

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

BOARD MEETING

2.19.2016

11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Attendees

M. O'Connell; L. Paxton; M. Saylor; P. Spizman; H. Coryell; M. Pinedo; L. Trifiletti; J. Williamson; F. Wolfe

Absent

J. Colson; J. Landon; J. Wheeler

Agenda

1. April meeting topics
2. Retreat ideas
3. ATSA and GIFR update
4. Muster.com update
5. SAPO bill
6. Structured Assessment of Protective Factors training

Business Items

1. April- legislative highlights (Olympia)
2. Working with deaf sex offenders; experiences with high profile cases and testimony; Florence to touch base with Richard Packard about neuro-related topic; Maureen and Michael to talk with Kari Waterland about improving the working relationship between DOC and SOTPs; Myrna to approach Sue Newfield Ellis
3. No updates on ATSA and GIFR relationship
4. Muster.com does not appear to be useful for our purposes. Michael had a discussion with Andrea Piper-Wentland about the lobbyist they use at Washington County Sexual Assault Programs (WCSAP)
5. SAPO (Sexual Assault Protection Order) Bill- seeks to replicate domestic violence protective orders. Currently, protection orders are good for one year then the person must go to Court to renew the order. This bill would keep the protection order in place until the Court is petitioned to remove it.
6. Structured Assessment of Protective Factors training- 3/18 live webinar
http://www.saprof.com/_files/Flyer%20SAPROF%20webinar%20DS.%20March%202016.pdf

Program Committee– Conference update (85 people registered, expect some walk-ins)

Additional upcoming training opportunities: N/A

Eastern WA chapter issues: N/A

Membership Committee – 50 current members

Sex Offender Policy / Media Committee –

The major project the SOPB is currently working on (and is to complete by the end of March) is to review the state's compliance with SORNA and report to the governor what would the state need to do in order to accomplish compliance, whether we should do that and why. The major (but not the only) reason the state is not in compliance is because SORNA requires a crime-based

tier system and Washington uses a risk-based one. The consensus (effectively unanimity, but we won't know this for sure until we take a final vote) among the members of the SOPB is Washington should stick with its risk-based system. Meanwhile, the SOPB is using some funds from the SMART office (intended to help states come into compliance with SORNA) for its current project and to fund a study that will be done by WSU to survey law enforcement agencies about how they are currently doing risk-based leveling.

Another set of projects the SOPB will be working on is to respond to a final question the governor posed – to “Offer recommendations as to other issues related to sex offending that the SOPB determines could advance the safety of the public through further study.”

The SOPB had an initial discussion on this topic and brain-stormed a number of issues to propose for further discussion and study. These included a number of issues discussed at the January WATSA meeting, including using Risk-Needs-Responsivity as a foundational principle, the advisability of having juveniles under 14 required to register, a top-to-bottom review of RCW 71.09 and the civil commitment process that was created 25 years ago. There was discussion about the rigidities associated with the current process of residents leaving full confinement at the SCC, going to a very restricted LRA, ending with a big reduction in external accountability following an unconditional discharge. This led to a discussion about examining sovereign immunity and how it affects government agencies risk tolerance for trying things – things that might make sense but raise the risk of civil liability. Malcolm Ross (AG) talked about how, in the wake of the recent changes where defense counsel for SCC clients being contracted through OPD, civil commitment litigation costs have increased 300%. He suggested issues now litigated could be handled administratively based on the Lean model.

Budget Committee

Total assets: \$56,058.85

Net income: \$25,230.05

Other Issues: N/A

Agenda items for future meetings

1. ATSA/ GIFR