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California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists

CAMFT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 10-11, 2018
The Citizen Hotel
SACRAMENTO, CA

Board Members In Attendance:

Bob Casanova, President
Holly Daniels
Nanci Finley
Jonathan Flier
Kristy Labardee
Cathryn Leff, Secretary
Jan Mellinger, President-Elect
Patricia Ravitz, Past President
Lisa Romain
Katie Vernoy
Curt Widhalm, Chief Financial Officer
Danah Williams

Staff:

Cathy Atkins, Deputy Executive Director
Nabil El-Ghoroury, Executive Director
Ron Hynum, Managing Director, Finance and Operations

Observers:

Laura Haynes, PhD
Robert Vazzo

I. Call to Order

President Bob Casanova called the meeting to order at 8:45 am on March 11, 2018.

II. Acknowledgements

President Casanova acknowledged that the CAMFT Board adheres to the CAMFT Policy on Antitrust Compliance.

President Casanova also asked for a moment of silence for the three health care workers killed in Yountville, CA on March 9th.

III. Consent Agenda

Motion (1): Labardee – Approve the consent agenda, as presented.

APPROVED

IV. Open Forum

Laura Haynes and Robert Vazzo spoke about AB 2943 (Low) and asked that the Board take a position of oppose or neutral.

V. Southern California Counseling Center

The Board discussed trainees employed by the center, and how they are asked to contribute monthly towards the center for their training.

VI. Policies and Procedures

The Board discussed the current policy on Executive Director's authority to sign vendor contracts. No action was taken.

VII. Closed Session

The Board went into Closed Session at 9:38 A.M. to discuss policies related to employees of CAMFT

The Board returned from Closed Session at 10:16 A.M.

The Board went back into Open Session at 10:27 A.M.

VIII. Board Code of Conduct

The Board discussed the need to have a Board Code of Conduct that included sections on: conflict of interest, sexual harassment, confidentiality, active participation, and social media.

The Board appointed a task force of Katie Vernoy, Patricia Ravitz, Nanci Finley, Lisa Romain and Kristy Labardee to review the need of a policy, as well as draft such language.

C. Employee Related Policies

The Board went into closed session to discuss policies related to employees of CAMFT.

IX. Finance

Ron Hynum, Managing Director of Finance and Operations presented the financial reports.

The Board reviewed the January financials and PAC balances.

Motion (2) Leff—Approve the January 2018 financial report.

APPROVED

The Board also discussed the 2017 990s and 2017 audit report, and the Audit Committee Minutes; and the Board thanked Ron Hynum for all his hard work on finance and operations.

After review of CAMFT investments, the Board directed staff to review CAMFT's investment vendor for socially responsible policies.

X. Committee/Chapter Actions

A. Annual Conference Committee

The Board discussed the silent PAC auction and donations. President Casanova requested the Board consider individually donating any art objects they could to the PAC.

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:44 A.M., and went back into session at 12:48 P.M.

B. Crisis Response and Education Committee

The Board reviewed and discussed the Committee's request for a variance of the Committee description regarding the Chair.

Motion (3) Vernoy—Deny Committee's request for a waiver and suspend all meetings until a chair is approved.

APPROVED

The Board discussed consequences for Committees or Chapters violating policies, contracts or agreements. The Board directed staff to draft up policies regarding Chapter and Committee compliance.

C. Elections Committee

The Board discussed the need for additional Committee members for the Board election count on March 23, 2018.

Motion (4) Mellinger—Approve appointment of Robin Andersen to Elections Committee.

APPROVED

D. Central Joaquin Valley Chapter

The Board reviewed the Chapter's request for an exemption to CAMFT bylaws for Chapter Board make-up of only 35% pre-licensed members.

Motion (5): Ravitz – Accept Chapter's request for waiver.

APPROVED

E. Bylaws Committee

The Board discussed the Bylaw's Committee to reconvene to finish their review of the three election sections discussed by the Bylaws Committee in February 2018.

