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