

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

MONTHLY MEETING – 01.18.2013
1 – 3:00 P.M.

Attendees

Lori Bare, Stanley Bonner, Maureen Cavanaugh, Megan Carter, Chris Coleman, Michael Comte, Christmas Covell, Carole DeMarco, Katie Galasso, Marshall Kirkpatrick, Michael O'Connell, Robert Parham, Linda Paxton, Myrna Pinedo, Kecia Rongen, Paul Spizman, Lisa Trifiletti, Wendi Wachsmuth, Jennifer Wheeler, Florence Wolfe, Dan Yanisch

Introductions: Attendees participated in brief introductions

Business Items

Future WATSA Meetings:

The Spring Conference is set for February 22-24 at Suncadia Lodge in Cle Elum. We need at least 40 more rooms for us to meet our commitment for the best rate. Please check out the WATSA.org/events website, or direct any questions to Maureen Saylor. Speakers will include Douglas Epperson, Ph.D. (discussing the development of the JSORRAT-II), Amy Phenix, Ph.D. (discussing the development of the Static-99R and Static-2002R instruments), and Rev. Marie Fortune (discussing the role of faith communities for sex offenders). This will prove to be another fine conference, so please try to join us.

The next WATSA meeting will occur on Friday, March 15, 2013, and will be held at the Steilacoom Town Hall. Following a general discussion of current happenings in WA dealing with sex offender treatment and legislation, there will be a presentation by Jonathan Allison, Ph.D., concerning discussing the Bio-psychological Model for assessment and treatment.

Updates:

Membership committee—the new website is up and running and much more versatile than the previous entity. Please go to WATSA.org and register for membership online.

Because of increasing interest (and the energy exerted by Board member Marshall Kirkpatrick) there will likely be movement to establish an Eastern Washington branch of WATSA. This would enable our members (and no-members) east of the mountains to hold regular meetings and support one another. The meetings would not conflict with our regular WATSA meeting schedule.

Policy / Legislative

There are two bills currently before the legislature that may impact sex offenders and treatment providers.

HB1020--Banning SOs from Community Protection Zones – 880 feet of school, daycare, etc

HB1125—addressing adult family homes and housing of registered sex offenders

Other legislative efforts are looking at staffing at the Special Commitment Centers Secure Community Transition Facilities, escort procedures, etc.

Budget— Late last year it was announced that Detective Bob Schilling was appointed to a very select position with Interpol. He used to run the Sexual Assault and Kidnapping unit within the Seattle Police Dept. He will now spearhead the international policing of Internet sex crimes against children for a span of 3 years. WATSA pledged \$1500 to the cause as he was a very influential member of WATSA and a leader in the field.

Elections – Ballots were distributed and the election was held for 3 Board members and several officers. In order to vote you need to be a WATSA member.

CONGRATULATIONS to our new Board Members! The elections results are in: Linda Paxton (treasurer), Dan Yansich (secretary), Maureen Saylor (conference chair), Michael O'Connell (board), Paul Spizman (board), Kecia Rongen (board) and Myrna Pinedo (board).

Presentation Information:

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to a presentation by Robert Parham, discussing Autism Spectrum Disorder and how that interconnects with sexual offending. For WATSA members who took part in the discussion and presentation--please note that you earned *1.5 continuing education credits* through the Washington Department of Health.