

**AVAPL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING CALL
JANUARY 15, 2015 (3:00 PM ET) 1-800-767-1750 x75493**

Attendance: Dr. John McQuaid, Dr. Monica Cortez-Garland, Dr. Tom Kirchberg, Dr. Mary Beth Shea, Dr. Steven Lovett

Review of minutes

- A. December minutes have been accepted by the committee and were submitted for posting on the AVAPL website

Treasurer's Report

- A. Conference Account: \$32,169.31
- B. Membership Account: \$39,563.99

Old Business

- A. Planning for Midwinter
 - a. Update on Invitations
 - i. Committee continues to wait on a number of confirmations including potential meeting with Secretary McDonald.
 - ii. Confirmed meetings with VACO (Monday and Tuesday) include: Drs. Jeffery Burk, Carolyn Clancy, Susan McCutcheon, Harold Kudler, Caitlin Thompson, Lisa Kearney, Andrew Pomerantz, Jamie Ploppert, Stacey Pollack, Loren Wilkenfeld, Tracey Smith, Dan Kivlahan, and Katy Lysell.
 - iii. Work continues to settle meetings with VSOs (Wednesday) and Congress (Thursday). Meetings with APA will take place Friday. Dr. Heather Kelly is helping schedule many of these meetings.
 - b. Review of topics from survey of AVAPL members prior to Midwinter
 - i. Major topic areas from the survey include: Limitations of Hybrid 38 and consideration of Title 38, Safety for staff, C&P exams (removal of reports from CPRS, move exams to VBA etc.), Staffing and space, Psychology as a profession (career advancements, discipline line at VACO), Morale, Veteran care, Access to Psychologists, Other (education/travel support, program development).
 - c. Briefs for congress
 - i. Information to be communicated to Congress regarding our main areas of interest for discussion include: Hiring and retention challenges for Psychologists (Hybrid 38 vs Title 38), C&P exams (dual role for Psychology), Space/contracting for lease space, Travel for training, and Safety
 - ii. This will continue to be formulated

New Business

- A. Response to the loss of Dr. Fjordbak
 - a. Committee continues to discuss how best to respond in the aftermath of this tragedy. AVAPL has expressed condolences to El Paso VA.
 - b. Committee is also in contact with the El Paso VA and VACO to determine the most appropriate avenue to proceed.

c. Dr. McQuaid to continue communications

Next Meeting Call- FEBRUARY 19, 2015 (3:00 PM ET) 1-800-767-1750 x75493

Monica Cortez-Garland, Ph.D.
Secretary