**Date approved: 01/24/15**

**American Massage Therapy Association - Georgia Chapter**

**Holiday Inn & Suites, Stockbridge, GA**

**October 10, 2014**

**7:30PM**

*Present*:

VOTING: Cindy Farrar, Vivian Davis, Sharon Remaly, Linda Christie, Loyce Kemp

NON-VOTING: Lisa Aspy, Karen Krotz, C.J. Lowe, Toni Roberts

OTHER: Kathy Grow

*Absent*: Ben Glosson, Dusty Graham, Stephanie Jackson

Called to order: 7:36pm

Welcome: Cindy Farrar

Roll Call: Linda Christie; established quorum

Agenda; approved as amended.

Minutes from last meeting, September 8, 2014; approved as amended.

Treasurer’s Report; separate reports attached with meeting prep, reviewed by Cindy.

**Officers’ Reports (sent earlier):**

President Cindy Farrar

1st Vice President Ben Glosson

2nd Vice President Vivian Davis

3rd Vice President Sharon Remaly

Secretary Linda Christie

Treasurer Dusty Graham

Membership Secretary Loyce Kemp

# Committee Reports (sent earlier):

Meeting Planning & Delegate Lisa Aspy

Newsletter Chair Stephanie Jackson

Alternate Delegate Karen Krotz

Awards & Delegate C.J. Lowe

E-Communications & Delegate Toni Roberts

**Unfinished Business**

Quick overview of the Convention Recap; Cindy attended the National BOD meeting. The Massage Emergency Response Team is now the Community Service Massage Team. The focuses will be an outreach team and an emergency response team. It is managed at the chapter level. The AMTA has partnered with the American Red Cross for emergency efforts. Because there is a relationship, we can take a letter to our local Red Cross to gain access to emergency situations in our communities. Stephanie Echols is interested in heading this. There is official training along the same lines of MERT but more intense; some online. Further clarification needed on cross chapter emergency response participation, other non-AMTA member Red Cross volunteers.

Another topic that was stressed is the need to get rid of conflicts of interests on a National and chapter level. One item in particular is making sure that National board members no more than 50% can be from the same place of employment, school, state regulatory boards, etc. The president and treasurer cannot share the same financial interests. These are the beginning pieces coming to light of potential conflicts of interest. If there are any questions in future, please voice it and the concern will be addressed.

National Elections will be open November 1, 2014. One should exercise his or her right to vote. Encourage other members to vote. Watch personal conversations as a chapter leader; may be concerned with perceived influence. It will be online and sent via email to each member.

New Hampshire chapter has asked us to partner with them on a research project. One of their members is very interested in research; involved in the Massage Therapy Foundation. The subject would be paraplegics; thought of Lisa Aspy, Erica Larson, and the Atlanta School of Massage. Cindy anticipates working with the New Hampshire president in co-sponsoring a recommendation changing the amount or percentage chapters receive from National. Many of the memberships are discounted; chapters do not receive any funds from some memberships.

Chapters who have active sports massage teams are charging for their services; it is not a volunteer effort. Many of these sports massage teams are self-sufficient. Scott from either Washington or Oregon is willing to travel to other chapters to help set up a sports massage team. Having more options available to attract members is beneficial. Nan Webb used to run the Georgia sports massage team. She may be interested in participating.

Effective November 1, 2014 we will have our lobbyist; Stan Jones with Nelson Mullins will be our representative. Making sure other counties, with Dekalb and Gwinnett, play nice with others as well as getting a model ordinance crafted. National is not in favor of the proposed state change for continuing education exempting exceptions for the energy, stretching and other items not to be included for our licensure beginning November 1, 2014.

The October Meet & Greet is upon us. Lisa has done a very good job with the venue, organization of meeting, and planning of sessions. Eat a good breakfast as there will be no outside food allowed during the class. Class time is from 8:30 to 5:30 with an hour break for lunch, on everyone’s own. Meet & Greet from 5:30 to 7:30 with food catered by the hotel; duties were assigned per Lisa’s break down.

Educational offerings for 2015: Cindy, one of Tracy Walton’s associates, will provide eight hours of classroom instruction the weekend of February 21, 2015. Joan Rau will be available to help with additional instruction. There will be two different topics; one four hour session Saturday morning, followed by the annual meeting, with some sort of fundraising party that evening to help usher in the new board and make it exciting for the members in attendance. Joe Muscolino will be the presenter for June 2015. October 2015 Nancy Dail, from Maine, will do instruction on shoulder and arm.

The calendar, minutes, and new reimbursement policy are missing on the website. Updates need to be sent to Cindy to be published. The left band is too wide and needs to be made skinnier.

Stephanie should be getting the next newsletter edition out in early November. We’re working with Stephanie in order to get a regular format that is close to what we’ve been doing to keep it standard. Once that is set it should be put on the website as that was just a placeholder.

Looking at potential relationship building and advertising, we may want vendors come back to membership meetings. We have a sponsor of 3B Scientific for this weekend and in the next three newsletters issues. Moving forward we can get more formal with sponsorship packages, going to schools or businesses. It’s a way for the business to get exposure to our members.

Elections will be at the February 2015 meeting: 1st Vice President, 3rd Vice President, Treasurer, two Delegates, and an alternate Delegate are the positions available. We need to put together a Nominations Committee. Let Cindy know if there is anyone that may be interested in being a part of the committee. Our goal is to have two people for each position and to have minimal nominations from the floor. Clarification needed for whether the Membership Secretary needs to run in 2015 because she is elected by the board.

Wisconsin is using interns for some of the committee work. They are going to local colleges to get help. The students are getting credit and the chapter is enjoying the work. Students can be members of committees, but not chairs.

In the past, Awards have fallen by the wayside. We have been giving big awards. Membership needs to be notified about the Call for Awards. There has never been an application for nominations. This coming year the deadline should be January 8, 2015 with voting by Executive Committee on January 19, 2015. Cindy suggests that an application is created; she offers help as she is on the national schools committee.

Sharon, Toni, and Vivian to review notes as to reimbursement policy regarding double occupancy with hotel rooms and 50% being paid by a member if it is his or her choice to be a single in a room. They will report back at the next meeting.

**New Business**

Kathy Grow was sworn in as the new Membership Secretary.

**Announcements**

None at this time.

**Next meeting will be** November 17, 2014.

**Meeting adjourned** at 10:10pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Christie, Chapter Secretary