

## Minutes from MCA Board Meeting 08/27/2015

1) 7:04pm Welcome and roll call by Dr. Stephanie Dailey (President). Attendees: Christian Chan, Janelle Bettis, Lenese Stevens, Elizabeth Nyang Nick Battle, Michelle Schoonmaker, LaNail Plummer and Catherine Eaton.

**2) President Update** (Stephanie): Tentative congratulations to President-Elect Christian Chan (2016) and Secretary-Elect Catherine Eaton. It was unclear when elections will officially close. Positive outcomes are expected from the election. Special welcome to LaNail Plummer our new assistant Treasurer. Strategic initiatives are moving forward, increasing communication within and among divisions specifically creating active divisions on par with ACA divisions, including administration details. Please keep in mind ACES conference Oct 7-12 in Philadelphia and MCA Conference Nov 12-13.

State Division Update (Christian): There is a wide range of divisions, some very strong while some are effectively inactive. The goal is to grow all divisions and revitalize each one through sustainable leadership and support. While ACA has 20 divisions, we have only 6. Through an increase in communication, engagement with new leadership it is hoped to create more vibrant divisions that include project xpfocused initiatives. It is hoped this will create sustainable leadership and long-term growth. Any and all ideas are welcome.

**3) Finances** (Sarah): We welcomed our new assistant Treasurer, LaNail. No new updates were reported.

**4) Annual Conference** (Lenese): We will have 18 presenters (out of 43 submissions) a significant increase over past years. There will be 25-26 poster sessions, with one possible slot opening up. Decision of who to offer back up slot was discussed. There have been questions about how use to volunteers; there have been 5-6 inquiries so far. Currently, 59 people are signed up for FREE session and 33 for Friday session. It would be preferable to have more signed up for Friday's session. This is an increase over past years for early, confirmed registrants. Difficulties with online registration were discussed, and LaNail will address concerns from one member. Marsha and Stephanie are working on the logistics of vendors. Ideal number of vendors is 8-10, 5 are confirmed including 2 Universities, 2 organizations and one private practice.

**5) Newsletter** (Michelle): More information will be coming on submissions for next newsletter (Nov 7) deadline will be Oct 30. Printed copies of newsletter were requested to be on hand at Conference. A reminder was given that articles published in the newsletter count towards informal publications. Encourage use of corporate and private practice advertisements.

**5) PR/Social Media:** No updates at this time

**7) Membership** (Nick): Progressing in systematic information gathering to determine how to increase membership. Next meeting will crunch data and come up with realistic goals and ways to increase interest. Adding Corporate or group memberships were discussed. All ideas are welcome.

**8) Advocacy** (Janelle): Explained Lauren's Law which now requires school counselors to have suicide training by July 2016 before they can renew their license. This comes from an unfortunate incident that happened in PG County schools.

**9) Website:** Please email any feedback or ideas on how to improve website directly to Jose or Robert, or Stephanie or Marybeth. Website needs to be streamlined, updated format and include current information. All ideas are welcome!

**10) Bylaws:** No updates, vote to be completed at MCA conference in November

**Division Updates:**

- 1) MAMCD- No updates
- 2) MACES-no updates
- 3) MSCA- board meeting to improve support
- 4) MASERVIC-no updates
- 5) MAMHC (Elizabeth)- Want to continue to offer workshops, as last 8 years. Usually 50-75 attendees at Loyola or JHU in Columbia. MCA has agreed to reimburse membership fees for LCPC of MD. Goals to increase collaboration, clarification of roles and boundaries of MCA and MHC
- 6) MCDA- Conference April 28-29 in Columbia, MD focusing on Asperger's
- 7) MAMFC (Marsha)-On target for educational trainings in Feb 2016

**Closing:** (7:55pm) No other business

**Next Board Meeting:**

**In person, September 24, 2015, 7pm-8pm**

**Location: Jason's Deli**  
**8874 McGaw Road**  
**Columbia, MD 21045**  
**(Next to Loyola University Maryland)**