

**Area 3 Council Meeting
October 7, 2017
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

Call to Order: Dr Joseph Napoli, Area 3 Representative, called the meeting of the APA Area 3 Council to order on Saturday, October 7 at 10:31 am, at the Jefferson Medical College: Bluemie Life Science Building, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. A quorum was present for the entire meeting.

Present (voting members): Drs Mary Anne Albaugh, Lily Arora, Charles Blackinton, Ken Certa, Charles Ciolino, Gerard Galluci, Baiju Gandhi, Bill Greenberg, Annette Hanson, Barry Herman, Mark Komrad, Rahul Malhotra, Melvin Melnick, Pietro Miazzo (for Kenneth Thompson), Elizabeth Morrison, Joe Napoli, Daniel Neff (for Manuel Reich), Ranga Ram, Richard Ratner, Cristina Secarea, Nazanin Silver, and Brain Zimnitsky.

Non-voting members

Area 3 Trustee: Dr Roger Peele

Executive Director members: Patricia DeCotiis, Joanne Dunne, Megan Floyd, Deborah Shoemaker

District Branch Presidents: Dr Randy Gurak

Privileged Guests: Dr Theresa Miskimen

APA Staff: Angela Gochenaur, Jennifer Medicus

Absent voting members: Drs Constance Dunlap, Richard Ratner, Eliot Sorel

1. Welcome New Members and Guests, and Introductions and Disclosures of Potential Conflicts of Interest – Dr Napoli welcomed new members and guests. Attendees introduced themselves and reported their affiliations to identify potential conflicts of interest that might arise in the proceedings.

2. Moment of Silence -- The Council observed a moment of silence for those who died in the Las Vegas Mass Shooting and from Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria.

3. Minutes – The minutes of the Area 3 Council meeting of May 19-20, 2017 were approved as written.

4. Announcements – Dr Napoli announced that we had 3 candidates running for Assembly Recorder: Drs Harold Ginzburg, Paul O’Leary and James Polo, and that they would be invited to address our Council during the November Assembly meeting.

5. Area 3 Representative Report – Dr Napoli

- Announced those currently serving on the Assembly Reference Committees (excluding those assigned by other organizations):
 - RC 1: Dr Dunlap
 - RC 2: Dr Greenberg
 - RC 3: Dr Neff (for Dr Thompson)
 - RC 4: Dr Arora
 - RC 5: Dr Feinberg (for Dr Melnick)
- Thanked our two Council Committees, the Committee on Member Services and the Committee on Program Evaluation, for their ongoing work, and thanked Dr Certa making the arrangements for us to meet today.
- Calendar: Introduced the need to start planning for the date of our March Council meeting, which we can decide in our November meeting as to whether this should be a one-day or two-day meeting; Dr Napoli will email a survey to help us choose the date for this meeting.
- Informed the group that requisitions for travel reimbursement should be submitted within 10 working days of this meeting; the reimbursement form will be available on the website.
- Informally asked the members present as to whether they preferred responding to emails or the website, concerning their attendance at Council meetings (results were mixed). He noted that those who used academic emails often had limitations on the size of any attachments, which sometimes was an issue.
- Noted that Dr Miskimen was now our Speaker.
- Briefly reviewed the agenda for this meeting, noting that we would be going into Executive Session during this meeting.

6. Reports

- **Trustee Report** – Dr Peele noted that he was not submitting a written report, indicating that he could not report on the executive session, where the more meaningful business was done.
- **Speaker's Report** – Dr Miskimen discussed the upcoming November Assembly meeting in the Omni Shoreham. She thanked those who had reached out regarding her family in Puerto Rico. She also addressed the process by which the special election for Recorder was effected, using an ad hoc Work Group, including nominations “from the floor.” Whomever is elected in the upcoming November special election will not automatically become a nominee for Speaker-Elect next year, which will involve recruiting nominees shortly. She thanked Drs Melnick and Ram for their work on the Nominating Committee. She noted that we have 16 action papers submitted for the November meeting. Dr Miskimen reported that she was able to effectively represent the APA, along with representatives of 5 other medical specialties, in a legislative meeting on Capitol Hill addressing the proposed Graham-Cassidy bill. The plight of those affected by the recent hurricanes was also addressed, emphasizing that medical and mental health issues were critical problems that needed to be addressed in these disaster areas.
- Reported on the procedures for the upcoming Assembly Election for Recorder, as Dr

Daviss is being considered for a SAMHSA position that has been perceived by APA leadership to represent a conflict of interest were he to also be the Assembly Recorder (there would be a special election if he is elected to the Recorder position and must later withdraw). The Committee on Procedures will introduce procedural language regarding this, for Assembly vote. Dr Napoli informed the Council that he submitted “Matter Regarding the Election for Recorder and Conflict of Interest” for discussion at the AEC and not the plenary. He emailed it to the Council members for their information. Drs Napoli and Greenberg further discussed this issue as it was presented and reviewed in the AEC meeting, and other Council members presented additional information and their points of view regarding the elections of Dr Everett and Daviss.

