

Minutes
MSOTA 2019 ANNUAL MEETING
Intermountain Services, Helena, MT
May 30, 2019

I. Welcome

- a. Call to order at 10:07
- b. Thank you to Intermountain
- c. Logistics/Review Agenda
- A. In attendance: Sean Abbott, Andrew Arechaga, Brittany August, Karen Baumann, Susan Bonin, Clara Brewer, Ken Brown, Shelby Bunker, Lloyd Dopp Michelle Davis, Annie DeWolfe, Andrew Edgar, Alisha Esteves, Mike English, Kessalyn Franklin, Shawn Frederick, Janet Garcia, Sam Griffler, Dawn Handa, Jennifer Harmon, Anne Harris, Crystal Hartigan, Lisa Helmstad, Tim Hides, Blair Hopkins, Andy Hudak, Alice Hougardy, Shaye LaMunyan, Fred Lemons, Hal Lewis, Jodi McLean – Niemeyer, Barbara Monaco, Charmaine Nicholson, Kelly Norton, Robert Page, Michelle Puerner, Chris Quigley, Skip Rosenthal, Samantha Russell, Lorraine Schneider, Drew Shoening, Paul Sells, Bo Smelko, Christa Smelko, Ashley Spragg, Jana Statton, Jen Turner, Tracy Vaughn, Andrew Wenzel, Dave Williams, Katie Wolverton, _____Woodmen, Barb Bottomley,

II. Reading of Fall Meeting Minutes

- a. Minutes were read and were accepted by the membership

III. Officer Reports

- a. Secretary – Anne is not leaving
- b. Treasurer – Tracy reports Account balance & membership dues.
 1. Clinical member dues with CEU fees.
 2. \$16,500 in the bank
- c. President – Brenda
 - i. Website is being managed by Brett Rodli.
 1. Questions were put to the membership:
 2. Utility of it? Things to add? What works?
 3. How to improve?
 - ii. There will be a closed clinical member and board meeting
 1. Tonight at 5 pm at Silver Star Restaurant.
 2. Board candidate ballot available.
 3. Info from candidates has been emailed.
 4. More discussion tonight for those who are would like to wait to vote.

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5. Nominations occur this fall for officers. Just to plant a seed to all interested.
6. Summer meeting location:
 - a. Bob Page offered to host the Summer Meeting in Great Falls at Meadow Lark Country Club

d. Vice President –Andy:

i. HB 684 and other happenings at the

1. Legislative discussion. Discussion how policy changes impact our profession in regard to best practices.
2. SB 155 Bill that reinstated minimum 25 years sentences for perpetrators with victims under 12 years old. Advocates stated that the increase in minimum sentence would be used in plea bargaining
3. OPD calculated the number of potential victims that would be forced into trials.
4. HB 648 Companion Bills This session had a process that after a bill affecting the law passes Law and justice committee then Companion Bills may be attached.
 - a. Bill Link <https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2019/billpdf/HB0684.pdf>
 - b. Previously Psycho-Sexual Risk Assessments must be done by MSOTA or equivalent qualifications (ATSA) no other state has an equivalency law.
 - c. Rep took out the qualification of MSOTA or equivalency part of the statute and said “practitioners standards as developed by the Department of Labor and Industry”
 - d. Bo encouraged the BBH to also prepare for challenges on specific cases. The Board of Behavioral Health, Bo attended their meeting and the Board said that they were not interested in developing standards apart from MSOTA.
 - e. MSOTA standards are tighter than ATSA because MSOTA requires quality of work demonstrations.
 - f. Andy spoke to some members on Law and Justice and they were unaware of the companion bill, and the indicated that a few want to eliminate the changes brought on by the Companion Bill.
 - g. Chris Quigly emphasized to new members that there is no more important work than the work of the Legislative Committee and Andy’s work.

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IV. Committee Breakouts and Reports

a. Education/Legislative Andy Hudak Chairperson

- i. Discussed getting more people involved in legislative actions, in particular for short notice legislative actions
- ii. Put a power point together and handout
- iii. Legislative, follow the course that Bo has started to reverse the undesirable parts of 2019 HB 648
- iv. Sex Offender Registry try to put more effort towards making it easier for those on the registry to find and maintain work and housing in the community.
- v. Legislative fix to change Tier level or remove from the registry.
- vi. Increase interim education of the legislature on issues related to sexual offenders.

