



Board Meeting Minutes

10/10/2019 7pm CST

Cindy DeRuiter Blackwell: President Elect
Channing Rogers: Treasurer
Amanda Newbern: TNOTF Rep
Gwen Foxx: Communications Co-Chair
Morgan Webb: Middle District Chair
Mesa Smith: NE District Chair
Rebecca Denton: Belmont Student Rep
Sara Nesbitt: Roane State Rep

Valery Hanks: Secretary
John Williams: Lobbyist
Elise Foust: CEU Co-Chair
Kaylin Flamm: Mental Health Chair
Tess Barnfield: SE District Co-Chair
Stephanie Lancaster: Tennessee RA Rep
Ginny Monahan: TSU Student Rep

1. Roll Call – Valery Hanks
2. New Business – Cindy Blackwell
 - a. We have several open positions. We will be putting a call out on social media to fill all these positions. Leslie is stepping back from the Communications Committee as of the end of October. The communications team does a tremendous amount of work so we need to fill this asap. We could use at least 1 if not 2 more people to help. Whitney Joy is also stepping back as of this week, so we need a new West District Chair. Cindy has been in contact with the Vice Chair, but also looking at anyone in the community who might be interested. Still looking for people to help round out the NE and SE districts. Continuing Ed Co-Chair to help Elise. Secretary position will be voted on at the end of this year. Cindy re-nominated Valery, but if anyone else has someone they want to nominate it is open on the TNOTA website.
 - b. Continuing Education opportunities – Cindy and Barbara
 - i. They have discussed about on-line education. Barb added that as we move into a new year and trying to build our membership, we need to think about our position in regard to continuing education. As we see how we are having our meetings, using an online platform use of these for CEU's is important to our members. Cindy reported that Elise has been working hard to find a way to host our courses online. We can prioritize this as we move into the new year. We have a back log of courses that have been recorded, we just have to find a vehicle to do that.
 - ii. Cindy has been contacted by several CEU providers that have an interest in partnering with TNOTA and offer our members a discount. Wondering what everyone's thought is on this type of partnerships? Should we be exclusive to one company? Ask them to be sponsors of TNOTA? These would be additional. Not meant to replace E&J, those are state specific and doubtful any of these companies offer this. Ie. MedBridge.
 - iii. Barb expanded on how TNOTA has not been involved in CEU's historically however she wants to know where we feel like we are now? Difficult to keep members, this could be an added benefit. Cindy stated that continuing ed is something we offer but is not our primary purpose. Vision and Mission of our organization is to be a resource and a support for OT practitioners and students across the state. One of the ways we do this is providing CEU opportunities. So yes, it is part of what we do, but not our main mission.

