

# ATM Board Meeting

Austin, TX 2/08/16

## Board Members Present

Paula Davis  
Cathy Rude (4:11 arrival)  
Vicky Wells  
Cheryl West  
Claudine Crews  
Brielle Epstein  
Carol Schumacher  
Donna Miller  
Chris Hohlt  
Joi Brock (4:11 arrival)

## Board Members Absent

Kelly Miller  
Ashley King  
Anna Ochoa

## Visitors

Wanda Drew  
Mary Littlefield Devine  
Tonya Rose  
Donna Brown  
Erin Durr  
Melinda Pond  
Shelley Terrazas  
Helen Nelson  
Kristin Youngblood  
Jamie Scheler  
Elise Bandy  
Samantha Wellmeier  
Emily Conatser  
Janet Dirmeyer  
Laurie Fremgen

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**4:03 pm – Paula Davis called meeting to order.**

Minutes kept by Cheryl West

### **Agenda Item: Meeting Minutes**

Minutes read and approved.

### **Agenda Item: Regional Reports**

Regional Reports were reviewed and any questions/issues discussed. Adopted. All Regional Reports are available from the ATM office or from the Regional Representative.

### **Agenda Item: Regional Reps Appointment Process**

Can change appointment policy to send email out to membership without changing bylaws

**PROPOSAL (Vicky):** Add to the policy that an email will be sent out and membership given 14 days to comment prior to any appointment by board.

Second Paula. Passed with no opposition. Will add to policies.

Election time again for even-numbered regions. Up for nominations through March.

**Agenda Item: Website Update**

Paula forwarding update from Kelly Miller to the Boardlist.

**Agenda Item: Logo Change**

Logo shown to membership and on 2016 ATM Conference page.

**PROPOSAL (Vicky):** Officially change to new logo. Second Joi. Passed with no opposition.

**Agenda Item: Finances 2013-2015/Treasury Report/Legal Counsel Opinion**

Treasury Report (Vicky Wells): All of 2015. Discussed in Detail. Report made available to Membership present and will be available through ATM Office and through Regional Representatives.

Concern from Member that at 2015 Conference gave abbreviated report and not P&L Summary. Made 2014 available for membership today and copies made.

Quick Executive Session Regarding legal opinion. (4:32p-4:47p)

Paula Davis addressed Visitors and Mary Littlefield Devine regarding requests. Explained student and midwife confidentiality in records. Summaries given at meetings are available to all members. No obligation to give to non-member. Report was given at General Membership meeting 2015, and detailed P&L statements available today. All present at today's meeting were given copy of 2015 P&L Statement. Made Carla, Office Manager, available for questions today.

Mary reports that Central TX MW's Yahoo Group requested 2013 P&L (Mary and Patty Sprinkle requested-no regional rep at that time). By then Tawnya was the Rep and couldn't find in her notebook. And then realized no one in the Region had seen it. Wondering where all the papers were. Paula doesn't make sure every Rep keeps their copies in their notebook but encourages us to do it. Also, explains 990 Tax Forms are public record. Doesn't know how to access. Vicky and Paula gave Mary and anyone else requesting copies of 2013 and 2014 P&L. Also opened up 990s today. Not copies.

Mary repeated that can't charge for copies. Paula explained Legal Counsel's opinion that we can charge for copies, we just choose not to. But we can if we want to. Offered her the copy of the Attorney's opinion.

Mary questioned where the Summaries were at the time of the request. Was presented at conference and given to reps. Brielle explained that we all had them, including Kate, but she had her own things and no idea why Kate didn't have. Mary concerned about issue of follow-through and follow-up. Mary wants more accountability and transparency.

Not on agenda about how conflict is handled. Paula explained that it's not, but appreciated Mary's previous input of research and methods at a previous meeting and distributed to board.

Emotions of woman being subjected to abuse. Question about who was being abused. Mary says she was abused due to the behaviors of regional board member talking about her behind her back. Asked for respect of her anger. Paula hopes the concerns have been resolved in some ways. As a board we felt helpless to resolve these things for Mary because it's not really in our scope to handle conflicts within midwifery communities. Our job is promoting Midwifery in Texas not handling Interpersonal Conflict. Mary feels were in position of authority (preceptor and board member) and

harmed her reputation in the community using that position from ATM. Therefore is ATM's place. Encouragement from Joi to approach Rep and if not resolved then approach Board.

