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California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists

CAMFT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 7-8, 2014
HOTEL INDIGO
710 CAMINO DEL MAR
DEL MAR, CA

Board Members:

Guillermo Alvarez, Past President
Jodi Baldel Blackley, President
Jurgen Braungardt, Chief Financial Officer
Antonia Bouyer
Bob Casanova
Leah Flagg-Wilson, Secretary
Barbara Griswold
Larry Langford
Mark Perlmutter
Patricia Ravitz
Laura Strom
Chris Trailer

Staff:

Cathy Atkins, Deputy Executive Director
Jill Epstein, Executive Director
Ron Hynum, Managing Director, Finance and Operations

Guests:

Stephen Angelides
Greg Moser

Member Observers:

Christina Bjornstedt
Katherine Clark
Gerry Fagoaga
Daren Lawes
Beverly Minor

Maureen Sklar
Faye Snyder
Doug Zabriskie

1. Welcome/Introductions and Call to Order

President Jodi Baldel Blackley called the meeting to order at 8:30am. The Board and the member observers introduced themselves.

2. Antitrust Compliance

Ms. Blackley noted that the CAMFT Board adheres to the CAMFT Policy on Antitrust Compliance.

3. Consent Agenda

Motion (1): Add the December 8, 2013 Closed Session minutes to the Consent Agenda.
APPROVED

Motion (2): Approve the Consent Agenda without the March 14-15, 2014 Open Session minutes.
APPROVED

Motion (3): Add Barbara Griswold as OPPOSED to Motion 15.
APPROVED; Bob Casanova ABSTAINED

4. Orientation

Greg Moser presented on best practices and legal standards and liabilities of non-profit trade association Board members.

Stephen Angelides presented on Robert's Rules of Order to assist the board to understand the role for better governance and to strategically govern. Mr. Angelides reviewed the "Small Board Procedures" and encouraged the Board to analyze how and when to stick to the black letter "Rules".

Motion (4): Establish a Robert's Rules Task Force to explore the "Small Board Procedures" with the Board Parliamentarian to serve as Chair plus two other Board members.
APPROVED

Leah Flagg-Wilson (Board Parliamentarian), Mark Perlmutter and Laura Strom were appointed to serve on the Robert's Rules Task Force.

5. Board Outreach

The Board members indicated which legislators they had met and which members of CAMFT they would recommend for future Committee and Board service.

6. Policies and Procedures

Conflict of Interest Policy

The Board requested that the introductory paragraph of the policy be clarified and revised.

Motion (5): Strike the words “both past and present” from first line of the March 9, 2012 Conflict of Interest Policy and add sentence to end of first paragraph: “The duty of confidentiality continues even after Board service has ended.”

APPROVED

CAMFT Statement on Sexual Orientation Change Efforts (SOCE)

The Board discussed their desire to update the CAMFT statement on SOCE to endorse the spirit, essence, and legislative intent of SB 1172. The Board agreed to re-visit the statement further after the US Supreme Court decision is issued.

Motion (6): Staff to develop a proposal for an updated statement on SOCE to review at the September, 2014 Board meeting that captures the intent of SB 1172.

APPROVED; Jodi Baldel Blackley, Antonia Bouyer, Leah Flagg-Wilson, and Larry Langford
OPPOSED

Motion (7): Staff to develop a statement, pursuant to the Motion (6), that the CAMFT Board supports the legislative intent of SB 1172.

APPROVED; Antonia Bouyer
OPPOSED

Nomination and Election Procedures

Staff explained the need to rescind the December, 2013 Nomination and Election procedures to allow for 2015-2016 elections and timelines to proceed as prescribed by the December, 2013 bylaws.

Motion (8): Rescind the December, 2013 Nominating and Election Procedures.

