IASWG Board Meeting Minutes

Saturday, June 9, 2018

Skukuza, South Africa

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| **Members present:** Greg Tully (President), Willa Casstevens (NC Chapter), Barbara Muskat (Practice), Jorune Vysniauskyte-Rimkiene (Lithuania Chapter), Hilde Muller de Navarro (German Chapter), Mamadou Seck (NE Ohio Chapter), Hilda Baar (German Chapter), Carol Cohen (Commission), Mark Doel (VP), Ginette Berteau (Francophone Chapter), Kristen Perron (MN Chapter), Ann Bergart (Illinois Chapter), Kyle McGee (Nominations & Elections), Brian Kelly (Marketing), Alexis Howard (Member-at-large), Reineth Prinsloo (South Africa Chapter), Lorrie Greenhouse Gardella (Member-at-large), Maria Gandarilla (Marketing; Southern CA), Jennie Fleming (Editor, Groupwork), Emily Wilk (Operations Admin; non-voting), Kristina Lind (NE New England), Anna Nosko (Toronto), Charles Garvin (Practice), Mark Smith (Florida Chapter), Donna Mclaughlin (MA Chapter) |
| **Members Absent:** Jay Sweifach (Member-at-large), Werner Lieblang (European Chapter), Tanja Schmitz-Remberg (Chapter Development), Rhonda Hudson (Tennessee Chapter), Olga Molina (Central Florida Chapter), Sari Skolnick (Long Island Chapter), Dana Leeman (Symposium), Martin Birnbaum (Life Member), Reshawna Chapple (Member-at-large), Mark Macgowan (Commission), Meghan O’Donnell (Membership), Zaneta Smith (Member-at-large), John Genke (NY Chapter), Sam Benbow (PA Chapter; Membership), Dominique Steinberg (Treasurer), Joyce Webster (Secretary), William Pelech (Member-at-large), Christine Wilkins (Symposium), Helene Onserud (Member-at-large), Shirley Simon (Member-at-large), Andy Malekoff (Editor, SW with Groups), Michael Wagner (Historical Secretary) |

## Welcome/Introductions/Approval of Agenda/Announcements:

Greg Tully called the meeting to order at 7:34am**.** *(Note: minutes from the November 2017 Board meeting were approved via electronic means prior to this meeting and are available on the website.)*

## Board members offered brief introductions according to their role on the Board (members-at-large, chapter representatives, committee chairs/co-chairs, executive committee, journal editors, etc.). Due to the abbreviated nature of this meeting (90 minutes), Greg encouraged members to do their best to keep the agenda moving. Greg also encouraged broad attendance at all symposium sessions by all board members.

**Brief Committee Updates: Board Committee Representatives and all other Board members present at the meeting shared any news they had about various Board committee activities:**

**Symposium:** Reineth Prinsloo reported on the 2018 South Africa symposium currently underway. The symposium has been well-planned and well-executed, showcasing the uniqueness of South Africa to our members, all with a careful eye on the traditions of the symposium and on the budget. Several members briefly reflected on their experiences thus far and expressed their gratitude to Reineth for coordinating such a remarkable experience. The Board also acknowledged: Emily Wilk for her many and varied contributions to the success of this symposium; and Dana Leeman and Christine Wilkins for their role in overall symposium planning, including efforts to support this symposium and to begin preparing the 2019 symposium in NYC.

**Nominations/Elections:**

Kyle McGee reported on the upcoming election (Fall 2018) for Board President, Vice President, and At-large Members (3), and encouraged members to engage him and each other in discussions regarding potential candidates. Kyle further reported on the committee’s decision to seek to fill two VP roles, in an effort to increase the diversity of our global leadership. The committee will be actively meeting through the summer to continue this work.

**Chapter Development:**

Greg reported: 1) Northern New England Chapter (Kristina Lind) was approved in November 2017; 2) Alberta Chapter (William Pelech) is currently in the process of applying for chapter status; 3) the development of a Spanish-speaking chapter continues to be explored.

**Membership:**

Greg offered report on behalf of co-chairs Sam Benbow and Meghan O’Donnell. The Membership Committee has been working hard to promote the organization, recruit and welcome new members, and renew existing members. Specific strategies include: development of a power point to be presented at this symposium; letters sent to thank members for their commitment to the organization; and automatic renewal reminders being sent via Member Clicks. A follow-up mailing will take place later this summer and will include information and photos from this symposium.