Paula offered to approach that former Rep that's no longer on the Board. Mary doesn't desire that. Mary requests change in culture of the Board. Discussion of some changes in that regard, including new means of communication and updates through new website format.

Helen Nelson discussed ATM in reference to rest of the country. Our Association is regarded at top in rest of country. Discussion lack of membership participation in elections, etc.

**Agenda Item: Quickbooks Training for Carla**

**PROPOSAL (Paula): Pay for Quickbooks Training for Carla.** Joi's husband offered to train her for free. Decision made to offer her Online Lifetime Training (under ATM name) and also offer her Joi's husband as resource. Cathy second. Passed with no opposition.

**Agenda Item: 2016 Conference (Paula and Cathy)**

Lisa has been very helpful and responding within less than 24 hours to any requests. Registration open. And registration open for the Board. Put in notes if registering to share occupancy or bringing family.

Conference Website went live in January.

Gave list of Conference Committee assignments.

All regions must give items for Silent and/or Live Auction. Will need to tell Paula what it is and get it to her.

Early Registration Discount before April 1.

Changed Student Discount to 25% off Regular Conference Price to ATM Students or ATM Student Members. Explained to put in notes who want to room with. Can contact Camp Allen directly regarding Food Allergies, etc.

Gave list of Vendors so far. Encouraged to have Vendors apply. Need a couple of Sponsors. Can't bring in food. Need someone to Sponsor snacks. Can look online to see Speakers, etc. Encouraged members to come to Graduation.

Encouraged to Register Early.

**Agenda Item: Legislative Report (Brielle)**

Move to TDLR. ATM made comments on proposed rules. Mostly changes in Language to change to TDLR. Did propose raising our Education/Licensing Clinical Requirements to match NARM's. Discussed possibility of requiring MANA stats to collect and systemically review. The problem is that's a skill that isn't necessarily a Midwifery Skill. Those will be discussed by Advisory Board tomorrow. Need to update Rules to reflect changed MANA Core Competencies. October 3<sup>rd</sup> is most accurate date for full transition. Transition Team will beginning writing Transition Plan and we'll have meeting for input.

Discussion of Proposed National Legislation by NACPM. Lack of information and transparency from them regarding the bill. Strong concern regarding language of education for CPMs and different standard for CMs. Requires MEAC certified Education to accept insurance by 2020. Several states, including ATM, and MANA sent letter of concern to Mary Lawlor of NACPM with no response. No access to current language of Bill. ATM Board made decision to hire Lobbyist Karen Fennell to make us Stakeholders in the bill and get info and input. We know bill hasn't been submitted yet but don't know timeline. Also working on access and communication between CPM organizations. The language and discussion of leaving midwives behind was very concerning.

The Legislative Report is available from the ATM office or from the Regional Representative.

**Break 6:00 to 6:15**

**Agenda Item: Education Report (Claudine)**

The Education Report is available from the ATM office or from the Regional Representative.

Had 10 students take and pass NARM last year. 100% pass rate on first taking over last 5 years.

Attrition rate is 63%.

115 Preceptors at end of year.

**PROPOSALS (Claudine):**

1. We propose to put 5% of 2015 education profit into the Paulette Griffin Memorial Fund, and then increase the monthly amount of funding to \$250.00 per month. 5% of the 2015 net profit from the school is \$5,069.00. Gave 4 partial grants last year. Vicky reports profit went down last year.

COUNTER PROPOSAL (Paula): We propose to put 5% of 2015 ATM profit into the Paulette Griffin Memorial Fund, and then increase the monthly amount of funding to \$200.00 per month. Give \$3050 for 2015 and double monthly (\$200/mo). Discussion about using Raffle Money. Also take Donations. Claudine is okay with Counter Proposal and other ideas. Joi seconds proposal. Passed with no opposition.

2. The Education Committee would like to change the following policy regarding membership:  
 "The Education Committee will consist of no less than five and no more than eight members who will be approved ATM preceptors and/or course instructors. The committee will attempt to function at full capacity."  
 We would like the ability to appoint a new graduate of our program to the committee if we feel that we have a graduate who can make a positive contribution to the committee.

"The Education Committee will consist of no less than five and no more than eight members who will be approved ATM preceptors, course instructors, or recent graduates of the ATM Midwifery Training Program. The committee will attempt to function at full capacity."

Discussion of benefits of new student and need for balance of that with Preceptors.

Cathy asked for list of current members (Claudine Crews, Carol Schumacher, Natalie Wommack, Pam Holland, Salli Gonzalez, and Kelly Miller with 2 open spaces.)