APPROVED

Election-Day Ballot Counting Policy

The Board reviewed an “Election-Day Ballot Counting Policy” to codify procedures for collecting ballots, verifying membership of the voter, and counting the ballots. The Board discussed whether the ballots should go to an independent auditor/entity. The Board also asked for clarification about the rationale behind the procedures that dictate how to handle two ballot envelopes from the same member and why the Auditor would ascertain “intent” if ballot was not marked correctly. Staff will provide the rationales for the items requested and will also add a reference regarding re-counts (from the Bylaws and California Corporation Code) into the policy and bring it back to the Board for final review.

Motion (9): Direct Staff to compile an estimate of the costs to have an independent entity collect and date stamp the ballots.

APPROVED; Chris Trailer ABSTAINED.

Advertising Policy

The Board reviewed a policy on Advertising to replace the disclaimer that is currently in place.

Motion (10): Approve the “Policy on Advertising” with the addition of the phrase “or interests” in the fourth paragraph.

APPROVED

Policy on Chapters

The Board discussed the intent to bring all chapter-related policies into one document, which is then referenced in the Chapter Affiliation Agreement. The proposed change incorporates the long-standing formation language into the policy.

Laura Strom and Leah Flagg-Wilson disclosed their respective Chapter involvement.

Motion (11): Adopt the proposed changes to the Policy on Chapters.

APPROVED; Laura Strom and Jurgen Braungardt ABSTAINED.

Definition of “Dually Licensed” for Purpose of Board Service

CAMFT Bylaw sections VI (A) (3) and (C) (2) state that not more than two Board members shall be dually-licensed as an LMFT, and hold a license which permits the practice of health care. Any Board member who gains dual licensure mid-term is exempt from this provision.

The Board discussed the need to clarify the definition of “dually licensed” for future election cycles. Specifically, the Board needed to define “licensed” and “health care” since the bylaws reference, but do not define, these terms with regard to eligibility to serve on the Board.

The Board reviewed 1988 minutes and 1989 and 1991 excerpts from *The Therapist*, which indicate that this limitation on dually licensed members of the Board was included into the bylaws to prevent another mental health profession from controlling the activities of the organization.

The Board noted that the BBS describes a “licensee” as one whose “license” is inactive, retired or delinquent and, thus, still under the jurisdiction of the BBS. Only when a licensee terminates his/her license does that person fall out of the jurisdiction of the BBS.

Motion (12): “Licensed” is defined as someone who has an inactive, retired, delinquent or active license.

Guillermo Alvarez, Jodi Baldel Blackley, Leah Flagg-Wilson, Larry Langford, and Laura Strom recused themselves from the vote because of conflict of interest.

APPROVED; Jurgen Braungardt ABSTAINED

The Board then discussed the bylaw phrase “...practice of health care, whether mental or physical”. The Board agreed that the phrase should be interpreted conservatively. There was consensus that the phrase precludes anyone with a license that permits the practice of health care (mental or physical) from serving on the Board if two dually-licensed people are already serving on the Board.

Since the 2015-2016 Board of Directors will have two Board members who are dually licensed in the practice of health care (Jodi Baldel Blackley, LMFT, LPCC and Laura Strom, LMFT, LPCC), no member who holds more than one license to practice health care (as defined and interpreted above) will be eligible to apply to serve on the 2015-2016 Board of Directors.

The Board briefly discussed the philosophical issues behind the bylaw limitation of dually licensed Board members and agreed that the Bylaws Committee and the membership should be engaged in the discussion.

Webcasting of Board Meetings

The Board discussed the technical, logistical, and legal issues related to webcasting or podcasting of Board meetings.

Motion (13): Get further information on webcasting Board meetings.
FAILED

Motion (14): The task of developing ideas for improving Board transparency shall be referred by the Board to an appropriate Committee.
FAILED

Posting of Board Materials and Committee Meeting Minutes

The Board discussed the posting of Board meeting materials.

Motion (15): Direct staff and President to split the Board meeting materials into a public and a Board-only packet and post the public packet on the CAMFT website in the members-only section when it is available.
APPROVED

It was noted that the public packet should have a disclaimer indicated that sensitive material is not included in that packet so it is clear that the packet does not contain all of the material provided to the Board.

