed.

**XI. Retreat Issues – Elaine Hunter.**

So far the following issues have emerged to be discussed at the upcoming Board retreat on January 11th:

* Membership renewal process
* Directory format/method of distribution
* Diversity Committee activities
* Dee Unterbach’s proposals for strategic outreach, including the Speaker’s Bureau idea
* Define and refine role of communications coordinator

XII. Barbara Marcus moved to adjourn the meeting. Michael Kahn seconded the motion, and all agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane E. Keat, Psy.D.

Acting Recording Secretary

**Attachments**

**A. Report of CSPP-WNEPS Joint Conference Committee**

CSPP Board Meeting

November 23, 2013

The Joint Conference Committee met again, this time on a balmy November 2, with Mickey serving as our gracious host. We are very pleased to announce that we have received enthusiastic acceptances of our invitation by Dr. Phillips as moderator and both the panelists, Drs. Diamond and Moss for a conference on the topic of men/masculinities on Nov 22, 2014 at NHLC.

Our meeting then focused on two primary considerations, budget and format. We also established subcommittees to address upcoming tasks. Barbara and Angelica reported on their interactions with the WNEPS President and Treasurer, Carole Goldberg. Dr. Goldberg expressed enthusiasm for the topic and panel. After clarifying budgetary issues, we have received word that WNEPS will share equally in the expenses (and anticipated profits).

**Format**

The format is envisioned as a discussion of and between the views of the speakers and there will be time allotted for the presenters to comment on one another’s paper, as well as ample time for Q & A from the audience. Barbara will ask presenters to suggest what they would like to focus on more specifically. Based on this information, we will develop a conference title and brochure content.

**Committee Assignments**

Angelica and Barbara will continue coordinate with details with Carol Goldberg, WNEPS. CSPP will be responsible for CE’s for SW’s and PhD’s. WNEPS (Kathy Wilcox) will be responsible for CME’s for MD’s attending the conference.

Rachel Torello and Ann Singer agreed to act as Registrars for this conference.

A sub-committee of Angelica Kaner, Jill Delaney and Dean Leone was formed to design the brochure and to organize the advertising effort.

**Budget**

We established an operating budget estimated on the 2011 conference provided by Dean and Jill, but adding additional NHLC cost. Each organization received a profit of about $2000. Rachel was good enough to provide us with information about the fee structure for our last joint conference. We had 109 people at the conference in 2011 and charged as follows:

$60 advanced

$75 on site

$50 trainee/student advanced

$60 trainee/student on site

Based on the last Joint Conference we developed the attached budget for which we are requesting your approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Marcus

Chair, Joint Program Committee

**Proposal for Joint Conference (CSPP & Western New England Psychoanalytic Society)**

Date: November 22, 2014

Time: 9:00 am- 12:30 pm (anticipated)

Location: New Haven Lawn Club

Registration fee: est. $85\* (TBD)

These are the estimated operating expenses (based on the last Joint Conference: October 29, 2011)\*\*

Estimated Conservative

Brochures                           $1000

Speaker’s Lunches          $ 100

Postage                                $ 100

PayPal Service                   $ 55

Lawn Club\*\*                      $1550

Total operating  expenses              $2,805 [$3050]

Speakers Fees:

Phillips (Moderator) Honorarium waived

Diamond $1200 Honorarium + travel/accommodation

Moss $ 350 Honorarium

Moss Travel $ 50

$1600. [$1700]

TOTAL expenses: $4405. [$4750]

Estimated Conservative

Estimated Gross Income\*             $10,200 [$9000]

Total Estimated Expense -$ 4405 [$4750]

Total Estimated Profit-Total $5,795 [$4250]

Estimated **profit** for WNEPS/CSPP (@50%) **$2,897.50 [$2125]**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*We are estimating the attendance at 120 with a fee of $85, so a total of approximately $10,200.

\*\* The cost to rent the space at the Lawn Club also includes breakfast drinks and pastries. The NHLC policy now requires $10 minimum/estimated attendee, so fruit would be included

**B. Minutes of Long Range Planning Committee**

**November 10, 2013**

Present: Elaine Hunter, Wendy Stewart, Nancy Sachner, Mickey Silverman and Dean Leone

Absent: Barbara Marcus

Housekeeping

We agreed to keep the same meeting time ( Sunday, 4-6:00 pm ) and hopefully have all meetings face-to-face.

Membership Issue

There is a current applicant for CSPP membership who accepted a resignation while under ethics investigation in June of 2012 . We had a discussion of what should be included in our By-laws membership criteria. It was agreed that the letter sent to him should be limited to his not being licensed or license eligible (Article Two).

We agreed that there is a need to get clearer re: membership guidelines and are, therefore, asking the Membership Committee to draft a proposal re: what they believe should be in the By-laws regarding membership eligibility.

By-law Revisions

We reviewed and fine-tuned previous revisions made at LPR Meetings and Retreat. The following are some of the changes made today.

1. Article Two – Mission Statement will replace B.

2. Article Three – Elaine will check what APA defines as “retired” and “early career” members.

- Ethical violations should be added to Article Three #4 (Termination of Membership)

- Wendy will ask Marsha Moses whether ethical violations should be considered for inclusion in CSPP, remaining a member and as a basis for termination.