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- **AEC Report** – Dr Napoli noted that Dr Miskimen had given a thorough report covering the activities of AEC, so that we would not have an additional AEC report.

7. Financial Report – Dr Greenberg presented our Financial Report, briefly reviewing our financial status, noting that we had a strong balance, relatively unchanged, but that we spent approximately \$800 more than the yearly grant money that we received. Dr Napoli added that he has requested additional block grant money from the AEC, to help support our covering our more expensive two-day meetings.

8. Committee Reports

- **Committee on Program Evaluation (COPE)** – Dr Napoli briefly reviewed the proposed Area 3 Policy on Program Evaluation and Funding, which establishes a process for the COPE Committee to receive funding requests, review them and make recommendations, and follow up with outcomes. Dr Blackinton moved, with Dr Hanson seconding, that we approve this policy. In response to concern expressed by Ms Joanne Dunne, Dr Herman described the process for an expedited review, for situations where a proposal might need a relatively quick response. The motion was voted on, with unanimous approval. Dr Herman, gave his report, thanking his co-chair for her work in the Committee, and noted that two proposals had been reviewed, one of which was withdrawn. He noted that we would keep a financial balance in reserve, and review proposals to spend on a yearly basis up to 20% of the monies not in reserve, for worthy programs. He reviewed the non-withdrawn proposed Resident/Fellow Merit Award, which specified recognizing scientific contributions at a national or international level, clinical leadership accomplishments or community service projects, and proposing a \$500 check for awardees. In its review, the Committee added some recommendations, including that any financial award might instead be a credit for an APA activity or other offering (eg, attending an APA Annual Meeting), felt that the scientific contribution criterion might be setting a high bar, and thought that the criterion for clinical leadership could be clarified further, as well as how the awardees might “give back” to Area 3. Other suggestions included that some of the work of submitting potential names be carried out at the District Branch level, perhaps that there be no more than two awardees from a single DB. The COPE Committee is currently planning on having another phone meeting, hoping to get further clarification from those proposing this program. Dr Komrad recommended that a written report be submitted about awardees’ “giving back” activities. Dr Napoli offered that he thought the proposal was an excellent idea, and recommended that Dr

Morrison and others from the Washington DB simply “flesh out” some of these issues with the COPE Committee before our November Assembly meeting, so that we might be able to vote on it at that time. Ms Megan Floyd presented another proposal from the Maryland DB, that we organize an ethics training for those serving as members of DB Ethics Committee. Dr Komrad noted that he had just been involved in an APA Ethics Training, which is required for our organization so that all standards are being followed uniformly at all DBs, and that there was a specific relevant procedure manual for this, and that APA Counsel Ms. Colleen Coyle was very interested and very involved in this issue, and very available for consultation. Ms Floyd emphasized that some members had not been able to attend and still had questions, and that it was intended that all do follow the APA procedures and standards uniformly. Pursuant to some continuing discussion, Dr Napoli suggested that the Maryland DB consider this further, and consider following up with a program submission to the COPE Committee.

9. APA Report– Ms Jennifer Medicus summarized a very detailed (11-page) report on APA activities, highlighting actions at the Federal level and nationwide APA activities. Topics included CHIP, telemedicine, Puerto Rico relief, mental health parity (including the APA “Secret Shopper” program), the Medicare MIPS program, the collaborative care model, proposals for changes in DSM 5, the PsychPro registry, the IPS meeting. Dr Greenberg expressed interest in the Physician Burnout activity, wondering if beyond creating a self-rating scale whether there was more directed activity towards identifying the root causes of burnout and seeking to meaningfully address same. Dr Miskimen responded, noted this is an initiative of Dr Everett, is an attempt to highlight this important issue, and that there were various workgroups, and that initial activities focused on an exhaustive literature review, creation of a website and self-assessment tool, and that there would be a presentation at the Assembly, and creation of an Ambassador Toolkit, and promised to take back our expressed concerns, including following through with a root cause analysis. Dr Napoli noted that he had been involved with this issue from the perspective of his work with resiliency. Ms Medicus also noted that our membership was at a 14-year high point.

The Council briefly adjourned for a lunch break, and reconvened at 12:20 pm.

Ms Floyd followed up on the APA membership report, expressing concern that she understood that the APA also has its largest-ever drop list, comprising approximately 1200 individuals, and that with new reporting procedures regarding member transfers, that accurate information was needed for the DBs to respond to members who appeared to be leaving the organization. Dr Komrad noted that he personally knew of at least 15 psychiatrists who have stated that they were leaving the organization because of the recent discussions about the “Goldwater Rule” and the APA’s re-affirmation of same, and Ms Floyd indicated that there were extant initiatives targeted towards such members.

10. Other Reports – Dr Napoli congratulated Dr Herman on his receiving his organization’s “Administrator of the Year” award.

- Dr Herman reported that the **American Association of Psychiatric Administrators** had been making great strides in increasing membership, and will be holding a reception during the next annual APA meeting in NY.

