



FSMTB 2014 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

TUCSON, ARIZONA
OCTOBER 2-4, 2014

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

Opening Session

Welcome

Beye called the meeting to order at 8:41 am PT. He welcomed everyone to Tucson and the 9th Annual FSMTB Meeting and expressed appreciation to all those in attendance. Beye announced that he has turned the power of the presidency over to Karen Armstrong and expressed his gratitude to her for all she has done to take over presidential responsibilities. Beye thanked everyone for their support of the Federation and the improvement of the massage profession.

The attendees were shown an inspirational video about possibilities.

Armstrong proceeded to call roll.

Foad Araiinejad (AL)
Earle Duskey (AZ)
Mark Dixon (CA)
Cary Bland (DC)
Bridget Burke-Wammack (FL)
Jane Johnson (GA)
Gayla Nickel (ID)
Emmanuel Bistas (IL)
Hannah Fitcher (IN)
Rhonda Reif (IA)
Denise Logsdon (KY)
Mary Donker-Syvertsen (LA)
David Cox (MD)
Beth Miazga (MI)
Charlene Russell (MS)
Jason Steffins (MT)
Kim Adams Johnson (NE)
Susan Prasch (NH)
Cynthia Sinicropi- Philiposia (NJ)
Elizabeth Harris (NM)
Darinda Davis (NC)
Wendy McGinley (ND)
Kathy Calise (OR)

Jamie Smith (PA)
Jan Shaw (SC)
Bridget Myers (SD)
Ed Bolden (TN)
Yvonne Feinleib (TX)
Sharon Muir (UT)
Deborah Richardson- Peter (USVI)
Latasha Austin (VA)
Kris Waidely (WA)
John Skelton (WV)
John Anderson (WI)

Cox (MD) made a motion to adopt the agenda; Bolden (TN) seconded the motion. Motion adopted.

Armstrong gave welcoming remarks and indicated over 93 in attendance, including 35 delegates.

Armstrong introduced Parliamentarian, Amy Richardson, to provide ground rules for proceedings. She stated remarks should be germane to the business. She then provided a condensed version of the rules for debate.

President's Report – Karen Armstrong

Armstrong introduced the 2014 Board of Directors. FSMTB Staff and the Coalition of Massage Therapy Organizations: ABMP, AMTA, AFMTE, COMTA, and NCBTMB. She also thanked all of the committees, taskforces, and sponsors for their hard work and help.

Armstrong stated all FSMTB activities help support the member boards to help ensure public protection regarding Massage Therapy & Bodywork. She summarized the year's activities and strategic plan for supporting State Licensing Boards and Agencies and covered the Annual Report, Model Practice Act, Policy Committee, MBLEx, License Renewal, REACH, and the Massage Therapy Licensing Database.

Armstrong introduced Debra Persinger, FSMTB executive director and Steve Kirin, NCBTMB chief executive officer. Kirin announced that effective November 1, 2014 licensing exams will no longer be available from NCBTMB and that to facilitate licensure portability, the MBLEx will be the sole licensing examination. The announcement was met with a standing ovation.

Finance Report – Lance Gilliland

Gilliland discussed the FSMTB financial status and provided an overview of revenues, expenses and investments.

Bylaw Amendments and Resolution – Linda Lyter

Lyter thanked the members of the Policy Committee.

- Kim Adams Johnson(NE)
- David Fredrickson (OR)

- Dixie Wall (CA)

She presented and discussed the proposed Amendments to the bylaws.

Regulatory Panel of State Board and Agency Representatives – Sally Hacking

Sally Hacking, FSMTB director of government relations, discussed the FSMTB tracking service. She then introduced panel members who provided an update on the activities of their respective organizations.

Cherie Sohnen-Moe – Board member of Alliance for Massage Therapy Educators (AFMTE)

Nancy Porambo- President of American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA)

Jean Robinson – Government Relations for Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals (ABMP)

Kate Zulaski- Executive Director of Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation (COMTA)

The topic of continuing education outside of scope of practice was also considered.

Presentation of Slate Candidates for Board of Directors – Ed Bolden

Bolden (TN) introduced the 2014 Nominating Committee, comprised of himself, Darinda Davis (NC) and David Cox (MD) and provided an explanation of the candidate selection process.

The 2014 Slated Candidates are Wendy McGinley (ND), Holly Foster (NC) and Kim Adams Johnson (NE).

The candidates responded to questions from the Nominating Committee.

Bolden thanked the candidates, the FSMTB staff, and the delegates for their attention and cooperation.

The Future of Online Education in Massage Therapy – Whitney Lowe

Lowe provided a brief summary of his background within the massage therapy profession. He discussed the key concepts of how the online education fits in the massage therapy world, including synchronous and asynchronous learning and hybrid education.