3. Article Four – Membership Committee will find out how long we should keep applications

4. Article Six (1A) – Question was raised as to whether applications should be put in our archives. Rachel Torello will be asked to check with APA re: what other chapters do.

5. Article Six (2) – This section was revised to say “Existing and future commitees and ad hoc committees can be added or dissolved as needed.

6. Article 10 – Wendy will check with Marsha Moses re: changing mailing ballots to emailing for those who have it.

7. Elaine will send finalized revisions to the LRP Committee. After members review them, Nancy will send our finalized proposal to the Board before the next meeting requesting comments to be sent to her before the next Board Meeting on November 23 so that a vote to approve the proposal may be taken.

Dee Unterbach’s Offers

Elaine will respond to Dee’s offers. She will ask her to let us know if she is willing, for now, to limit her pursuits to getting more information about what parent organizations do re: ACA. She will also be asked to write up any other proposals that could then be discussed at Retreat and/or a Board Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Sachner

**C. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes**

**November 20, 2013**

Present: Elaine Hunter, Ellen Nasper, Michael Kahn, Jill Delaney

Absent: Dean Leone

CSPP currently has $27,000 (checking 20,000 + CD 7,000) on hand.

In discussing possible additional sources of revenue it was suggested that we again raise our annual dues. An amount was not agreed upon.

To date we have received approximately $10,000 in dues. Ellen will be set up at Saturday’s (11/23) meeting to have people pay their dues at the Conference. Subsequent to that, laggards will be contacted by phone by board members.

It was suggested that we move up the Dues Renewal time frame to September 1 (payable by October 1) so that we are not competing with many other memberships that renew in the Fall.

We will also check with Stephanie Kloos to see how much it would cost to return to a paper mailing for dues renewal. At this writing I have not heard back from Stephanie.

Elaine will remind Ira Moses that, in his future conference planning, he should attempt to have at least one presentation a year by WNEPS/CSPP members. This will add to cohesiveness of the groups and save on honorariums.

Jill reported that we broke even on the Jackie Gerrard conference and lost $940 on the Goldner conference.

The committee will propose to the board an increase in conference fees to $45 for early registration, $50 for late registration and an additional $20 = $65 for non-members of CSPP.

Ellen proposed more outreach for conferences.

Michael proposed that once each year we organize a free panel discussion to attract new people.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Delaney

**D. Hartford Region Report:**

The intersubjective /relational study group meets in my office monthly-mid day and now consists of 11 highly experienced professionals, about half of whom are CSPP members, the others "leaning" towards membership.  Average attendance ranges from  5-9 members per meeting, with 2 new members added this month.  There will possibly be room for 2-3 more members, but it is limited to those with many years of psychodynamic therapeutic experience.

**E. Early Career Initiative Committee Report:**

Consideration is being given to running our ad again in the next issue for nominations for an early career award to a CSPP member who demonstrates outstanding scholarly or clinical endeavor in psychoanalysis and psychodynamic thinking or therapy.  If nominations are received, the committee proposes granting the award at the last meeting of the Spring along with a $ 250 stipend.  Approval by the board as a whole for this initiative is needed.

One early career member (Pam McGuire) continues to receive mentoring in the Hartford region.  An additional young member in the Fairfield region has requested a mentor, and Lois Fox has graciously agreed to fill that role.

The committee seeks members of the board who are interested in giving talks outlining what CSPP does and explaining contemporary psychoanalysis and topics of interest to graduate students in schools and universities.

The committee also encourages coordination with the Outreach and Membership Committees to create programs of interest for younger audiences.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael D. Kahn, Ph.D., ABPP

11/21/13

**F. New Haven Region Report**

As in other years the New Haven region has been busy with a  Peer Supervision group, mini meetings and a smaller by invitation, Dream Group led by Paul Lippmann. Below is an example of a recent Mini Meeting discussing the film "Stories We Tell."  
  
Stories We Tell: the quintessential psychoanalysis and the Cinema presentation   
On November 16, 2013 nine film buffs met at the home of Allison and Jim Brownlow to discuss the film "Stories We Tell."

Using the tapestry of her family member's experience, Sarah Polley, a young Canadian filmmaker explores her notion of their identity.  Initially presented as a documentary, eventually we learn that some of the players are acting their roles.  The universal themes of attachment, relationship, love, lust, betrayal, death, and grief are expressed in a Cinema Verite style that is at times absorbing, poignant, and surprising, and also, as some discussants found, annoying, and confusing.  The format uses a free floating consciousness, that connects with my psychoanalytic mentality, as the filmmaker leads us through interviews with her siblings, father, and deceased mother's friends, in what appears to be a quest for her own identity. As seen in traditional quest stories, the original intent gets somewhat derailed as an additional theme unfolds. Is this Strindberg, Ibsen, Woody Allen ? "Who is my real father." expands the filmmaker's quest for identity, and embellishes it with yet another layer. Now conflict between biological vs caretaker father plays out.

This is a unique, admittedly overly long film that is not a Hollywood Blockbuster.  Sarah Polley, the writer/director shows a sensitivity beyond her age. Remember her Film "Away from her" cast with an older Julie Christie slowly declining into dementia and her husband's dilemma of how to cope with her unique behavior.

Indeed this filmmaker will always surprise her audience, never just entertaining, but promising to make us think, and provoking us to deeper understanding of our humanity   
  
Submitted by Allison Brownlow, Ph.D.