

SOCIAL WORK PAG Minutes
April 12, 2005
1:00pm to 3:00pm

Attendees

SW PAG Leadership:	Present:
CDR Thomas Costello, Chair	CAPT Rebecca Ashery
LCDR Gail Davis, Chair Elect	CAPT Peter Delany
LCDR Wanda Finch, Secretary	LT Michael Leboe
	LCDR Thomas Hochberg
Teleconference:	LT Kara Lampasone
CDR Thomas Costello	LTJG Tarsha Wilson
LCDR Donna Rusch	LCDR Gail Davis
CDR Barbara Olaniyan	LCDR Wanda Finch
LT Janice Jackson	
LT Melanie Pederson	
LT Ivy Simmons	
LCDR Chris McGee	
CAPT Julia Stokes Dunaway	
LT Laura Aponte	

Meeting called to order by CDR Costello at 1:05pm EST
 Technical difficulty getting the door at Parklawn open.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reminders – Conferences Dates and Registration

USSW Conference

LCDR Finch reported on behalf of Lcdr Hawkins who was deployed to Red Lake, Minnesota. All officers are reminded about the extended deadline (April 15) for the conference and the need to contact the parties noted in recent email as Robert Caldwell and MAJ Mitzi Thomas-Lawson. Special highlights included that all the Surgeon Generals are scheduled to speak, Continuing Education credits and encouraging more officers to register as only 100 registered at last report. Some officer indicated they had problems contacting the individuals identified and Lcdr Finch will follow up and assistance to resolve contact issues.

COA

CDR Costello reminded everyone of the dates of the COA Conference and that Health Services Category Day is June 7. Highlights of the day include a panel presentation moderated by CAPT Ashery and himself with (LT) Emily Williams, CAPT Michael Flood and Lcdr David Morrisette as some of the panelists. A total of six to seven officers will conduct the forum.

NASW Conference

LCDR Finch provided officers with information from recent Social Work News Report about the upcoming conference sponsored by NASW. The title is New Dimensions in Social Work and will be held on Thursday, April 21 and Friday, April 22 with a dinner commemorating the 150th Anniversary of Saint Elizabeth's on Thursday Evening. The conference site is the Academy of Educational Development at 1825 Connecticut Avenue, NW. Two officers from the PAG will be panelist during the conference. LCDR Finch will forward specific registration information via email to all officers.

Awards

CDR Costello reminded officers to submit nominations for all awards. The deadline for the Kissel and Garcia Awards is April 15 and the Social Worker of the Year is April 22.

ONGOING DISCUSSION

Appointment Standards

CDR Costello summarized the outcomes of today's meeting with CAPT Weld of OCCFM and our CPO, CAPT Linda Morris Brown about the direction of developing social work appointment standards. The discussion was fruitful and the subcommittee will meet regularly to discuss complex issues such as jobs, readiness, three year limited tour to achieve clinical licensure.

Social Work Award Development

CAPT Delany described the work by the subcommittee that proposes an award that will mirror the SWOTY Award but it will be called the PAG Chair Award. The award will be specific criteria that will include that the social worker contribute to mission and demonstrate visibility of public health social work. The award will give the PAG Chair an opportunity to award officers for involvement in PAG throughout the year and awards can be presented to one or several officers. One proposed submission will be that the Chair, Chair-Elect and secretary agree on the award(s) and provide the award subcommittee a nomination form. A review process also needs to be established. CAPT Ashery added that the officer should demonstrate excess committee work and there should be something special about the work they are doing for example, participation in the committee that works on USSW conference. CAPT Delany will forward information on a similar award presented by Bob Falter to the PAG secretary.

The discussion of a name for the award resulted in CDR Costello suggesting the name of Career Achievement and noted a quorum will be needed to vote on this idea. CAPT Delany suggested another name, the Bob Battjes Award, after a career officer who worked in Lexington and developed a number of significant programs. CDR Olaniyan commented the name will provide a theme, identify a role model and add essence to what we want the award to represent. LT Wilson volunteered to submit the name of Battjes and short biography on his achievements for the next meeting. A vote will be taken at the next meeting.

Update on Readiness Survey

Ms. Sara Fleury presented the update on the readiness survey in the absence of LCDR Morrisette who was on deployment at Red Lake, MN. The survey results are in the analysis phase with a rough draft planned this week and a plan for a final rough draft in three weeks. CDR Costello noted the survey results will tie into today's meeting on licensure and a future meeting with RADM Babb about deployment roles. The survey will also enhance the work our social work officers are doing in the field. LT Leboe noted that the information will help define specific duties on deployment and may also make recommendations about the types of deployments social workers will be most helpful.

Recent Deployments

LT Laura Aponte provided a summary of her deployment experience to Indonesia in response to the Tsunami. She deployed as a Ready Responder from Florida and provided clinical services in conjunction with Navy personnel and staff from Project HOPE about the psychosocial aspects of the disaster. Nearly 70 officers were involved in the mission which included psychologists and 3 social workers from US PHS. Some involvement was also with UNICEF in train the trainer sessions with staff in schools and pre-schools. During the 30 day deployment, LT Aponte provided case management, discharge planning, administrative and clinical services. The roles were clearly defined and the work consisted of long hours, 4:30 am to 9:30/10:00pm shifts, with no days off. Most of the mental health services were provided by the mental health providers that were deployed as the Navy does not have a mental health provider role as part of their deployment roster. She also attributed her 8 year work experience with the military as an asset to fulfill her duties in her deployment role.

Minutes were reviewed and noted with corrections:

A spelling error in the name of CAPT Delany and one grammatical error in preposition on page one. LCDR Finch made notations for correction in minutes.

New Topics

No new topics discussed.

The next Social Work PAG Meeting would be scheduled during the COA Conference in Philadelphia. Therefore, the next meeting is on Tuesday, August 9, 2005 at 1:00pm to 3:00pm, in the Parklawn Building, Room 3A-35. The call in number is 1-877-795-5087; passcode is 804187. the meeting adjourned at 2:20pm.

Minutes recorded and respectfully submitted by:
LCDR Wanda Finch
Secretary, SW-PAG 2005