License Renewal – Karen Armstrong

Armstrong provided the FSMTB policy language for license renewal and explained the FSMTB recommendation for the license renewal process. Armstrong noted that the goal of FSMTB is to simplify and standardize the licensure process where appropriate. She acknowledged the Professional Development Standards Task Force and thanked them for their work noting that the FSMTB Standards for Continuing Education simplified the approval process and makes the appropriate people accountable for their actions. Armstrong summarized that considerable resources were used to address the needs of the regulatory Boards, and that these standards may be used to approve continuing education sponsors, instructors, and courses if the Boards choose to do so.

Armstrong then introduced Lorena Haynes, FSMTB education and training coordinator. Haynes introduced REACH, Regulatory Education and Competence Hub, to the delegates.

Report from Continuing Education Task Force – Ed Bolden

2014 Continuing Education Task Force Members

- Linda Lyter-Board of Directors Liaison
- Kim Adams-Johnson NE
- David Cox, Member MD
- Darinda Davis NC
- Holly Foster NC
- Joe Frazer NH
- Meghann Lawrence WA
- Becca Lesik PA
- Wendy McGinley ND
- Melissa Mueller MI

Bolden provided background information and explained that the creation of the task force was to address the concerns member Boards brought forth each year. He introduced and thanked the members of the task force. Bolden advised that the Task Force discovered four challenge areas:

1. A lack of consistency in the uniformity of requirements, standards and compliance for continuing education across jurisdictions.
2. There is currently no effective mechanism or appropriate source upon which member boards can rely to maintain proper delegation of authority and to verify attainment of quality and appropriate continuing education for licensure renewal purposes.
3. There is currently no effective standardized mechanism or source upon which the licensed massage therapist (consuming public) can rely to seek instruction and relevant content acceptable to the regulatory community
4. There is currently no efficient administrative process for the acceptance of continuing education sponsors (approved providers) and courses.

He provided the resolution developed by the task force and asked the delegates present to pass the resolution to help standardize the licensure continuing education approval process across the nation.

The floor was opened for questions.

Armstrong clarified that if the resolution passes, those standards will be what FSMTB uses to approve sponsors. She also explained the other option for states to adopt them as their own.

Delegate Reports – Member Boards and Agencies

Jusevitch facilitated presentation of reports from each of the member boards. Topics addressed included rule development, human trafficking, unlicensed practice, working with law enforcement, establishment licensure, continuing education, fraudulent education, electronic documentation, criminal background checks, staffing boards, electronic fingerprinting, county regulations, board websites, sunset review, grandfathering provisions, license renewal compliance, provisional licensure, reduced budget allocations, investigators, licensing fee structures, practice exemptions, public service announcements and animal massage.

Daily Recap and Adjourn – Karen Armstrong

Armstrong provided closing remarks and recessed the meeting for the day.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

Reconvene and Welcome

The meeting was called to order and reconvened by Armstrong at 8:38 AM PT.

Armstrong welcomed everyone to day two of the annual meeting and proceeded to roll call.

Foad Araiinejad (AL)
Earle Duskey (AZ)
Mark Dixon (CA)
Cary Bland (DC)
Bridget Burke-Wammack (FL)
Jane Johnson (GA)
Gayla Nickel (ID)
Emmanuel Bistas (IL)
Hannah Fitcher (IN)
Rhonda Reif (IA)
Denise Logsdon (KY)
Mary Donker-Syvertsen (LA)
David Cox (MD)
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Charlene Russell (MS)
Jason Steffins (MT)
Kim Adams Johnson (NE)
Susan Prasch (NH)
Cynthia Sinicropi- Philibosia (NJ)
Elizabeth Harris (NM)
Darinda Davis (NC)
Wendy McGinley (ND)
Kathy Calise (OR)

Jamie Smith (PA)
Hector Cotto Lopez (PR)
Jan Shaw (SC)
Bridget Myers (SD)
Ed Bolden (TN)
Yvonne Feinleib (TX)
Sharon Muir (UT)
Deborah Richardson- Peter (USVI)
Latasha Austin (VA)
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Human Trafficking – Anthony Jusevitch

Jusevitch facilitated a discussion on human trafficking. It was noted that human trafficking is believed to be linked to massage; however, data does not support this theory since to date there has not been a charge linking trafficking and massage. Trafficked individuals are reluctant to testify. There is a movement towards state legislatures using massage therapy as a vehicle to get laws passed for human trafficking.

Because human trafficking is a criminal activity, it does not fit directly into the FSMTB mission or the strategic plan regarding assisting states in the regulation of massage. The FSMTB will continue to work on the regulation side and human trafficking as a crime needs to be handled by law enforcement. Possible approaches for FSMTB to help with addressing human trafficking are continuing to make the MBLEx process secure, assisting the States with fraudulent applicants and developing more tools to assist the Member Boards in fighting fraud in licensure.

Presentation by S. Michael Plaut, PhD

Dr. Michael Plaut gave a presentation on characteristics of health professionals who violate sexual boundaries.

Model Practice Act – Jane Johnson

Model Practice Act (MPA) Task Force

- Ramona Chance (OH)
- Jane Johnson (GA)
- Kathleen Doyle (NY)
- Karen Goff Ford (FL)
- Carolyn Tally Porter (SC)
- Yvonne Feinleib (TX)

Chance thanked everyone for their support of the MPA and introduced the task force members. Chance then introduced Jane Johnson (GA) to provide a brief overview of the MPA process. After 42 months, Johnson was pleased to provide the completed, printed version of the Model Practice Act to the Membership.

