

NHSLHA BOARD MEETING  
January 13, 2015

Present: Cass Chapman, Bridget Powers, Barbara Ahlgren, Melissa Mercer, Anne Doyle, Erin Fortier, June Adinah, Gina England, Vicki Chesterly  
Joining in by Skype: Carolyn Garretson

1. December 2015 minutes: accepted as written.
2. June reported on the NH Council on Autism Spectrum Disorders. The needs assessment has been typed up and needs final touches before it is considered complete. The Council will be putting together a June festival again this year for families and children. April is national autism awareness month – the Council has several ideas they will be putting effort into to tie in with that.
3. Board nominations: Vicki nominated Anne for the position of president and this was seconded quickly. The members of the Board voted unanimously in favor of this. Congratulations! Anne will assume this position on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Board members were asked if there was any interest in changing their role. Cass asked Melissa if she would like to take on the public relations position. They will discuss what makes the most sense after speaking together. We also need an audiology advisor. Carolyn has a contact that is interested but was ill tonight.

We read off the list of positions that the organization has. People were invited to speak up if they desire a position. June mentioned that she will be leaving the Board in June so we'll need someone to take over as secretary. Bridget said she might be interested. VP of Governmental Affairs and student representative are vacant at this time. There also are no members for the conference and legislative committees. The CEU coordinator slot is also open. Bridget will think about the CEU coordinator role – Todd is willing to assist with that or give it over to her. We also need an ASHA Stars representative (Todd will forward info. to Board members about ASHA volunteer positions, including this one). ASHA Advisory Council SLP member is Vicki and we need an ASHA Audiology Council Audiology member (Vicki will be connecting with a person who might be able to step into this role). VP of Public Relations will be vacated by Anne July 1<sup>st</sup> so that role will need a person. We also need an SLP Schools Rep.

4. The Constitution: Vicki made copies for all of us and distributed them. There was much discussion of the document and ideas for some minor changes were offered up and agreed upon. Vicki made these changes on her computer. Todd made a motion to accept the Constitution as written with our changes discussed this evening. Vicki will email this out to the group for feedback. The motion was seconded. The Board voted unanimously in favor of this – Todd looks forward to letting ASHA know that we have updated our Constitution.

5. Carolyn shared that we have \$8266.91 in the treasury. Anne shared about our desire to have tee shirts made to sell and when we get to that point, she will need to connect with Carolyn regarding “creating a store” online. Erin will mail Carolyn some paperwork since she is ill and not present tonight.
6. Erin got a Nonprofit Report saying it is due by 12/31/15 to the State of NH. This can be done online. The filing fee is \$25.00. Erin will pass this on the Vicki who will research who is responsible for dealing with this and to clarify how often this happens and if it is something we need to continue with.
7. Todd spoke with Susan Adams and another person at ASHA re: Alt. certification. He was told that there is money via grants from ASHA for all sorts of endeavors that state boards are interested in pursuing.

He found that they do grants in the Spring re: different things including lobbying. The amount of money available varies with how many associations ask within a given time period. They support the idea of us having a legislative agenda. Our Board previously expressed some interest and some trepidation in looking at the Alt certification and it’s impact upon our profession. Vicki suggests we need to do research on this and find out if other professions have this Alt. plan in place. We are not on a critical shortage list now, so we should not need this. We asked if SLPs aren’t in critical shortage, then does the DOE balance this out by stopping the ALT. 4 program for SLPs? We had a long discussion about this and continue to be concerned about heading down this road right now. We wonder if this is the time to take on the DOE, if this is the issue we want to go after, if our money would be well spent and of great enough benefit to our members/profession. For 2015, no one can enter the Alt. 4 program in our field. Christopher spoke with our Lobbyiest and Todd spoke with ASHA about this. Anne made a motion to dev. a strategic plan for 2015 that may or may not include legislative action.

8. Todd nominated Bridget to the Board. [Bridgetpowers7@gmail.com](mailto:Bridgetpowers7@gmail.com). Welcome! Bridget asked if we couldn’t advocate for our profession instead of getting confrontational. It was suggested that we ask ASHA to come and help us with strategic planning, as they will do this at their own expense. It is a 2 day process in person with continued support. Gina suggested this be combined with a retreat – maybe half the Board could meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> day, half could meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day. Carolyn made a motion that we engage ASHA in this. The motion was seconded and we voted in favor of this. Melissa will contact ASHA.
9. Re: ASHA grants: they do them in the Spring and money is available for many purposes. Bridget asked if we could get money to pay for a nationally

recognized speaker. Todd asked that we all think about ideas that we might want to apply for grant money to put in motion.

10. The store is open for membership dues. Melissa will speak with Erin about this and how it'll work in real time.

11. Topics to revisit: Nonprofit fee, Spring continuing ed offering, strategic plan for 2015, ASHA grant, and ASHA assistance with strategic planning.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 6:00 pm at HealthSouth. Snow date will be 2/17.

Minutes taken by June Adinah, Secretary