Motion (6): Daniels – Accept Committee’s request to reconvene to finish review of the original December 2017 charge.

APPROVED

The Board also discussed the need to review the bylaws as a whole given the many problematic, outdate or vague sections within the bylaws. The Board also discussed the need to be transparent with any changes, as well as engage in member dialogue.

Motion (7): Williams—Direct the Bylaws Committee to prioritize the sections of the existing bylaws that needed to be reviewed by the Board.

APPROVED; Opposed by Leff and Widhalm

F. Executive Committee

The Board discussed the role of the Executive Committee versus the Board.

Motion (8): Mellinger—The Board to authorize the Executive Committee to develop goals and priorities for the Executive Director, as well as provide feedback on performance.

APPROVED

XI. Executive Director’s Report

Nabil El-Ghoroury discussed his review of CAMFT departments, procedures, policies and programs. He indicated his desire to bring metrics to the Board in the coming year on CAMFT’s benefits, programs and member satisfaction.

Mr. El-Ghoroury led discussion on how CAMFT puts forward public relations, social media and policy papers. Mr. El-Ghoroury received input on what the “voice” and “style” of CAMFT was when putting forward social media and public relations.

2018 legislation was reviewed, including CAMFT’s sponsored bill AB 2088 (Santiago) and BBS sponsored legislation, AB 93 (Medina). Also reviewed was the status of Veterans Affairs job classification of LMFTs, as well as CAMFT’s Medi-Care legislation and legislator co-sponsorship.

Mr. El-Ghoroury also discussed CAMFT’s state lobby day and federal lobby week.

The Board discussed CAMFT’s possible donations to CAMFT members running for office in California and nationally. The Board directed staff to research and draft a policy on when/how to donate to members or member’s family.

XII. State Legislature Update

Cathy Atkins, Deputy Executive Director discussed CAMFT legislation for 2017 and 2018. Bills discussed included AB 191; SB 374; AB93; AB 387; and AB 595.

XIII. Federal Advocacy Update

Cathy Atkins provided updates on Medicare, Veteran's Affairs, and the Department of Homeland Security.

XIV. Federal and State Lobbying Days

The State lobby day is set for March 12, and grassroots members will encourage support for CAMFT's introduced legislation, as well as discuss bills that are of particular concern.

Additionally, CAMFT will lobby at the federal level on April 4th and 5th, to gain additional co-sponsors for Medicare bills S. 1879 and HR 3032.

XV. Proposed Projects

A. Labor Board and Agency Issue

Mr. El-Ghoroury shared some concerns expressed by agencies in Los Angeles regarding the issue of payment of associate MFTs. The Board directed staff to provide the CAMFT members from the agencies to submit a proposed project plan for further review.

B. CAMFT Social Media and Policy Statements

The Board reviewed James Guay's proposal regarding social media, public relations, marketing, and policy statements.

Mr. El-Ghoroury indicated that he was currently reviewing the departments involved with these programs, as well as human and financial resources. Mr. El-Ghoroury indicated that additional human resources was needed in the communications and marketing department and wanted to have a thoughtful review and analysis before committing to any plan or communication strategy.

The Board also discussed the difference between public relations/marketing and social policy statements, and reviewed samples from the American Psychological Association (APA) and the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

The Board recessed at 5:11pm.

The Board reconvened the next morning at [REDACTED]

Motion (9): Widhalm—To accept James Guay's proposal with an indefinite timeframe.
FAILED

The Board directed staff to: a) return to the Board with a general plan on social media and public relations within six months; b) work with the Executive Committee on goals related to social media and public relations; and c) task the Strategic Planning Committee to review and discuss social issue advocacy within the strategic plan and mission of CAMFT.

XVI. Vision Session

The Board went into closed session to discuss MFT branding strategy.

XVII. Executive Session

The Board went into Executive Session to discuss Executive Director's progress.

XVIII. Open Forum

XIX. New Business

XX. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at [REDACTED] am on Sunday, March 11, 2018.