MBLEx – Lance Gilliland

Persinger provided clarification on the topics of the MBLEx and REACH.

Gilliland provided a report on the Massage & Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEx). Topics included acknowledgement of Alabama for accepting the MBLEx, updates to the English and Spanish versions of the MBLEx Candidate Handbook, move to Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT) platform, 30-day retest policy, MBLEx pass rates and special accommodations requests.

Gilliland acknowledged all of the Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) on the examination development committee and introduced all the individuals who attended the standard setting meeting in March.

Gratitude was expressed for the meeting sponsors Professional Credential Services, Pearson VUE and Meaningful Measurement, all of whom provide examination services.

The floor was opened for questions.

Armstrong requested that only those sitting on Member Boards or chief staff officers remain in the meeting for an executive session to discuss examination matters; all others were dismissed. At 1:20 PM MST, the executive session was called to order.

Armstrong proceeded with a roll call.

Foad Araiinejad (AL)
Earle Duskey (AZ)
Mark Dixon (CA)
Cary Bland (DC)
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Bylaws Amendments and Resolution – Linda Lyter

Bylaws

Amendment 1

Motion to accept Amendment 1 by Cox (MD), seconded by Duskey (AZ)

VOTE: Motion to amend passed unanimously.

Amendment 2

Motion to accept Amendment 2 by Adams Johnson (NE), seconded by Cox (MD)

VOTE: Motion passed with a vote of 33 in Favor, 2 Opposed.

Amendment 3

Motioned to accept Amendment 3 by Sinicropi-Philibosia (NJ), seconded by Harris (NM)

VOTE: Motion to amend passed unanimously.

Amendment 4

Motion to accept Amendment 4 by Bolden (TN), seconded by Calise (OR)

VOTE: The amendment passed with a vote of 31 in Favor, 4 Opposed.

Amendment 5

Motion to accept Amendment 5 by Duskey (AZ), seconded by Adams Johnson (NE)

VOTE: The amendment passed with a vote of 31 in Favor, 3 Opposed, 1 Abstention.

Continuing Education Task Force Resolution

Bolden (TN) moved that the Federation immediately adopt the resolution and form a special committee allocating funds and administrative staff, sufficient to developing and implementing a substantial program that provides reliable, unbiased, and appropriate supervision of CE providers and the classes offered to the consuming public thereby furthering the services offered to the Member Boards, Seconded by Sinicropi-Philiboisa (NJ)

VOTE: The resolution passed with a vote of 31 in Favor, 2 Opposed, 2 Abstentions

Election – Board of Directors

Armstrong asked the nominees to stand for recognition.

During the election tabulation process, Armstrong presented awards to Beye and Chance for their years of service to the Federation.

Collins provided information on the procedures for the Member Forum.

After the votes were tallied, there was not a majority vote so there were two run offs. The first run off was between the two highest of votes, Adams Johnson and Foster.

Armstrong announced Adams Johnson as the winner of the first run off.

The second run off was between Holly Foster and Wendy McGinley. Armstrong welcomed Foster to the Board of Directors.

2016 Annual Meeting Location – Tom Kenny

It was announced that the 2016 FSMTB Annual Meeting will be held October 6-8 in Cleveland, OH.

Nominations and Elections for 2015 Nominating Committee

Cox (MD) nominated Miazga (MI). She accepted his nomination; however, it was determined that Miazga was ineligible.

Bolden (TN) nominated McGinley (ND). She accepted the nomination.

Reif (IA) nominated Logsdon (KY). She accepted the nomination.

Davis (NC) nominated Feinleib (TX). She respectfully declined the nomination.

Cox (MD) nominated Donker-Syvertsen (LA). She accepted the nomination.

Smith (PA) nominated Lesik (PA). She accepted the nomination.

Sinicropi-Philibosia (NJ) nominated Dixon (CA). He respectfully declined the nomination.

During tabulation, Lesik (PA) withdrew her nomination.

Armstrong announced the 2015 Nominating Committee, McGinley (ND), Logsdon (KY), and Donker-Syvertsen (LA) and acknowledged all tellers from the voting process.

Member Board Forum

The attendees divided into three groups to discuss several topics, including out-of-state and foreign education, online education, investigation of schools, voluntary relinquishment of licensure and continuing education. The groups reported back to the delegate assembly.

Meeting Wrap Up

Armstrong reminded everyone that anything talked about in the Executive Session is not permitted to be divulged outside the session. She asked for meeting evaluation forms to be completed.

Harris (NM) provided information about the venue of the 2015 annual meeting in Albuquerque, NM.

McGinley (ND) invited individuals to volunteer and to start thinking about nominations for next year.

Armstrong called for a motion to adjourn. Cox (MD) made a motion to adjourn the meeting, followed by a second from Donker Syvertsen (LA). Motion passed unanimously.