

**FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

March 6, 2002
Asilomar Conference Grounds
Pacific Grove, CA

MEMBERS PRESENT: GIL ABDALIAN, HARRY GOLDBERG, CARRIE GUSTAFSON, RICHARD LOUIS III, DAVID M. POLAK, JO C. ROBINSON, DANTE ROSETE

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

GENERAL MEMBERS: 9 GENERAL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:25 pm, by Gil Abdalian.

II. ANNUAL REPORTS:

a. President's Report

Gil gave his report outlining the changes in the association. The association has a new office location. We have updated our operating manual and redesigned our newsletter. The Public Policy Committee has reestablished its role in the Association. We have upgraded our website and it is receiving "hits" worldwide. We have lowered our expenditures this past year. The Board has reduced its face to face meetings, substituting teleconferences which are more cost effective.

Discussion was conducted with attendees regarding how to generate more attendance at the business meeting. Suggestions included more emphasis at registration and reception, having the meeting before a presentation, emphasis on promoting our philosophy and holding a raffle.

b. Vice-President's Report

Judy presented an update on the Public Policy Committee activities from the floor.

c. Director of Conference Report

Jo reported that last year's conference generated a small profit for the organization. This year's attendance will be lower. Jo discussed encouraging sponsorships and encourage the membership to get involved. Jenson Pharmaceuticals will have a display of a machine that simulates hallucinations this year. Law enforcement attendance has increased this year and we will continue to stress the importance of this partnership.

d. Treasurer's Report

Carrie reported an increase in expenses for 2000-2001 due to many one-time administrative costs. The Association's stock portfolio also incurred losses. However, last year's profits offset our administrative costs.

e. Director of Education's Report

Richard announced that he is leaving the Board at the end of his term. He helped organize a successful training with the Department of Corrections, Parole Division, with 45 parole agents to have designated SMI caseloads. The Health Committee was very successful and did a training at Patton State Hospital on communicable diseases. The FMHAC awarded three scholarships for \$2,000 each to San Jose State University, Cal State Los Angeles and Cal State Dominguez Hills. Twelve conference scholarships were also awarded.

f. Secretary's Report

David encouraged the members present to participate in the elections and consider more direct involvement with the association.

The membership accepted the reports by acclamation.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of the March 21, 2001 Business Meeting were approved by acclamation.

IV. BOARD ELECTIONS:

The secretary conducted the elections for the 2002 Board of Directors. The candidates introduced themselves to the general membership. The rules of secret ballot were suspended by the general membership and a hand vote was taken. The results of the voting were as follows: Joan Cairns was elected Director of Conference; Jo Robinson was elected Director of Education; David Polak was elected to another term as Secretary.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

David M. Polak, LCSW
Secretary