b. Ethics Bob Page Chairperson

- i. 4 different complaints in the past 3-4 years processed through to completion.
- ii. Transferring Chair to Jake Leiper
- iii. Michelle Puerner Joined the Ethics Committee

c. Standards Bo Smelko Chairperson

1. No changes

d. Membership Chris Nordstrom Chairperson

- i. Barb Bottomly has agreed to chair Membership for 2019-2020.
- ii. Shaye LaMunyan is submitting work samples and are looking for someone in Missoula to proctor her written test and conduct orals.
- iii. Introductions of prospective MSOTA Board Membership

V. New Topics

- a. Interstate Compact screening process – What do clinicians request? Probation officers have reported not all ask for the same information. Should we have a basic guideline of info that we seek across the state?
 - i. Specifics in Interstate Compact transfers should contain:
 1. PSI, Risk Assessment, Psychosexual Risk Assessment,
 2. MSOTA members need to decline if referral comes without the information listed above
 3. Many states reportedly do not do a Psychosexual eval prior to incarceration, nor have Tx recommendations.
 4. Brenda is going to reach back to Kathy Gordon for clarification.

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- b. Juveniles arrive at Pine Hills without Assessment, and placement is difficult for registered youth
 - i. 6 out of 14 youth at Pine Hills are required to register, judges make that determination.
 - ii. Barb Monaco: Some public defenders, due to high turnover, may lack adequate information regarding registration, especially for Juveniles
 - iii. Recommendation to approach the judges association on juvenile and adult risk assessment and registry
 - iv. Alice: importance of including information on the neurological and psychological developmental changes that occur as a juvenile age
 - v. Michelle Davis: Case in Ravalli county where original judge has required a youth to register despite no recommendation from Juvenile Probation or MSOTA evaluator, order wasn't signed before the Judge retired, and new Judge reviewed the case and decided to remove the requirement to register.
 - vi. Bob Page: includes language that Juvenile not be required to register unless they fail treatment program or violate supervision.
 - vii. Bo: Failure of treatment not a necessary indicator of increased risk.
 - viii. Chris Q: Juveniles are generally lower risk as they age out, Chris quotes the research including a 20K sample.
 - ix. Bias that if a Juvenile commits a heinous act, they are seen as committing an "adult," offense and are transferred to adult court.
 - x. One aspect of the problem is the proximity of community-based youth care is the proximity of youth homes to schools, or other youth facilities that by having a registered offender on site caused complications.
 - xi. Guide Homes were an attempt to use foster care homes for youth on the registry
- c. Use of the word "rape" and how we talk about consent.

VI. Professional Training Presentation

- a. The Power Point for this presentation is available on our web site.
- b. *Diversion Pilot Project in Missoula County with Youth who Demonstrate Sexually Problematic Behaviors* by Rebecca Weston, LCSW, JD; Brenda Erdelyi, LCSW, Brittany August, MSW candidate; MC Jenni, LCSW
- c. **Objectives:** to explain the difference of definitions regarding youth who demonstrate sexual behavioral problems versus offending behavior, identify

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referral process and assessment utilization, and explain how this model is different than the traditional model in practice.

- i. Child Advocacy Centers
- ii. Who is a victim, who is a perpetrator?
- iii. How the kid gets isolated from services because of a sex acting out label, and people miss the kid and see the label.
- iv. CPS Missoula about 150 calls in 2018 resulting in 35 to 38 seen at 1st STEP
- v. Adam Walsh Act identifies all ages with offender label
- vi. Getting removed from the home for a sexual acting out behavior suffering increased risk.
- vii. Lots of misinformed opinions resulting in Hysteria, Dismissiveness, Confusion
- viii. Questions & Answers
 1. How does one make the determination that Juvenile Justice is the way to proceed? How to determine when a particular child is engaging in “innocent,” behavior copying peer behavior, vs repetitive criminal behavior.
 2. Latest research says the children first access pornography at age 10
 3. Where is the cutoff age for adjudication 12? 14?
 4. Program went with 14 as a compromise
 5. Why is sexual behavior selected out from say violent behavior.
 - a. Sexual stigma defined by cultural struggle with sexuality in general.
 - b. There is less dismissiveness now compared to 20 years ago
- ix. Typical childhood sex play or Atypical Sexual behavior?
- x. Typical behavior escalates to concerning behavior escalates to problematic behavior
- xi. Research in the 1980 Finkelhor saw SPB as result of prior sexual abuse.
- xii. What to do when the perpetrator has aged out above 18 when the offending behavior might have occurred when they were 9 or 12

VII. Trauma Informed Care Presentation tomorrow, Power Point Slides are on our web page

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 4:00