

2020 AVAPL Annual Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2020

1) Call to order and welcoming remarks, Sam Wan

Dr. Wan started the meeting with a moment of silence for “George Floyd and Black Lives, Ravages of COVID-19, 75th Anniversary of Hiroshima, and Beirut.”

Highlights from the year:

- a. Heather Kelly moving from APA to congressional staffer
- b. Sophie Friedl moving from congressional staffer to APA
- c. Treasurer, Beth Fassig, stepping down
- d. Advocacy work of the organization
- e. Anti-racism work of the organization

Transition of leadership in Executive Committee:

- f. Genevieve Davis ending term as Secretary, Jennifer Boyd starting role
- g. Tracey Smith ending term as Past-President, Kaki York starting as President-Elect
- h. Mary Beth Shea stepping in as interim Treasurer for one year

Announcement:

- i. The introduction of a Treasurer-in-Training, shadowing role starting this year
- j. Current webmaster, Jeff Burk, is retiring. The EC is actively recruiting for individuals interested in collaborating on new options for the website. See Kaki York for details.

2) Review of the minutes, Genevieve Davis

2019 Annual meeting minutes were summarized by Dr. Davis and approved by the attendees.

3) Annual report from the acting treasurer, Mary Beth Shea

Thank you, Sam Wan, for his help this past year and establishing a template moving forward.

Current membership is approximately 888 people - 15% increase in membership. Finances were not negatively affected by the pandemic; however, conference funds are committed to contracts for the next few years.

Dr. Shea reported the current funds as follows:

- a. Membership account (YTD): Revenue: \$32,042, Expenses: \$14,265, Net: \$17,777
- b. Conference account (YTD): Revenue: \$2,264, Expenses: \$14,157, Net: (\$11,893)

4) Dr. Kathleen McNamara provided an update on the history workgroup, which includes Kathy McNamara (principal), Jody Rubenstein (training), Terry Keane (research), Rod Baker (mentor), Tim Carmody (Division 18 collaborator).

- a. Working with the Cummings Center for the History of Psychology where the archives include documents, photos, newsletters and other parts of VA Psychology history
 - b. Next year (2021) is the 75th anniversary of Psychology in the VA, and the Team will be focusing on celebrating 75 years of Psychology's contributions to the VA and veterans through clinical practice, training, research, and administration.
 - c. Since those entering VA Psychology training programs this year, upon completing their training at the end of the year, will be the 75th class trained within the VA, Dr. Rubenstein sent out a statement to all Training Directors alerting them and their trainees to the significance of this year. Training Directors also were asked to send information about their graduates who have made significant contributions to the VA, VA Psychology, and the profession more broadly to Dr. Rubenstein at jravaphistory@gmail.com.
- 5) Dr. Sam Wan introduced and welcomed new APA's Director of Military and Veterans Health Policy, Sophie Friedl. She made a few remarks about her background and her excitement in joining the team at APA.
- 6) AVAPL awards, Tracey Smith
- The following awards were announced by Dr. Tracey Smith:
- i. Dr. Claire Collie received the Special Contribution Award.
 - ii. Dr. Aaron Norr and Dr. Maurice Endsley received the James Beysner Early Career Award
 - iii. Dr. Charlotte McCloskey received the Leadership Award
 - iv. Dr. Baris Konur received the Professional Service Award
 - v. Dr. Tom Kirchburg received the Antoinette Zeiss Distinguished Leadership Award.
 - vi. Dr. Tracey Smith received the Past President Award (Announced by Dr. Sam Wan)
- 7) Outgoing president's address and passing of the mantle (sweatshirt), Ken Jones
Dr. Sam Wan passed the presidential mantle to Dr. Ken Jones via a pre-recorded message.
- 8) Presidential address, Ken Jones
Dr. Ken Jones provided the incoming presidential address.
- 9) Open discussion and adjournment of the meeting