- iv. We already have one partnership, is there any way we can see if this has utilized by our membership? Cindy will try and get some information. Update from Cindy: 4 members have utilized the discount code for occupationaltherapy.com
- v. Amanda pointed out that providing CEU courses that are mandatory for licensure, that is one of the best places to start. Adding Suicide Prevention to E&J. This would be a specific benefit for members as we are providing courses that are approved by the state board.
- vi. Elise pointed out that we can only have 12 hours of online CEU's and some people might not realize this. We could create something on the website to highlight partnership but also that the limit is 12 hours. We also provide live courses and workshops.
- vii. Any possibility that we could get one of these companies to host the on-line courses for TNOTA? Possibly video the courses/meeting and post them for us? We have had companies approach us in the past looking to do this for us and it has been quite expensive. We can ask.
- c. Member clicks OT job board – Cindy. They have a feature called “The OT Job Board” that allows members to post job openings for a fee. It is a free service for us to host, in other words this would be cost TNOTA anything. Member clicks would receive a cut of what they have to pay to post the job. Then we would get the other portion. Could be a source of revenue for TNOTA. Cindy will send this out in an email for the board to consider further.
- d. Philanthropy – Morgan Webb. Gigi's cancelled the fall festival this year, which was unfortunate but there are other opportunities to help. They need help to coach modified cross fit classes for Gigi's members. These are every other Thursday night. We need volunteers for Nov 7th and 21st. This info is up on the website and we'll get it up on social media as well.
- e. Upcoming E & J courses: UTHSC in Memphis on Oct. 22nd, Rural West in Jackson on Oct. 24th, then planned for Oak Ridge in December. The course in Rural West will professionally videoed for use later on line.
- f. PAMS in Chattanooga Oct 24th to 27th.
- g. State licensure board as asked us to submit 6 names for member nominations. They need to fill 2 positions. Cindy will send out more info and then can send names to her. Amanda added that the 2 positions are hers and one other person. Amanda does plan to reapply. They also have one COTA position that is termed out so need names for that as well.
- 3. TNOTA Conference – Brittany not on the call. Cindy reported that she missed conference but heard it was successful. Valery did not have anything to report. It was a good, well run conference.
- 4. Treasury Report – Channing Rogers
 - a. September net income: \$3,381.11. Income \$7, 785.22 (majority from conference, PAMS course, and membership dues) Expenses \$4, 504.11 (student scholarships from conference)
 - i. YTD 2019: \$9,578.03 compared to 2018: \$7,978.19
- 5. Legislative Updates:
 - a. John Williams – TennCare Block Grant Proposal. Legislature passed a bill this year that required the Governor and the Administration to put together a proposal to submit to the Dept of Health and Human Services that would modify the way the TennCare program is run in TN. It is already different from the traditional state Medicaid in that

the Dept of Health and Human Services has approved all the elements of the TennCare program. This would differ, if it gets approved, in that basically the state will get the same amount of money that they are currently getting and they will have almost complete control over it; what the money is spent on, what services are covered. The reason there is so much question about it getting approved is that whether Congress has given the Dept of Health and Human Resources the authority to approve anything like this. No other state has this, TN would be the first in the country. It has been submitted and it's in the Dept hands now to evaluate while all the court challenges are going on. The only thing that is of concern is that the state/the TennCare bureau would have so much control. As of right now, federal law covers OT/PT/SLP for all individuals. For pediatrics, federal law requires services be covered but it is optional for adults. Fact that TN has chosen to cover them now for many years is a good thing. Fear is that the Block Grant might give the state some incentive to try and save money by cutting services. John believes that the state values therapy services and would not make this choice, but it is unclear. Public hearings going on around the state right now. He does not think it is a good idea for TNOTA to take a formal position, might be a mistake. Individuals could attend hearings or voice their opinions. Should we advertise to our membership? He is not sure it is worth the time and effort because at this point, comments are not going to make much of a difference.

- b. Susan McDonald emailed her report -- AOTA continues to keep us updated on issues that are current for our state (but not relevant at this time) and on the national level. AOTA is gearing up for their campaign for the State Compact Licensure Act. It will be a while before TN gets involved – but it is on the horizon. We would like to discuss this further at our Face to face meeting in January. The Licensure Board will meet October 24 in Nashville. Susan plans to be there. There will be a meeting of the Work Force to review Rules & Regulations. Also, a decision will probably be made about the suicide awareness training at this meeting. It is live streamed if anyone would like to watch the Board Meeting. Please contact me if you have any input on Rules changes. Also, pretty urgent, we need to start working on our replacement for John! Call or email me if I need to follow up on anything from tonight's meeting.
 - c. John's retirement. He has some potential names for us, maybe have this on the agenda for next months call. John suggested that we form a small committee to really look at resumes and prep for the board call. Committee: Cindy, Valery, Elise, Susan, David.
- 6. Membership Report – Evan Pendygraft is not on the call
 - 7. TNOTF – Amanda Newburn. Scholarship winners on website. Continue to work on incorporating philanthropy into foundation. Amanda has completed all the paper work she can, they wanted financials. David explained that we don't have financials because it is just starting out. They want projections.
 - 8. Communications and Social Media – Gwen Foxx. If you have anything that needs to go out for the email blast, please have it emailed to them by Oct. 28th. Please help be on the look out for another member. New rep from Jackson State and she will get this info to Cindy to add to the list serve.
 - 9. Newsletter – Gigi Jordan not on the call. She sent a Google forms for newsletter submission for next quarter, hoping to get it out in November. Need submissions from District Chairs, Committee Chairs, Open board positions, member spotlight, student program spotlight. Deadline is next Thursday. Send info to Gigi or contact Cindy with questions.
 - 10. Mental Health Committee – Kaylin Flamm.