The Board discussed the posting of Committee meeting minutes. It was noted that most Committee meeting minutes are not final and approved for many months since Committees meet infrequently and it is not appropriate to post draft minutes. Staff was directed to reflect the Committees’ work in the Board Highlights.

The Board took no action on posting Committee minutes.

7. Member Open Forum

Dr. Faye Snyder, LMFT, discussed her concern about the BBS backlog in exam evaluations and offered suggestions to alleviate that backlog. Dr. Snyder also noted that she applied for multiple committees and was unhappy that she was not selected to serve. Daren Lawes, LMFT, commented that very few people who applied for Committees got selected. Maureen Sklar, LMFT, added that she applied for several Committees and did not get offered her first choice.

8. Committee Reports

Purview Committee

The Purview Committee held its inaugural meeting. The Committee reviewed the Purview Policy and developed a process for obtaining member input. The Committee is currently considering a proposal that CAMFT advocate for single payer health care.

Crisis Response Education and Resource Committee

The Committee's goal is to have a robust crisis response section on the CAMFT website by September, which is National Preparedness month.

PAC Committee

The Committee reviewed the 2013 contributions and the 2014 fundraising efforts.

Ethics Committee

The Committee reviewed complaints and monitored probations. All records and minutes of the Committee are confidential.

The Board went into CLOSED SESSION at 4:50pm to discuss an ethics issue and returned to OPEN SESSION at 4:55pm.

The Board recessed at 4:55pm until Sunday, June 8, 2014 at 8:30am.

Elections Committee

The Committee provided input into the "Election Day Ballot Counting Policy" and recommended that the Bylaws Committee consider changes to the bylaws to allow for electronic voting.

Motion (16): Direct the Bylaws Committee to consider electronic voting.

APPROVED

Continuing Education Provider Approval Program Task Force

The Task Force assisted staff with creating an initial provider approval application, renewal applications, and program supporting documents. The BBS just announced a delay in the regulations that would allow them to delegate the authority to approve CE providers to

“approval agencies”. Thus, the BBS will likely not have jurisdiction to review the CAMFT application to become an approval agency until the November BBS Board meeting.

Public Outreach Committee

The Board discussed a proposal for a Public Outreach Committee to help create the public messaging to promote the benefits of mental health therapy, to promote LMFTs, and to brainstorm about new advertising vehicles and strategies. The Board created a Board Task Force to develop a mission and composition suggestions for this new Committee.

Motion (17): Create a three-person Board Task Force to develop the mission and composition of the Public Outreach Committee.

APPROVED

Antonia Bouyer, Bob Casanova, and Mark Perlmutter to serve on the Task Force.

Nominations for 2014-2015 Committees

The President presented her nominations and noted that there was overwhelming interest in serving on a Committee. The President considered backgrounds, skill sets, experience with CAMFT, and the fit with other Committee members when making her appointments.

Motion (18): Accept the Committee nominees as presented.

APPROVED; Jurgen Braungardt and Bob Casanova OPPOSED

Several other names were suggested for the President to consider as additional Committee members. If any additional Committee members are nominated, the Board will review those in September.

9. Proposed Partnerships

A guaranteed-health insurance option continues to be available for CAMFT members in the Sacramento, Solano, Marin, Napa, and Sonoma counties and the next open enrollment is in November. CAMFT continues to seek guaranteed-health insurance options in other parts of the state so all members can participate.

The Board considered an affinity proposal from AmeriDoc, a provider of on-demand health care access services (i.e. tele-medicine). The Board took no action on pursuing the partnership, but suggested that the vendor advertise in *The Therapist*.

10. Member/Chapter Issues

The draft Chapter Affiliation Agreements were distributed to Chapter Presidents, Presidents-Elect, and Vice Presidents for comment through August 25, 2014. The Board directed staff to also post this information on the Chapter Leadership Listserv and call each Chapter President to confirm he/she has seen the material and invite comment. The Board will review all suggestions at the September Board meeting.

