**Date approved: 10-17-15**

**American Massage Therapy Association - Georgia Chapter**

**Teleconference Meeting**

**September 21, 2015**

**7:30PM**

*Present*:

VOTING: Cindy Farrar, Vivian Davis, Lisa Aspy, Linda Christie, Laurie Pratt, Kathy Grow

NON-VOTING: Judy LeFave

OTHER:

*Absent*: Ben Glosson, C.J. Lowe, Sharon Remaly

Called to order: 7:33pm

Welcome: Cindy Farrar

Roll Call: Linda Christie; established quorum

Agenda; approved amendment.

Minutes from last meeting, July 20, 2015; approved as written.

Treasurer’s Report: Not pushing the transition to National, there has been no information as yet. Convention budget is at just under $6,500. Ben’s expenses have not been reimbursed at this time. Laurie asked how the LLEAD grant worked; Cindy sends the invoices to National GR and they pay directly.

**Officers’ Reports (sent earlier):**

President Cindy Farrar

1st Vice President Sharon Remaly

2nd Vice President Vivian Davis

3rd Vice President Lisa Aspy

Secretary Linda Christie

Treasurer Laurie Pratt

Membership Secretary Kathy Grow

# Committee Reports (sent earlier):

Meeting Planning & Delegate: Lisa Aspy

Alternate Delegate: Judy LeFave

Awards: C.J. Lowe

**Unfinished Business**

Cindy questioned the receipt of the $500 donation from LaVida. Laurie is looking to see and, if not, Cindy will check with National.

Laurie had suggested using a timed agenda and Google Docs for documents usually stored locally on the secretary’s laptop. Linda is charged with exploring and seeing if it would be feasible for the chapter’s use. There was a document presented to the Chapter President’s Council with various technology ideas for chapters’ uses. Cindy has sent an email to Melissa who was the one who presented it and will follow up regarding a digital copy.

Cindy asked if anyone had picked up the CD for the Leadership Training. Some people had not received them. Linda volunteered to make copies to distribute at the October meeting in Augusta; Cindy requested five are made. Cindy stated that there were 19 members from the Georgia chapter present in Pittsburgh. Two first time attendees had a good time and were asking about how to get involved by the end of the dinner dance.

The reimbursement policy is about a year out from the most recent adoption of the most recent version. Cindy requested that other members of the board review the policy and bring ideas back to the board to make amendments to streamline the current version. Perhaps a first version could be the vice presidents and treasurer creating a draft then bring president, secretary and membership secretary for a second version. Cindy requested Linda send a copy of the current policy with the draft minutes from this meeting next week.

Lisa reviewed details from the membership meeting in August. There was plenty of help; people outside the board were helping which was nice. She questions if there would be enough room to set up tables and hold a meeting where education would be involved. Judy contributed comments that a lot more names were collected for potential GR Committee members. She also thought it was a great space for our needs. Not having anything else scheduled that day was nice. Lisa suggested having a timed agenda for membership meetings. Vivian suggested continuing the discussion, if time runs out, after the rest of the agenda has been complete. Linda commented that a potentially new volunteer might be asked to be the timer.

Because 2017 is a non renewal year it is generally a more difficult time for participation in classes. Laurie suggested bringing in a bigger name to try and gather interest in that way. Linda agreed and mentioned myofascial release as a possible class. Gwinnett College has a location in Marietta; it does not have a massage program. Lisa volunteered to look at the venue next week to see if there would be enough room for education with massage tables for the June 2016 class.

We also need to find a location for the Joe Muscolino class next September. Cindy anticipates that will be a well attended class due to his popularity and the fact that renewal is close. Judy reminded that she had a venue in Johns Creek that she could explore and provide more details. She said that if we reserve in advance the location is free. Cindy said there would be a need for 20-25 tables.

There are seven people registered for the October class in Augusta. Cindy said that there is another person from Augusta who will give her check and information directly to Laurie. There are another couple of people interested so the total is actually closer to 10 right now. This is about half of what we need in order to break even. Lisa will not be able to attend; she will gather a box of paper products and items needed. Laurie volunteered one of her employees to help with errands, set up and such.

Cindy stated that there is a need for a portable wireless printer for last minute items needed when we have education classes. She asked if any of the Amazon gift cards should be used. Linda mentioned she thought they were great fun for members to receive as door prizes. Other BOD members agreed.

**MOTION: 2015-09#01** “that Cindy researches and finds a printer or copier up to $200 for chapter use” Vivian moves; Laurie seconds; **motion carries**.

Cindy and Judy met with Dekalb County who wishes for us to write an ordinance. It could potentially be used as a model ordinance for other counties as well. Gwinnett County requested some redline change suggestions to the ordinance. Forsyth County listed the Johns Creek ordinance as their impetus for trying to list massage therapists under adult entertainment. Stan Jones wrote a letter to the commissioners; Cindy and Judy attended the meeting last Thursday. There was some concern by residents about the “shady people.” Judy mentioned she had additional items that should be redlined in addition to Cindy’s email. There is a lot that is happening in Forsyth County; October 1st is actually when there will be a vote on the change to the ordinance. All of these things are evidence as to why we need to push for changes to the statute so that other entities will not be able to make any of these individual changes within each county or municipality.

Current National Massage Therapy Awareness Week Proclamations include Dekalb County and Augusta; pending Proclamations are the City of Atlanta, Governor Deal, Dalohnaga, and Johns Creek. Vivian is trying to get in to see the Dougherty County executive about receiving a Proclamation for that area.

Elections are coming up at the annual meeting in February 2016. Positions are president, 2nd vice president, secretary, membership secretary, and delegate. Technically we are required to have three alternate delegates which means that they would be available but would not be necessary to have all of them travel to convention. Cindy is thinking Dana Whitfield, Jane Johnson, and Ben Glosson for the Nominations Committee. She has not spoken with them yet but thinks they would be well able to handle all of the activities required.

**New Business**

For National Massage Therapy Awareness Week we have two current Proclamations and Cindy would love to have some activities planned for the week. Linda mentioned that she passed the Augusta Proclamation to Laurie for better exposure by clients. Cindy is thinking maybe chair massage; asking for suggestions from the Facebook community, and asked Judy if she could look into some kind of coordinated event with Emory University with Johns Creek.

Discussion surrounding use of the three massage tables and one massage chair donated by Massage Warehouse. This will be placed into the agenda for additional discussion and, perhaps decisions, at the October Augusta meeting.

**Announcements**

Vivian mentioned that this Saturday will be an event for the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) to help survivors of suicide. Next month is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and there are usually many events surrounding that topic.

**Next meeting will be** October 17, 2015

**Meeting adjourned** at 9:08pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Christie, Chapter Secretary