

**FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA  
QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING**

September 29, 2003

Teleconference

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** JOAN CAIRNS, JOEL FAY, HARRY GOLDBERG,  
CARRIE GUSTAFSON, DAVID M. POLAK, JO C.  
ROBINSON, CYNTHIA SHACKELFORD, JUDITH  
TIKTINSKY

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am, by Harry Goldberg. The minutes of May 21-23, 2003, were approved by acclimation.

**II. DIRECTOR OF CONFERENCE REPORT**

The conference planning committee met last week. The committee felt that the current conference title was too vague. Joan proposed we consider changing it. "Forensic Mental Health, Hard Times in the Face of Diminishing Resources" was the amended title. An introduction to a Forensic tract was proposed to add to our conference schedule. The board felt that this was a good idea but that we are not ready to implement it this year. More consideration should be given to workshops to attract entry level clinicians to the field. Will add workshops this year to the schedule and see what kind of response we get. We have the Wednesday Domestic Violence workshop scheduled for the conference. We will charge \$50 per person for non-conference attendees. Joan proposed one, three hour presentation for Friday. Joan has lined up a speaker for that workshop. Judith proposed a one hour workshop early Friday regarding the upcoming Mental Health Initiative. Joan is working on obtaining CME's and getting more doctors to present.

### **III. VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Judith has not met with the public policy committee as of yet. She reported on the Mental Health Services Act. This proposal is for a tax of one percent on personal income over \$1,000,000 to provide a stream of funding for mental health programs. The board expressed initial support for this initiative. A vote was taken to support the Mental Health Initiative Act and was approved unanimously. Judith proposed we pledge an amount from the public policy committee budget as a supporting contribution. We also discussed soliciting donations at the conference. Judith will volunteer to coordinate the gathering and dispersing of information. A vote was taken to contribute \$100 from the FMHAC and enlist pledges to support the Mental Health Act, and was approved unanimously.

### **IV. DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION'S REPORT**

The health committee provided two trainings this year on HIV and Hepatitis. We discussed changing our dispersion of scholarship funds to schools with specific forensic programs. Letters for conference scholarships for students should go out in November.

### **V. TREASURER'S REPORT**

We received our checks from the American Express account. Our portfolio value has increased over the past year. However, we will need to dip into reserves this coming year as we are still operating in the red.

### **VI. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

David has been actively soliciting support for our conference from pharmaceutical representatives. He reports verbal commitments from the Astra-Zeneca and Pfizer representatives for grants for educational purposes. David will coordinate passing this information on to Harry and Cynthia.

## **VII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Harry reports that we will be cutting back on publication of the Forum. We'll need to get some articles for the upcoming issue. Harry and Joel will coordinate that.

## **VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Cynthia reports that she may need some assistance due to some personal issues that have occurred. Cynthia has an acquaintance that is willing to assist with some of her duties. Cynthia will start to work on the details and provide the board with more information.

## **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm. The next meeting will be on 12/4/03 in San Francisco.