

CAPPN Board Meeting

March 2, 2022 7pm

In attendance: Christie Trener (President), Donna Strickland (Vice President), Laura Mehringer (Treasurer), Ronnie Shaw (Ad hoc Ethics Director), Ruby Martinez (membership Director), Katherine Carley (Secretary), Mary Ann Bolkovatz (Education Director), Marlene Pino (Director of Technology) excused

February minutes reviewed/approved as amended.

Treasury Report: Balance is 11,370.

C.N.A. CE Conference Feb 25 and 26

Christie and Ruby and Laura reported that it was an excellent conference.

Dana Murphy Parker presented on Stigma and Substance use.

There was an excellent speaker on Racism.

Presentation on COVID impact: 600 RN's were surveyed. Results indicated a high level of stress, moral distress, 15% had experienced suicidal ideation. CDPHE will have staff to help provide resources for health and stress. There is a call to action for a Resource Center. Nursing staff need more than support. There is a need for institutional change in work settings. If interested in providing services, providers can email CDPHE.

Heather Cook will provide EMDR group for nurses through CDPHE.

Would be nice to have group discussions with moderators to discuss events of past 2 years.

Education: Mary Ann will work with Christie and Marlene to send out survey to members re educational interests and needs. They will work on plan for presentation on IFS. Would be open to all.

Could look at "Hot Topics" presentations such as "No Surprise Billing" issues such as CMS requirements, # of sessions, fees, records after death of therapist, emotional support letters. Would be good to keep list of hot topics that could be posted and updated quickly.

Membership: Our list has 169 members. Some are probably not APN's. Ruby is working with Civica on how the list is created. Ruby sent letter to Graduate School faculty about CAPPN's mission and purpose as a way to reach new graduates.

Discussed idea of offering help with ANA/CNA student dues. Could offer mentoring for students. Could we be clearing house for students to find mentors or clinicals?

Legislative/GAPP- Laura reported that the Legislative Session has begun and there are bills being introduced that are of interest to psychiatric nurses.

MHH: HB 106-5 May change MHH criteria from imminent danger to substantial danger. MHCO is opposed. Should not base decision on available treatment options. GAAP committee is monitoring.

HB 106-4 will be heard and is supported by CAPPN.

HB 109-4: To provide Medicaid assistance for survivors of torture...even if undocumented. The state would have to provide funding.

HB 105-5: Sales tax exemption for essential hygiene products.

Kyle Mullica reported hospitals not coming to table to discuss staffing ratios.

***RN Staffing issues** need to be examined because we are losing many nurses out of hospitals. Nurses are overworked and burned out with COVID stressors in addition to prior long term understaffing, and many nurses are leaving their jobs to sign up with traveler agencies and earn a lot more money. Some nurses are retiring early, not wanting to take the risks associated with working with too many new grads and high acuity patients. Hospitals want to attract nurses back and they know they have to fix the problem with better salaries and with better staffing to meet the needs of patients.*

A main question is should hospitals use ratios to alleviate the problem, or other methods. Ratios would mean that there would be one RN per every so many patients (depending upon acuity of pts on that unit). Laura has looked at the literature and ratios seem more effective than staffing committees in hospitals. Whatever is done, it must have teeth to insure a safe working environment for nurses. The Literature clearly states that more nurses mean better patient outcomes (saves lives and prevents problems). We have known this for years. The Board voiced loud support for C.N.A. to take a strong stance on supporting nurses now. There is push back from Hospital Organizations.

Announcements:

C.N.A. had zoom town hall re legislative updates on 2/16 which went well. May do monthly.

Saturday March 5: Party caucuses will be held for candidates running for office.45

Ruby Martinez will be running for seat in HD. Can find more information on facebook "Ruby for HD 45"

NPAC: Need contributions to support Nurses who are running for office. Can donate on the CNA website or send contribution to NPAC c/o Laura Mehringer 7010 Broadway #210, Denver CO 80221

Next meeting- Wednesday April 6, 7 PM. Meetings will be 90 minutes.

