

**AVAPL EXECUTIVE BOARD CONFERENCE CALL
AGENDA
MARCH 14, 2013 (3:00PM ET)**

Present: Dr. Levenson, Dr. Fischer, Dr. Klocek, & Dr. Cavicchia - Dr. Landes was excused

Minutes – Review of Executive Board Minutes of 12/13/2012 and 2/14/13 were deferred.

Treasurer's Report

- Conference Account: \$28,016.01
- Membership: \$38,512.94

Old Business

1. **Membership Invitations** – update deferred

New Business

1. **Special Award** – Dr. Levenson discussed a request for a Special Award/Recognition for Dr. Randy Phelps, longtime VA Psychology supporter from the APA Practice Directorate. The recognition would occur at the AVAPL Conference. The Executive Committee was in agreement and recommended that the Conference fund be utilized to assist in Dr. Phelps' transportation to the conference to receive the award.
2. **Vesting Codes by a Psychologist** – Discussed feedback received from the field regarding whether a psychologist could complete a vesting code heretofore believed to be only possible with a medical provider. It was decided that a work group of the Advisory Committee would be established to look further into this issue. Dr. Levenson will follow-up.
3. **List Serve Code of Conduct** – A draft of the Code of Conduct was discussed with the Executive Committee. Suggestions were made and Dr. Levenson will incorporate and forward for final review.
4. **VA Psychology Leadership Conference** – The Executive Committee discussed the recent travel restriction and the potential impact it may have on attendance at the San Antonio Conference. Dr. Levenson shared her response to one inquiry from the field related to this issue:

Dear Dr. _____,

Our 16th Annual VA Psychology Leadership Conference is not a VA Sponsored Conference. We are a non- VHA sponsored conference and to my knowledge there is no guidance that national approval is needed for these types of conferences. There is guidance that tracking of local approval and costs need to occur. Hearing from other VA Staff, I am aware of considerable variation in the

approval process where some require facility Director approval and some require approval from the Designated Learning Officer such as yourself.

Justification for attendance at a non-VHA sponsored conference may include the following:

1. Provides opportunity for VHA clinical staff to maintain any statutory, regulatory, or VA-required licensure, certification or qualification critical to their current position as long as it otherwise meets local approval criteria (recognizing it is the personal responsibility of all staff members to maintain licensure and qualification requirements).
2. Supports one of more of the Secretary VA's Transformation (T-21) initiatives
3. Provides Leadership Training not otherwise available at the local level.

Please let me know if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,
Mary Levenson
AVAPL, President

Other Business (pending)

1. Partnering with Div 18 on Mentoring - or establish plan to simplify it
2. Mentoring to New Chiefs, dealing with HR
3. Live Meeting on VA Topics for new psychologists to assist with acculturation
4. Strategies to increase/retain membership
5. 501c6 Organization - use GOOGLE and "hang outs" (audio and video) and not VANTS

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Stephen Cavicchia, Psy.D.
Secretary