

Saturday January 7, 2017

The MSHA Board meeting was called to order at 9:19 a.m. by Catherine Drescher. Although it was planned to take place in Helena in a face-to-face format, the meeting was held via web due to extreme cold temperatures across the state. Members present were Jennifer Rindal, Kristy Foss, Amy Glaspey, Catherine Drescher, Shelby Midboe, Jennifer Closson, Lezlie Pierce-Hopper and Kathleen Kohn.

The meeting began with some leadership training by Lezlie Pierce-Hopper.

Jennifer Closson and Catherine Drescher updated the Board with an update for the plans for the 2017 MSHA Conference to be held in Missoula. There is a meeting scheduled for January 17th to further finalize plans. Updates at this time included:

- Mary Hardin Jones will do a Friday session on Cleft Palate
- MAG - Kristy asked for speaker suggestions and had not had many responses yet. Possible cochlear implant presentation from Rocky Mountain ENT Group.
- Food: TBD at next meeting
- Jenn said they want to have the structure for the conference and advertisements out before the end of the school year.
- Amy Glaspey said that Teresa Ukranints or Julie Wolter could also be potential speakers.
- There was also discussion of Carol Morse speaking and perhaps information could be presented on the change in ASHA standards and Billing
- Thursday and Saturday morning slots are still left to fill
- Kitty Griffiths might be interested in doing something on Aural Rehabilitation
- There may also be a slot for discussion and giving information on education for SLPAs

Abby and Jessica Reynolds presented Legislative Information

- Jessica will send MSHA the bills that they are tracking
- Abby is watching the following three areas: Licensing and Board Operations bills; General Healthcare and Insurance; Education bills
- Abby encouraged the board to contact her if there were other bills we wanted her to follow
- Jenn suggested that we keep in touch with MT Association of Special Ed Directors as they are concerned with many of the same issues that we are
- LC2249: Limited License bill
- HB 141: Overreach by the board of Medical Examiners
- Amendment LC 3092: Advisory panel to investigate Board of Occupations
- Catherine motioned for MSHA to expose opposition to HB 141. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Rindall. The motion passed.
- Abby informed the Board that bills which require more funding are not likely to move forward this session.
- Jenn Closson mentioned that it was important that we watch information pertaining to ABA/BCBA (Behavior Intervention Providers): This is important because their licensing structure is not structured so they can take over our coding or go into our scope of practice.

- Abby said they are also following MCASE Bills which focus on Special Education funding. LC 166 is a bill dealing with inflationary funding: to add Special Education to all Education Inflation. Special Ed funding has not been increased since 1992
- HB 31-33 President/VP ill – lacking leadership: Michelle Halloway (SpEd Director & SLP) has a goal of connection
- Abby commented that MSHA should be proud of the reputation it has created in the state. Other groups are coming to us because we have shown to be a good source of information and can get bills passed for our profession and our clients.
- Jessica said that the ASHA advisory council information may change
- Advocacy day:
 - Potentially move it to Thursday February 2nd. By January 23rd, MSHA should prioritize talking points to students. And by Monday, January 30th have bills to focus on for Advocacy Day
 - Jessica asked for ½ to ¼ page invitations for legislators, deadline for art and invite January 27 so they can get printed and distributed.
 - Advocacy Day will also be announced on the House and Senate floor the day before
 - It will also be announced by Facebook. Catherine said she would do an Event invitation
 - Participants are to be in Room 303 at the Capital by 10:30. Abby will give information and run down. Program will be from 11-1:00.
 - MSHA members are to choose priorities for talking points
- Abby requested the dates of future board meetings so she can fit them into her schedule. Catherine said she will email the notes.

Proposed SLPA Program – University of Montana, Missoula

Amy Glaspey presented information on the SLPA program for which the University is submitting a Curriculum Plan. Steven Moates and Ginger Collins have been integral in the preparation of the program.

Amy reviewed the timeline for the proposed program:

- Now, they are close to finalizing collaboration with Missoula College for a BAC program for Associates degree which can roll into a Bachelor's Degree. Classes would take place on the main campus.
- Next, they would expand to other community colleges to see how other students can feed into the Bachelor's program.
- Amy described the process of creating new curriculum and the program is about 1.5 years out to initiate. She shared a draft for concept development and was looking for feedback on strengths and challenges in the draft.

Two paths are being proposed, with certificates housed at the University of Montana. Amy outlined those programs.

The Board of Examiners is currently working on changing from two levels of Aide to only one level in Montana. Incoming SLP Aides from other states would need a license to perform their job but have also

attained a certain level of education. It was recommended that the topic of the UM SLPA Program be introduced to the Board of Examiners meeting on February 6th at 1:00.

It was mentioned that school districts may not be willing to pay for a BA level if an aid has a Certificate but not a BA, and the differences in level of training were discussed. Currently, supervised clinical clock hours are not proposed in the SLPA program. Shelby mentioned that it would be important to make this distinction available for school unions to help them bargain for correct pay rates for SLPAs.

There was discussion of a 4th year practicum students in the AuD programs being allowed to practice here. Amy mentioned that AuD Aid program was not the focus for the department at this time, but she noted that a Bachelors in CSC was designed to allow students to move on to either a SLP Master's or an AuD program.

The Board discussed the need for a potential SLPA Ad Hoc Committee to create a position paper. Lezlie made a motion to establish an Ad Hoc Committee and it was seconded by Kathleen. The motion passed.

Other Business:

Strategy Plans/Outcomes: Regions for MSHA representatives to serve as area coordinators
Lezlie says we are still in need of two more volunteers, and she has a list of names

Treasurer: looking for an avenue for \$ to earn interest

MSHA is sponsoring Continuing Ed Webinars and there is a stuttering course that has been arranged by Rachel Stansbury that is coming up in January.

Budget: Currently, MSHA does not approve a budget. Jenn Closson said this has not been done before, but MSHA does operate under guidelines for spending. Jenn said she and Catherine and Shar can work on creating a budget from Shar's quarterly report.

Bylaw Revision: the bylaws have not been revised since 2011, so it is probably time to look them over and make recommendations for revision. Lezlie moved to create an Ad Hoc Committee to look at bylaws and help them align them with ASHA. The motion was passed by Shelby and the motion passed. Catherine volunteered to chair the committee, and proposed that there be a draft review prepared for the June 3rd board meeting.

Upcoming board meetings are scheduled for March 4, June 3rd, August 5th, September 7th (if needed to shore up plans for the Convention), and October 18 at the MSHA Convention. The plan is to alternate face-to-face and web formats.

Rachel Stansbury has been appointed to the Board of Examiners, so we will need to see who will take over setting up trainings and webinars for MSHA. Jenn and Lezlie volunteered to be resources for whomever takes over this position.

Lezlie moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Kathleen. Meeting was adjourned at 1:07.

Submitted by Shelby Midboe, Secretary