- Dr Komard reported that his the **Southern Psychiatric Association** held seminars with an atmosphere somewhat like the IPS in its informality and pacing, with its most recent conference held in Amelia Island in Florida. There is some discussion about changing the name of the organization, ie, membership is not limited to the Southern Region.
- Dr Ram, representing the **Psychiatric Society of Delaware**, indicated that a bill proposing legalization of marijuana possession and medical use was successfully opposed by the PSD, a “Death with Dignity” bill was also opposed, and the PSD also supported bills limiting insurance “look back” periods to 2 years, enhancing addiction services and outlawing “conversion therapies” for minors. A PSD conference was also quite successful and well-attended.
- Dr Hanson noted that the **Maryland Psychiatric Society** has been very active in a variety of legislative activities, including a trial outpatient commitment law for the Baltimore jurisdiction (Maryland has been one of the few states without an outpatient commitment law). There will be three upcoming sponsored CME activities.
- Dr Blackinton reported that the **New Jersey Psychiatric Association** held a very successful Leadership Retreat last Fall, focusing on Member Values, Membership Recruitment and Retention, with follow-ups in the five geographic chapters and six residency programs. There is now an Expert Advisory Panel in place. In addition to efforts by psychologists to gain prescribing privileges in New Jersey, inroads continue to be made in this area by nurse practitioners and prescribing pharmacists. A Practice Management CME seminar was also held, collaborating with PRMS, and we will hold a Collaborative Care Seminar, together with the APA. NJPA is also in the process of having its website redesigned.
- Dr Certa noted that the **Pennsylvania Psychiatric Society** held a successful leadership development retreat, and a Risk Management Seminar will be held shortly. The State is having budgetary problems, leading to various financial machinations.
- Ms Dunne and Drs Morrison and Secarea gave the **Washington Psychiatric Society** report, highlighting continuing its Leadership Training program, hosting a local Mind Games competition, planning a mindfulness retreat. Ms Dunne will eventually be the registered lobbyist for the District of Columbia. WPS is completing taking over its own management functions, which should be accomplished by November.
- Dr Malhotra stated that the **ECPs** had one conference call to discuss action papers, and will be following up with another before November. They are also strategizing on how to best engage ECPs in our organizational meeting. Dr. Napoli added that if we have a 2-day Council meeting, we might individually invite ECPs to see if we could help them become involved, although this would require the Council to approve the funding. Ms DeCotiis recommended going to where the ECPs were, to best address their concerns, rather than focusing on leadership.
- Dr Payne regrettably was not able to attend this meeting representing the **M/UR Women’s Caucus**, so there was no verbal report.
- Dr Silver spoke on behalf of the **Resident-Fellow Members**, describing some of the challenges in getting full attendance in conference calls, but that they were successful in

generating two action papers. She recommended that we can all help by encouraging the deputy representatives to ask questions.

The Council entered Executive Session

11. Action Papers

- Dr Certa moved his action paper, **Conflicts of Interest Not Limited to Pharmaceutical Companies**, for endorsement by the Council, with Dr Albaugh seconding. The Council approved the motion to endorse this action paper, unanimously except for the Chair's abstention.
- Dr Hanson presented her action paper, **Civil Liability Coverage for District Branch Ethics Investigations**, for discussion. The paper has already been endorsed by the Maryland Psychiatric Society, the Southern Psychiatric Association, the Long Island District Branch, as well as the Maryland Psychiatric Society Officers. After some discussion, Dr Greenberg moved to endorse this paper, with Dr Ciolino seconding, and the Council voted to endorse unanimously.
- Dr Morrison presented her action paper, **APA Member Survey on Medical Aid in Dying as Option for End-of-Life Care**, for discussion. This represented a revised effort amending her previously-submitted action paper, which was not passed in the prior Assembly. The revised version addressed concerns about the quality of the survey process, by including the survey developed by a company hired by the Colorado Medical Society. Discussion ensued, but there was no vote on Council endorsement, as one was not requested.
- Dr Silver presented her paper, **Council on Women Psychiatry**, for discussion and endorsement. Dr Certa moved, and Dr Albaugh seconded, the paper for Council endorsement: the vote was 20 for endorsement, 0 opposed, with 3 abstentions, so the motion was approved.

12. APA-District Branch Disaster Liaison Network

- Dr Napoli indicated that in light of recent disasters, he was involved in reviving this Network, and requested anyone interested in participating to contact him.

13. U.S. House Representative Murphy Jacob Javits Award -- Dr Herman introduced the issue that the APA had bestowed its Jacob Javits Award for Public Service to Representative Murphy of Pennsylvania, who has recently been obliged to resign his position due to revelations about his behavior, and he also voted for repeal of the ACA: Dr Herman proposed that the APA withdraw this Award from him, and discussion ensued.

14. Speaker's Award – Dr Miskimen announced that she would be presenting the Speaker's Award to Dr Roger Peele at the November Assembly meeting. This is a special award, not presented since 2012, and a very special recognition to a most deserving recipient.

Dr. Napoli adjourned the meeting at 3:30 pm.

Respectively submitted,

William Greenberg, MD, DLFAPA
Area 3 Deputy Representative