

TNOTA Board Meeting Dec. 12, 2024

In attendance: Stephanie Lancaster, Brandy McCarter, Valery Hanks, Kelsey Vaughn, Kimberly Jessee, David Eades, Ashley Robertson, Bhumika Patel, Abilene Hurd, Channing Bearden, Madison Craighead, Jennifer Henderson, Jennie Douglas, Martin Davis, Sandra Dicks, Hannah Wiggs, Katy Schmidt, Abby Peacock, Richie Leger-Walker, Jenni Schwartz, Maggie Pierce

Not in attendance: Abby Hightower, Gigi Jordan, Jayden Malugin, Audra Larson, Mary Dreyer Smith, Robert Mullaney, Amanda Newbern, Ashlyn Getway, Audrey Owens, Blaine Coffey, Brittany Ford, Caitlyn O'Brian, Christine Watt, Jennifer Crowder, Logan Herndon, Morgan Webb, Rosemary Lewis, Cindy Blackwell, Missy Bryan, Cynthia Hickman, Taylor Kozell, Barbara Meussner, Anne Zachry, Marisa Cruz

Staff in attendance: Zach McElgunn, Peggy McElgunn

MSC to accept the previous month's minutes as submitted

Important TNOTA Board announcements

- TNOTA Board Strategic Planning meeting will be in **Nashville on Jan. 25 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.** Lunch and snacks will be provided. Directions and agenda to come soon!

Please share this information with your personal network(s)

- The TNOTA Mentorship Committee is seeking new mentors! Applications open on **January 5, 2025** and you are encouraged to keep an eye out for this fantastic opportunity to advance the OT professions in Tennessee!
- **TNOTA 2025 Annual Conference** – We have a venue and dates for the 2025 annual conference! The conference will take place at the **J Walter Barnes Conference Center at Jackson General Hospital, September 12-14**. You can [check back here](#) for more information as the planning gets underway.

Action Items for TNOTA Board members

- Please [RSVP](#) for the strategic planning meeting as soon as you know your schedule!
 - Strategic Planning meeting will be in Nashville on Jan. 25 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch and snacks will be provided. Directions and agenda to come soon!
- Please respond to the strategic planning questionnaire that was sent to you under a different cover
- Please submit any district, committee, or CEU events ASAP for 2024 using the [Executive Board webpage](#)
- December Newsletter submissions are due **December 16th**. You can submit on the [Executive Board webpage](#)

- Please send a notice of any leadership changes - personnel and roles - in your district or on your committee to admin@tnota.org and copy president@tnota.org
- Please continue to engage with TNOTA social media posts by sharing, liking, etc.

Upcoming Events

- **January 14** – Northeast District 2025 Planning Meeting
- **February 4** – Occupational Therapy and Pelvic Health (West District hosted webinar)
- **February 6** – Suicide Prevention Training
- **March 29** – PAMs Knoxville at Lincoln Memorial University, Hosted by TNOTA's East District
- **June 14** – PAMs Nashville at South College - Nashville
- **September 27** – PAMs Chattanooga at Encompass Health Chattanooga
- **November 8** – PAMs Jackson at West Tennessee Healthcare, Hosted by TNOTA's Rural West District
- **Please watch our social media and website for announcements and information about continuing education events as more learning opportunities are planned.**

Announcements

- New Business (President)
 - Board member updates
 - The Board election and philanthropy partner voting will end on 12/15. Please be sure to vote!
 - Met with the TNOTA lobbyist last week and am in talks with Jeff Strand with the [TN Disability Coalition](#) - tentatively have OT Hill Day set for March 12!
 - Any board member interested in learning about how TNOTA and some other state associations have successfully advocated for dry needling to be added to the practice act is welcome to view the video linked [HERE](#) (Passcode: N55*^oZJ)
- Admin Announcements
 - Zach updated everyone regarding the Strategic Plan event and encouraged everyone to respond to the questionnaire being issued.
 - Valerie let everyone know that parking can be tricky and the information regarding where the conference room is and how to access the room and parking will be sent shortly.
- TNOTA Annual Conference Updates
 - Scheduled for **September 12 – 14th** at West TN Healthcare in Jackson TN.
 - Will be forming the committee in the second week in January, so keep an eye out for that email/call for volunteers
- Financial update