Paula wants us to consider in future possibility of consumer member.

Chris Second. Passed with no opposition.

3. We propose to change the term used when it is necessary to review an incident that results in a complaint against a preceptor from "Preceptor Review" to "Incident Review". We also propose to eliminate the current requirement for a standing review team, and replace it with:  
 "The Incident Review Officer will be responsible for assembling a 3 member team from the Education Committee to review any major adverse events that present. A major adverse event is defined as the following: an intrapartum fetal demise, a neonatal demise that occurs following birth and up to 14 days of age, a maternal demise that occurs at any time during antepartum, intrapartum or postpartum period if the cause of death is directly related to the pregnancy or birth."

Unless a complaint is major, we prefer to allow incident to be handled by the Midwifery Board when all sides of the issue can be heard. Serious complaints involving our preceptors are rare.

Paula Second. Passed with no opposition.

4. The Education Committee wishes to change the enrollment prerequisite to allow for alternatives to the ACT test. When the committee originally decided to require recent ACT test results the decision was based on a desire to evaluate the ACT test as an effective means to eliminate enrollees who were not academically ready for our program. However, two things occurred that made us re-think that decision. The first was the overwhelming

number of inquiries asking if we would accept SAT scores or a college degree instead of ACT scores. The other was an acknowledgment that we didn't have the time or means to evaluate the effectiveness of the ACT, and that all we really want is something to screen applicants. We propose that an applicant must meet *one of the following* requirements for acceptance into the program:

- a. ACT testing, including the writing skills test, score level TBD by Education Committee
- b. SAT testing within the past 10 years, score level TBD by Education Committee
- c. A college degree will be accepted in lieu of either of the above.

Second by Cathy. Passed with no opposition.

Discussion of Database conversion.

### **Agenda Item: Education Budget**

Discussion of need for MEAC Accreditation.

Brielle and Paula expressed concerns with MEAC. Claudine could become MEAC accredited and then change to a different accreditation later or become our own, but right now MEAC is it. Brielle in support of staffing changes and some tuition increase but not convinced MEAC is best direction to go.

Claudine: MEAC isn't what's being proposed right now. Was told upon hire and again reaffirmed in 2012 by the board that MEAC is where we're headed. Board members come and go and the Education Committee can't change direction every time board members change. This needs to be firm decision.

Paula: reality is that Education is subject to the Board. We have a great structure.

Discussion about whether firm decision is needed and what that encompasses.

**PROPOSAL (Claudine):** Accept Tuition Increase Example 1 from Report: July Class no Change (\$7000), January 2017 to \$995 (\$7960 total), July 2017 to \$1195 (\$9580), Jan 2018 to \$1295 (\$10360), Jan 2019 to \$1400 (\$11200), July 2020 to \$1500 (\$12000). Second Donna. Passed with no Opposition.

**PROPOSAL (Claudine):** ATM hires a permanent, part time administrative assistant/manager at \$16/hour to handle more of the administrative tasks of running the midwifery program. Second Paula. Passed with no Opposition.

**PROPOSAL (Claudine):** Hire Martha Gaye Breeden for the administrative assistant/manager position. Has already been working. Resume submitted to Board. Janet Dirmeyer (Visitor) expressed support of her integrity and work ethic. Decision made that don't need vote on particular hire. Within Claudine's job description to hire staff for Board-approved positions.

Proposed Education Budget submitted to Board includes increase of \$48742.53 with prior approved proposals.

Have to send application for TX State Approval in Mid-March. Not sure about Site Review timeline under TDLR. Current approval good through end of September.

### **Agenda Item: Student Survey**

**PROPOSAL (Paula):** Create Student Survey for Feedback on what's working and not working for our Students. With Paula and Claudine approval, it can be sent out without another vote by board. One-time survey. Not to replace Workshop Evaluation at end of each Module. Idea to have several students help put the survey together. Ask each Regional Rep to recommend a student or recent graduate. Board and Visitors in support.

Second Cheryl. Passed with no opposition.

**Agenda Item: NRP Training**

Brielle will find out if LMs are now required to take the Full Course. Tabled until more information.

**Agenda Item: Schedule Future Meetings**

Board Meeting 7:30am Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at Conference.

Annual General Membership Meeting at Lunch Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at Conference.

**Agenda Item: Member Comments - None**

*All regional and committee reports are filed with ATM office and available if requested.*

**7:30 pm – Paula Davis adjourned meeting.**