

MAOT Minutes

February 5, 2020

I. Call to Order and Welcome

1. Present: Donna Caira, Brittany Adams, Lisa Boyajian, Karen Hefler, Alissa Conant, Michelle Savrann, Karen Hefler, Diane Maxson, Brij Maliya, Daria Rabkin, Elizabeth Craig, Susan Krikorian
2. Absent: Tina Champagne, Sarah McKinnon, Melanie Glynn
3. Quorum established and meeting called to order – 6:35pm

II. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

1. October 2019 minutes
2. Lisa makes **motion** to approve, Diane **seconds, unanimously approved**

III. Updates

1. Board members terms/elections
 - VP and Treasurer are up for election this year – for off-setting years of 4 major elected positions (Pres, VP, treasurer, clerk)
 - Gov relations rep, reimbursement rep, PR rep, volunteer rep, and SIG coord are all up for re-appointment
 - New year begins July 1, need to do elections before then – late May/early June per Karen
2. Boston AOTA2020
 - MAOT gets free exhibitor booth – coverage needed from Weds night through Saturday mid-afternoon
 - Elizabeth Craig very interested in assisting with booth planning
 - Giveaways – anticipating 10,000+ people
 - Boston-themed candy
 - Pens/pencils with MAOT logo
 - Susan willing to label
 - ASAP meeting
 - Goody bags for ASAP members (60 people) with Boston-themed items
3. Fall conference
 - Friday October, 30
 - Conference committee meeting is Feb 11, 2020
 - PT conference is typically the Saturday after, but it won't be this year so we will need to consider collaborating next year
 - Karen to send follow-up email to board to allow for input to conference committee
4. SIG Update
 - New application for Mental Health SIG in Worcester area
 - Currently limited SIGs
 - Hoping to begin in March
 - Lisa makes **motion** to approve, **seconded** by Alissa, **new MH SIG unanimously approved**

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5. Membership Update
 - 323 active members – some pending members who haven't renewed yet
 - Karen to send Donna blast email to remind pending members to come back
6. Legislative Update
 - Sarah sent email with update
 - Good representation at meeting with Allied Health Board re: updating current regulations
 - MAOT sent 6 pages of recommended edits
 - Feb 27th is next meeting after reviewing edits
 - Athletic Trainer regulations – attempting to change scope of practice – want to add “illness” treatment to their regulations and change from “athletes” to “patients” – MAOT and APTA of MA are working together to submit statements about concern of infringement on scope of practice
7. Reimbursement Update
 - Diane mentioned Concern about Allied Health Board – minimum of two vacancies since October therefore OT is not appropriately represented on the Allied Health Board - request from Diane for board to make formal communication to Division of Professional Licensure about this
 - Per Karen, Lisa has been following up on this – 2 if not 3 people have applied for the OT position and these are in process, no OTA's have applied – requires that the person is out of work for at least one day/month
 - Diane not able to continue with appointed Reimbursement Representative role after term is complete in June
8. Treasurer's Report
 - No update – pending recovery from illness
9. Social Media/Public Relations Update
 - No update

IV. Other business

1. Red Sox Rehabilitative Services Night August 10, 2020
 - To be posted on social media
 - Discussion about first pitch contest is happening
2. New volunteer position – MAOT Liaison to MA Dept. of Elem. and Sec. Ed (DESE)
 - Jan Hollenbeck is offering to hold this position, new IEP form is being developed and MAOT would like to have representation
 - Tri-alliance of therapists (OT, PT, SLP) – new changes regarding Medicaid implementation in schools
 - Michelle makes **motion** to create new volunteer position, **seconded** by Susan, unanimously **approved**
3. OT signatures on documentation
 - Many OT's are not signing documentation correctly for the state of MA

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- Idea to have a postcard at our AOTA booth that demonstrates correct signature with credentials
 - Karen and Donna to send reminder email to MAOT membership as these regulations have been in place for 4 years
4. Continuing Education under proposed updated regulations
 - Wording is very broad so as not to restrict many activities
 - Employer-based education will be covered under the current phrasing as well as NBCOT/AOTA courses and education
 - No implementation date currently

V. Next Meetings

1. Mid-March just before AOTA
2. May for budget and elections
3. June to finalize budget
4. August
5. October before conference
6. December to wrap-up conference

VI. Adjournment

1. Michelle made **motion** to close, **seconded** by Elizabeth, **unanimously approved**. Adjourned at 7:30.