- TNOTA Financial Report
 - Total Assets – \$186,034.33
 - TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY – \$186,034.33
 - Income for January-November – \$98,149.57
 - Expenses for January-November – \$88,287.75
 - Net Income for January-November – \$9,861.82
- We're moving along in moving TNOTA's funds from the Pinnacle account to Truist
- Special Projects
 - TNOTA Board Member Orientation
 - This was held November 18, 7-8pm CST via Zoom for new board members (past 6 months), and any TNOTA Board Member.
 - The recording has been placed on the [TNOTA Executive Board Access page](#) (you must be logged in to view) for any that were unable to attend or need a reference.
 - Please feel free to directly contact Morgan with any questions or concerns at morganwebb326@gmail.com
 - Working on updating the website and the newsletter with staff
 - Mentorship Committee: CE credit approval from TN State Board of OT - this will be addressed at the Feb. 2025 licensing board meeting
 - Successful December meeting with Amanda Newburn in attendance.
 - A meeting will be held in early January to determine how GPS can assist the Mentorship Program efforts.
- Membership updates
 - 1st year OT: 32 (+5)
 - 1st year OTA: 6 (-)
 - OT: 369 (-)
 - OTA: 80 (+1)
 - Retired: 2 (-)
 - Student: 347 (+14)
 - 34 people renewed their membership and 28 joined in the preceding month.
 - 49 people let their membership lapse and 4 rejoined.
 - At this time last year, we had 875 (2,998 including Prospects) active members compared to 855 (3,111 including Prospects) active members as of 11/30/2024.
 - This represents a loss of 20 members or a 2.29% reduction in overall membership numbers from last year. This reduction of members is concentrated in the loss of Student members.
 - This also represents a growth of 113 individuals in TNOTA's audience or a 3.77% increase in the overall audience.
- Legislative updates
 - TNOTA welcomes our new Legislative Chair, Cindy Blackwell, who will begin on Jan. 1.

- December report, as reported by AOTA: the Tennessee Board of Occupational Therapy proposed regulations to help military service members who have been ordered to move to Tennessee and their spouses, to become licensed when already licensed in good standing in another state.
 - Stephanie briefly explained the compact connecting the compact with the Military regulations above.
- Advocacy Committee
 - Rosemary was not on the call. Advocacy goal is to put together a toolkit to train, prepare and educate people who are interested in the *Day on the Hill*
- Marketing
 - Please submit any district, committee, or CEU events ASAP for 2024 using the [Executive Board webpage](#).
 - You can also email zack@gpsforgrowth.com
 - December Newsletter submissions are due December 20. You can submit on the [Executive Board webpage](#).
- Continuing Education Committee
 - TNOTA provides speaker certificates for events/CEUs hosted by any district or committee. If your district or committee is hosting a CEU, please email us before the event at continuinged@tnota.org to have us create the speaker certificates. Include the name of the presentation; the date, length, and location of the presentation; and the speaker's name/credentials.
- Diversity & Inclusion Committee
 - Thank you to Pamela Lewis-Kipkulei and Tamara Calhoun for their work as the co-chairs of this committee.
 - This committee is now seeking new leadership and committee members. If you have any interest in participating, please email admin@tnota.org
- Mental Health Committee
 - TNOTA's first in-house suicide prevention course took place on December 9, and it went great!
 - Goal for next year is to provide at least one training every other month for the coming year
 - The first course of 2025 is set for February 5, 2025
- Mentorship Committee
 - The applications for the next cycle (6th cycle) open on January 5
- OTA Connect Committee
 - No updates at the moment, but after the start of the year we will have more programming to support/get involved in following the strategic planning meeting

- Philanthropy Committee
 - Our new philanthropy partner will be announced after voting closes on December 15
 - TNOTA is grateful and indebted to Missy Bryan who is stepping down at the end of the year as TNOTA's Philanthropy Coordinator
 - Cynthia Hickman will be the new coordinator starting on January 1
- Student Involvement Committee
 - Quarterly chat this past month went fantastic
 - There were 8 panel members who discussed job searches, benefits, how to prepare applications, etc.
 - 14 participants total were in attendance
 - A large portion of the students had found their initial employment through their fieldwork connections
 - Next chat will take place in February with Taylor Kozell doing a workshop on resume building
- TNOTF
 - Not in attendance
- East District
 - Nothing new to report
- Middle District
 - The middle district team is very excited to meet in person in January and plan for 2025!
- Northeast District
 - Attempted to have a district meeting in early December, but attendance was sparse
 - Will be rescheduling another planning meeting for the district to take place after the holidays
- Rural West District
 - Nothing to report right now, but more programming after the first of the year
- Southeast District
 - No updates, but looking forward to meeting in Nashville next month
- West District
 - Ethics and Jurisprudence course took place on December 4 with 100 people in attendance
 - Planning to have an OT speak about pelvic health at the meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 4th at 5:30pm

Student Representatives & School Reports

- Belmont University
 - Just finished finals, and are currently on winter break
- East TN State
 - Just finished finals, and are currently on winter break
- Lincoln Memorial University
 - Last finals were taken today
- South College Nashville
 - Cohorts finishing up their semesters strong!
- Tennessee State University
 - Not too many updates, but finals are done
 - Cohorts did a little Christmas celebration together which is nice
- Tennessee Wesleyan
 - Not a lot to report currently
- UTHSC (Memphis)
 - Level I's just finished finals
 - Level II's are finishing their first Level II rotations
- Walters State Community College
 - Finals are complete, and second years are done in the classroom
 - Channing bid us goodbye as the Walter State rep
 - Abilene will be filling her role going forward

MSC Meeting was adjourned

Next meeting is taking place via Zoom January 9 at 7:00 pm Central

Action	Date	Who
Please submit any district, committee, or CEU events ASAP for 2024 using the Executive Board webpage	ASAP	Board

January Newsletter submissions are due December 16th . You can submit on the Executive Board webpage	December 16	Board
Continue to engage with TNOTA social media posts	Rolling	Board
Please RSVP to the Strategic Planning meeting when that RSVP request is sent out	ASAP	Board