

**AVAPL EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2012 (3:00PM ET)**

Present: Dr. Levenson, Dr. Fischer, Dr. Klocek, Dr. Landes & Dr. Cavicchia

Minutes – Executive Board Minutes of 8/9/2012 were reviewed with no changes indicated. The minutes were approved. Minutes from the AVAPL Annual Meeting (8/3/2012) were deferred. Members were asked to review and submit any changes to Dr. Cavicchia prior to the next call.

Treasurer's Report

AVAPL Account - \$32,968.06
AVAPL Conference - \$28,016.06
Total Membership - 340

Old Business

1. Status of Chief's Survey – deferred
2. VACO Directory Listings – Dr. Levenson will forward the current list of VACO MH positions held by psychologists including those in the field. Executive Board members are asked to review and update as indicated.
3. ECP Progress (Strategies to Prime the Pump on the ECP list serve) – Dr. Fischer sent an e-mail regarding the AVAPL list serve. It currently requires new members to "opt in" to be part of the list serve. Following discussion, there was consensus that members should be included on the list serve and given the option to "opt out."
4. Defining Our Internal Mission – Dr. Levenson reported this will be ongoing through the coming year.
 - A. Fact Finding for Title 38 – Dr. Levenson reported that following discussion with VACO MH it was determined the best approach was to ask APA to assist. Dr. Phelps was contacted but no response was received to date.
 - B. National credentialing exploration – Dr. Petzel is involved as well as Dr. Linda Godleski. The focus is on centralizing the credentialing process to improve hiring efficiencies. Staff currently must complete credentialing at each site. Psychology has had limited involvement up to this point.
5. Update on Conference Planning - Dates are currently pending for the San Antonio conference. The conference will be held in May. The focus will be related to a "Welcome Home Veterans" theme. Specific wording is still being reviewed but will include community integration. Pearson has offered to jointly hold a seminar on the MMPI. There is discussion on how this would be managed without AVAPL appearing to co-sponsor the training.

New Business

1. EDRP Impact for Psychologists – Funding is inconsistent across VISNs. There is currently a national workgroup and psychology has moved up on the list of

- profession and is now #7 out of 10 in terms of recruitment and retention issues. Dr. Robert Zeiss represents psychology on this work group.
2. Ideas from ELC - Dr. Klocek reported on the Education Leadership Conference. Dr. McNamara serves on the APA Federal Advocacy group but there is no specific group for VA advocacy. Dr. Klocek will continue to gather information and share with the Executive Board as indicated.
 3. Strategies to increase/retain membership – Dr. Landes recommended that Dr. Levenson send out a membership invitation to the field on Oct 1. A copy of the previous year's e-mail was forwarded for review and revision.

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. 501c6 Organization
5. Use Google and “hang outs” (audio and video) and not VANTS

Stephen Cavicchia, Psy.D.
Secretary