11. Proposed Project

The Board reviewed a proposed member project that requested CAMFT encourage the BBS to utilize information provided by Track Your Hours (a private, fee-based software that applies the relevant state requirements to trainee/intern hours and populates weekly logs and Experience Verification Forms) as a supplement to the BBS verification process in order to expedite the exam evaluation process. The Board reviewed the viability of such a recommendation being implemented by the state, along with the current BBS activity and efforts (both short and long-term) to reduce backlogs in the exam evaluation process. The BBS has indicated that the backlog should be returned to the normal 60-90 day processing time by the end of 2014. CAMFT and AAMFT are currently working on a proposal to address the issues surrounding the exam application process.

The Board took no action on the proposal. The Board directed staff to thank the member for her proposal and convey the viability issues.

12. Executive Director Report

CAMFT Staff/Operations Report

While highlighting her written report, Executive Director Jill Epstein noted that four CAMFT Connects meetings have been scheduled around the state and that searches are underway to fill two vacancies at CAMFT. She noted that staff is discussing how to implement an online CAMFT Connects for pre-licensed members.

External Groups Update

Ms. Epstein referred the Board to the written report.

The Therapist

Ms. Epstein noted advertising revenue to date is greater than expected.

Marketing and Public Relations Report

Ms. Epstein referred the Board to the written report. The Board noted that they would like to see enhanced CAMFT presence, with more frequency, on social media.

Professional Development Program Report

Ms. Epstein reviewed the positive feedback and financial position from the 50th Annual Conference. She noted that the CAMFT online library of self-study options will launch shortly.

Chapter Relations

Ms. Epstein noted that Chapters need to be reminded that the bylaws adopted in December limit the composition of Chapter Boards and any variances must be approved by the Board.

13. Finance

Ron Hynum, Managing Director of Finance and Operations, presented the May financial reports and fund balances. The reserve fund balance as of May 31, 2014 was \$6.1 million. It was

noted that the operational revenue over expenses was significantly better than expected, which countered the lower than expected revenue from investments.

Motion (19): Accept the financial reports.
APPROVED

Mr. Hynum reviewed the PAC fund balances and the Educational Fund balances as well.

14. Legislative/Advocacy Update

BBS Update

Ms. Epstein reviewed the written BBS reports. She noted that three new BBS employees were hired to work in the licensing unit and, as a result, the backlog in exam evaluation applications has been cut by two months. She also noted that the BBS Supervision Committee met to begin a holistic review of the current requirements for supervised work experiences and requirements for supervisors.

State/Federal Legislation Update

Cathy Atkins, Deputy Executive Director, reviewed the written reports. She reviewed the three CAMFT-sponsored bills and provided an overview of other bills of interest. She also noted CAMFT's work with the Department of Managed Health Care and the Department of Health Care Services.

Ms. Atkins then reviewed the status of the federal Medicare bills and the COAMFTE issue with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

15. Open Forum

Board members expressed their appreciation to learn from the invited presenters and the opportunity to socially engage with other Board members.

16. New Business

The following items were brought to the Board and staff's attention:

- Should Board policies be available to all members online?
- Minutes to be more detailed to reflect Board decision-making
- How to attract more members to participate in CounselingCalifornia.com
- More frequent demographic surveys
- Amend bylaws to allow for two pre-licensed members on the CAMFT Board
- Amend the bylaws to permit pre-licensed members to have the same voting rights as licensed members
- Revise election procedures to allow for more extensive communications by candidates to the membership
- Allow LPCC license to be indicated on CounselingCalifornia.com as well as LMFT license
- Board of Directors should list all licenses on CAMFT materials
- Increase frequency of legislative alerts to engage more members in advocacy

- Revise Nominating Committee charge to reflect the Chair, as designated in bylaws

17. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned on Sunday, June 8 at 1:40pm.