

**AVAPL Executive Committee Meeting
January 21, 2021**

Present: Ken Jones, Mary Beth Shea, Sam Wan, Kaki York-Ward
Jennifer Boyd (excused)

Heather just reported that they are trying to find a sponsor for T38 for VA psychologists. Ray Kelly (formerly HVAC) will be VSO liaison. Multiple bills have been dropped that we will want to watch.

C&P: Ken has a call pending with Dr. Pollack. It still continues to be a hot topic at VAs across the country. Many are closing their internal C&P programs and using contracts only. Others are keeping ability to perform C&Ps.

Haven't gotten as many comments about closing the C&P list serv as expected. Ken has reached out to each complainant individually and invited them to join AVAPL, form a SIG, and/or form a separate group. Ken will send another email giving a deadline for closure of the list serv. Reports are that Mark Worthen (former AVAPL member) is taking the lead on developing a new group outside our platform. . **Action: KJ to follow up with TMH SIG co-chairs, confirm that they've scrubbed everything.** (Awaiting member list)

Position Paper from VHPI: Russell as requested that we add his organization's paper "Creating Effective Solutions, Programs, and Policies to Improve Veterans' Mental Health Care" to the AVAPL Advocacy page. **Action: all EC members will read within 24 hours and agree/disagree on posting.**

Upcoming retirement of Tom Kirchberg: AVAPL will sponsor a kudoboard and send an email to the full listserv. **Action: MBS will reach out to Russell to get email started.**

Website updates: Once we have the new website, any of the EC can add material. (Like a FaceBook post.) Most likely provider will be Green Geeks. **Action: Ken will reach out to Jeff to ask if he can continue to provide support until the transition is complete. Action: Kaki will present final plan and budget to EC for concurrence (est. \$11,000 for initial set-up).**

Discussion of storage options: Sam and Kaki talked to website provider. We will have ability to store documents there, though there is a storage limit. We have not yet signed a contract. **Action: Sam and Kaki will follow up with Jeff and Dan (web developer) to finalize.**

Conference will be virtual in 2021. We have signed the contract for 2022-23.

SIG Updates: Need to remind SIG leadership about 3-year terms and need to advance new leadership. **Action: Ken will follow up. Also will suggest that leadership changes coincide with the annual business meeting and that annual reports be submitted at the business meeting (August).**

Mid-Winter planning: Sophie is very willing to help with planning. **Action: Ken will check with VSOs to determine availability and begin to develop our schedule. MBS will send current OMHSP org chart to all. May try to connect with Dr. Clancy as well.**

Follow up on call with VACO: OMHSP has expressed concern about using VA email addresses for communication. **Action: MBS will send an email to members requesting that they use non-VA email.**

Members will need to do this individually in Member Planet. We do a listserv refresh in March, so we can check at that time to see if members have made the switch.