**Budget & Finance:**

Mark Doel offered report on behalf of Dominique Steinberg and provided the June 2018 Treasury Update to Board members (report also viewed by attendees at symposium membership meeting and posted on the IASWG website.) Overall, the organization continues to be in a healthy financial position with a carefully balanced budget. The treasurer’s update report encouraged individual giving, and the potential of a capital campaign to promote our mission was briefly discussed. Recognition was shared of the budget report item acknowledging that travel money for the board meeting in November seems to be increasing as board member commitment to attend from various global locations increases.

**Commission:**

Carol Cohen reported the committee has been partnering with other Board committees to enhance and refine educational resources available on the IASWG website. These efforts include a new page on leadership standards and updated group work syllabi; Carol encouraged those teaching group work to submit their syllabi. Upcoming events related to the Commission include: CSWE (the North American conference on social work education) in October, at which Carol and Brian Kelly will co-chair a group work track; and the Social Work and Social Development conference in Ireland, which Carol and other IASWG members will attend to promote group work. Carol mentioned the development of an International Handbook on Social Work with Groups and encouraged members to reach out with interest. Finally, Carol provided an update on SPARC and reviewed projects for funding and/or endorsement *(copies of this information are available upon request)*.

*Motion: To accept proposed funded and/or endorsed projects as set forth by the SPARC committee.* Motion supported unanimously by those present, but quorum not present. Electronic roll call of Board members to be made for votes after the symposium.

**Marketing:**

Brian Kelly reported the committee is collaborating with other committees to market the organization. IASWG will, as in years prior, have a promotional table at the CSWE conference in October; Brian encouraged those attending to sign up for volunteer shifts. Brian also reported on the implementation and use of Zoom, a platform on which video conferencing for chapter and committee meetings can be hosted - contact Joyce Webster for scheduling requests.

**Practice:**

Barb Muskat reported the committee is collaborating with other committees and chapters regarding practice issues. Several practice tip sheets are available on the website; more were requested, especially in languages other than English.

**Ad-hoc Certification Committee:**

Ann Bergart reported the committee is exploring ways to certify based on competence vs. attendance; the group is working on refining their ideas and will submit a proposal to the Board when further along.

Upon completion of committee reports, Greg thanked committees and board members for their work.

**Board Chapter Representatives and other Board members present at the meeting breifly shared chapter news. Some news shared included:**

*German Chapter: Hilda Baar will be new IASWG German Chapter Representative and will be representing the German Chapter at Board meetings; 25th chapter anniversary to be celebrated in March; assisting Lithuanian chapter with their upcoming group work camp and encouraged board members to attend.*

*South Florida Chapter: Chapter quiet for a few years, but now very active with an all-day workshop in February for people facilitating groups in treatment facilities (discussed ethical concerns.) Next workshop planned for August.*

*Massachusetts Chapter: Chapter going strong, having regular networking events, held successful conference in April with 150 attendees.*

*Lithuania Chapter: Chapter will be hosting its second group work camp October 12-14, 2018.*

*Francophone Chapter: Active with collaborative project with national organization to promote social work with groups*

*Northeast Ohio Chapter: Organizing underway for event in fall season; chapter hopes event planning can make impact on chapter membership numbers (event will be live webcasted.)*

*Northern New England Chapter: Planning workshop, date TBD; joined with NASW New Hampshire to access listserv, and NASW will issue CEUs. Uses Zoom for all committee work and workshops.*

*North Carolina Chapter: Two events upcoming- ethics workshop and another group work workshop*

*Toronto Chapter: Planning mini-camp (one day) with different presenters in fall; will use Zoom*

*Southern CA Chapter: Partnering with NASW Region I (for increased support of group work for all social work practitioners)*

*Minnesota Chapter: Hosted workshop on rethinking group work from micro to macro practice; also partnering for workshop in later September.*

*New York Red Apple Chapter: May be hosting event in fall season to celebrate George Getzel.*

Meeting adjourned 8:57am

Respectfully submitted by Maria Gandarilla (for Joyce Webster, IASWG Secretary)