

In attendance:

Mike Berger, Dan Clark, Janene Borandi (phone), Tyehao, Kris Justesen (phone), Rhonda Lewis (phone), Carmel Ferreira, Sharon Lockhart, Tera Matsuda, Heather Seay.

Mike: Need participation and membership. Also need the organization to stay alive. People who are members vote and vote on things about direction we want to go. Hampers progress when people independently go in their own direction. That's up to future BOD.

President, Secretary, Treasurer positions are all open

Everyone who served worked hard; need to keep it going. Michael is resigning; 2 years are up. Janene will resign at the end of her term. Someone will need to take over the website.

Cash in account is in positive. Decided not to hire lobbyist last year. Nevertheless, we accomplished good things – Janene brought website up, interactive robust. Sunset clause. Intended to have symposium. Arranged for Michael Taromina; was only available for one date the entire year and agreed to come. Certain circumstances resulted in cancellation.

Discuss which direction we want to go.

Sharon: vote put out to all acupuncturists. Bylaws must be followed.

Such little participation. If we can't get people involved... even had NCCAOM send something out. Told people: Go on the website, create an account. 2 people did that.

Janene: What is the possibility of joining forces with other states and leveraging power of surrounding states and national efforts to protect out act? Michael is having conversations with powers that be. Dry needling issues...

What's the incentive to be a part of the state organization? Companies that offer discounts – Battle Balm AND OTHERS .

Lobbyist costs a lot of money – end up begging people for donations. If we can increase membership, create incentive. Agree with Sharon: it's almost an obligation to pay that fee. Better communication.

169 UT licensed acupuncturists – some practice in other states. One Idea is to adjust dues to ensure we have enough money to afford a lobbyist.

In-person training – good idea if we're charging for it.

No reason we can't make \$ on a webinar; made \$5-600. Everyone can register and pay and get kick back (THIS IS THROUGH A PROGRAM CALLED CUSTOMFIT THAT SUBSIDIZES DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL BUSINESS EDUCATION/TRAINING)... Raise the fees okay, but have to show value. If we're going to bring people here, have seminars, webinars...let's bring classes that will help with skills, but if we're teaching for technique, adds more value for the class... may want to consider getting training for dry needling. (SOME OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE DISAGREED)

What are threats to practice act? How much does lobbyist cost?

Threats: Tyehao and Kris can weigh in – Dry Needling – insurance companies and public education. IHC is holding dry needling training for PTs. Patients have gotten “dry needling” from PTs with long retention, and being billed as acupuncture. All professions have lobbyists on hand for protection. \$11k/year.

Taronmina is an attorney – was going to come here for free and teach safety and ethics and review our practice act and sure things up to protect our act. Can try to get him in the spring. Kris recommends having him “come to Utah” via video conference. Can do more easily and get more participation.

Pay to keep lobbyist – and get free CEUs or %age off. Need to do Ethics and CPR trainings. If you want to attract out of state people, have to bring in a big name. Good way to get CEUs covered if you’re an employee it can be reimbursed.

Think of ideas – we can train each other. Put 100% of the money toward lobbyist

Fundraising is hard when there are only so many people who are willing to participate in

Tiered fee – change voting rights? What about the bylaws? We can make changes to them, especially when it comes to board terms. If we don’t have that many people interested in serving, beggars can’t be choosers. Change the bylaws. The people who want to serve can serve as long as they want... ?

Upper tier of \$250/\$300 = voting. \$100 = attend and listen but don’t get a vote. Call vendors and get sponsors. Karena did that and Michael brought in more. Need to be broadcast to membership via email and symposium and on Facebook, etc.

Get the state to cover half the cost of our association. Have to have a W-2; state reimburses??? Pay yourself on payroll. You’re an employee of your own business.(THIS ALL RELATES TO THE CUSTOMFIT PROGRAM )

Michael asked community acupuncture group if they want to be on the board. They have their own association.

Solutions –

Rhonda: Lobbyist in WY moved things forward. It’s worth the \$. Sharing and brainstorming with other states to move practice forward; there’s no fighting PTs. That’s not going to buy us anything. Get out to the public what we have to offer is a good solution.

If we don’t band together, we could lose our act.

In UT, UT PT association it’s part of malpractice insurance.

We can nominate people. Michael nominates Dan for President; Kris: he’s VP now, but he’ll only have 1 year as president. Keep Dan where he is and put someone else in line. Lisa Taylor-Swanson; PhD and nursing research. Was on the board for Washington State. ( I THINK THAT FIRST I NOMINATED KRIS AND SHE COULD NOT SINCE SHE IS ON THE DOPL ADVISORY BOARD- ALSO I DONT KNOW THAT LISA WAS THE WASHINGTON BOD, I JUST SAID THAT HE EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH ACUPUNCTURE POLITICS IN WASHINGTON)

Rhonda volunteered to be president.

Heather - Link to descriptions for board positions. Reading bylaws and reading job descriptions.

Heather, Lisa, Dan, Rhonda, Janene, Michael need to meet. Rhonda treats in UT and Wyoming. She can bring some of the partnership from Wyoming.

Tera: lobbyist – Pam Giuliano – successful lobbyist for CBD in Utah. Kris asked for her phone number. She asked for a list of top interests - dry needling, protect practice act, educational requirements

Kris proposed at last meeting:(DONT UNDERSTAND- I THINK YOU ARE REFERRING TO LAST DOPL MEETING??) found reason people aren't coming – anyone who's not current in NCCAOM apply. State of UT passed law in 2016 – short of every occupation in state – reciprocal licensing law that someone in CA or China who's been practicing for several years and clean record, they can come in. They may be removing that provision. Our licensing act is not open right now; it needs to be presented to committee. ( ALL OF THIS PERTAINS TO UTAH STATE LICENSURE AND WAS DISCUSSED ON THE DOPL BOARD)

Tiered profession: had the discussion about making herbal exam required (FOR LICENSURE FOR NEW LICENSEES ONLY)and we lost. Making it “tiered” and people are okay( WE THINK ! - WE DONT KNOW FOR CERTAIN HOW THE COMMUNITY ACU PEOPLE WILL RESPOND BUT THEY SEEMED OPEN TO IT) with that approach. Mike talked to Mina Larsen to discuss how to set that up in Utah. ( AND CONSULTING WITH OTHER STATES WHO HAVE DONE IT)

Tyeho and Kris – are advisory to DOPL Board. Look at statute and recommend rules and changes. They go through a process of review and comments. If we want to change our practice act and broaden our scope, that's where we do it. 2 different boards, but we should work together. As licensee .... ? Kris adds, our job as the advisory is to recommend clarification and rules to license division. Just because we make them recommendations doesn't mean they'll adopt them. We get to make recommendations, they make decisions. Lobbyist helps us at the licensing level.