

WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF SEXUAL ABUSERS

BOARD MEETING
03.21.2014
11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Attendees

Holly Coryell, Marshall Kirkpatrick, Dan Knoepfler, Michael O'Connell, Linda Paxton, Myrna Pinedo, Kecia Rongen, Maureen Saylor, Paul Spizman, Jennifer Wheeler, Dan Yanisch

Absent

Brian Judd, Jeff Landon

Agenda

Budget Committee
Program Committee
Membership Committee
Policy Committee
Other issues

Business Items

Discussion / clarification of which Board members are on which committee

- Budget Committee (Linda P, Paul, Maureen)
- Program Committee (Maureen, Dan K, Myrna, Michael, Jennifer, Linda)
- Membership Committee (Maureen, Paul, Jennifer, Dan Y)
- Policy Committee (Michael, Kecia, Holly / Dan Y)

Budget Committee

Treasurer Linda Paxton reports we currently have a solid bank account balance of approximately \$42,900, of which at least \$24,600 will be paid out for recent conference expenses.

Trying to sort out issues related to official signers for the WATSA credit card. Currently they are Linda P. and Dan K. Wild Apricot is trying to bill for the Website. We may need to / have to switch to a new bank or credit union. Options include Sound Credit Union, Boeing, Chase, and USBank.

Program Committee–

Conference summary:

We had 100 attendees this year, which is a good increase from last year. At this point we have not yet been billed for anything from Suncadia, James Cantor, or Andrew Harris.

The evals for Cantor were great, almost the same with Harris.

The main overall complaint was with the food.

There was discussion related to the conference venue, with concern that we have had significant snow both years we have been at Suncadia. If there is worse weather that keeps people from attending in the future WATSA could be responsible for significant costs. However, we have already contracted and are on the hook for the next two years at Suncadia. The price will be up \$10-15 for the next two years because we will be holding it one week later. This year there was a

blizzard at Semiahmoo that weekend. The issue is the Pass and weather. We will check into alternatives.

Seto training – we are about ½ way to the break even point.

Should we place an ad in the Psychology Bulletin in the BC area? Other ways to advertise were discussed.

A spirited and lengthy discussion was held around whether WATSA can formally “endorse” specific trainings, such as has been proposed for a STABLE 2007 training that DOC is planning later this spring. ATSA says it will not “endorse” such things. Jeff Landon wants to encourage more DOC involvement. It is a formal STABLE trainer. We need to set criteria we can stand by for such requests. Wording was proposed around “WATSA encourages all professionals in our field to participate in this training.” Provide a syllabus and qualifications of the trainer. We are not hosting or sponsoring, just recognizing that it is valuable and pertinent training for professionals in our specialty.

Marshall Kirkpatrick described his efforts to pull together a more cohesive Eastern Washington WATSA chapter, including trainings every other month. They are up to 12 -16 or more attendees for those trainings. He is requesting talent from the Board to act as speakers, or come up with ideas for such trainings. Can people get over to Spokane to do those presentations? Some ideas discussed were the similarities and differences between civil and criminal custody forensic psychosexual evaluations.

Additional upcoming training opportunities:

Michael Seto is offering a 1-day training in Vancouver, BC on May 12, 2014. This will be on Internet and Child Porn issues. WATSA is able to sponsor it, with a price of \$150 for WATSA members (with a higher price for non-members). This is a very good opportunity for our involvement and ongoing interaction with Canadian colleagues.

Almost all of this years’ WATSA meetings are scheduled, with speakers lined up:

- April – Andrea Piper-Wentland, WA Coalition of Sexual Assault Victims, in Olympia at the Dockside Bistro
- May – DOC Jeff Landon is the new DOC SOTP Clinical Director
- June – in Wenatchee, topic to be determined
- September -- BJ O’Neal will be talking about juvenile issues at NTA in Seattle
- October -- the Fall Retreat will once again be held at Mountain View Lodge in Manson. This year it will occur from October 3 – 5.
- November -- ??

Membership Committee

We are up to 53 members. Maureen is willing to print off certificates for members this year.

Sex Offender Policy / Media Committee

It may be time for WATSA to get its own lobbyist to address sex offense specific issues before the legislature. Just because we are a non-profit doesn’t mean we can’t make money on trainings and try to support a lobbyist for our issues. Let’s confer with Andrea Piper-Wentland next month. There was a discussion on the benefits of small trainings with low overhead versus larger conferences.

House Bill 1791 was proposed about making sex trafficking a sex offense and putting the person on the registry. This has already passed and is likely to be signed into law by the Governor. Not the worst thing that can happen, no resources to allocate.

The SOPB was just asked by the legislature to address release issues and housing of sex offenders in the community, including housing vouchers, risk level, impact of city and community ordinances, maintaining public safety, etc. The initial phone conference on this will take place on 04.17.14 with a number of WATSA Board members participating.

Michael has drafted a brief in regards to the ACLU defense of level 1 offenders whose identifying information may be placed on private citizen's website. ATSA is already in the process of submitting its own brief through Maia Christopher.

Other Issues

Maintenance and upkeep of the multiple tasks that the WATSA website demands / accomplishes was discussed. Rather than this being the responsibility of one person (currently Jennifer W, who admits she finds it overwhelming), can we delegate some of the tasks to individuals?

- Program and conference registration, with PayPal issues.
- Membership dues and registration, with Paypal issues.
- Contact at WATSA.org. Currently Paul S. is the central contact person.
- Monthly reminders for meetings and trainings, etc., as well as posting meeting minutes.

Members were willing to accept duties related to their committee responsibilities and Board responsibilities. This will need further investigation prior to implementation.

Agenda items for future meetings