- a. She spoke with Representative from another suicide prevention training called the Collaborative Assessment & Management of Suicidality, CAMS for short. This was on the approved list when the bill was written. It is a very extensive training. Mostly more for counselors or mental health therapists as opposed to the general OT. She can send more info if interested. On the 24th, she will attend the board meeting to review.
 - b. Dominican college contacted her looking for FW opportunity in mental health, student is moving to Columbia, TN. Kaylin cannot accommodate her. If someone knows of anyone that could, please let her know.
- 11. Continuing Education – Elise Foust.
 - a. All the Conference CEU verification forms were sent out at the end of last month. Communications team sent out an email blast requested members to contact us if they had not received their form to email continuing education email. Elise is working on those.
 - b. Reminder for district meetings, email continuinged@tnota.org at least 2 weeks in advance with the flyer from the meeting so she can get CEU and speaker letter in a timely fashion. Cindy put the procedure for getting those documents to Elise on website in the Executive Board forum
- 12. East District – Megan Colletti not on the call
- 13. Middle District – Morgan Webb.
 - a. Walk to end Alzheimer's on Oct 26th at Nissan Stadium in Nashville. Need that on social media. Email the info the Meagan Oslund.
 - b. Meeting Nov 12th, using GoTo meeting. Jamie Bergner, speaking on one handed techniques for ADL and IADL.
- 14. SE District – Tess Barnfield.
 - a. Social networking event in September at Chuy's, 9 participants. Both members and non-members. We discussed benefits of membership, collaborated on another social event and CEU ideas. Voiced interest in having social event monthly to connect.
 - b. Tentative meeting for November 7th or 14th. Second yr Roane State student presenting her honors project. Working on location and time.
 - c. Confirmed meeting for 2nd quarter of next year, working on 1st quarter.
 - d. Second yr Roane state student interested in becoming our secretary, as long as she is a TNOTA member is this okay? Yes, this would be fine, these positions are open to practitioners and students.
 - e. Social networking group asked about a Face Book group specific to SE district? Up to the districts to decide. We could also set up a forum on the website for each district. Maybe need to discuss off line.
- 15. NE District – Mesa Smith.
 - a. John Pruitt is a professor at Walters State in Greenville, he is interested in being Vice Chair.
 - b. First meeting Nov 5th finally found a speaker. Can this be open to all OT's in the community? Yes, all of our meetings are open to non-members and members. The meetings are free for members and \$15 for non-members. At the top of every meeting, we discuss TNOTA business, what is going on, announcements, etc.
 - c. Mesa is attending East district meeting to get more info.
- 16. Rural West District – Barbara Meussner.
 - a. Two TSU students are proposing and developing a research program Rainbow Riding Academy.

- b. She and Gwen are meeting on Monday to discuss some mental health opportunities in the area; may have some assistance for the student that reached out to Kaylin
- 17. West District – Currently in need of chair
- 18. Belmont – Rebecca Denton.
 - a. Second years are preparing for interprofessional simulation with different grad students in various fields at Belmont
 - b. MSOT students are having another simulation
 - c. Fundraiser in partnership with TSU for Gigi's. Kickball game on Nov 9th, need to submit this to the newsletter
- 19. Roane State – Sara Nesbitt.
 - a. Second years participated in an interdisciplinary activity with dental hygiene students, worked on transfer skills and problem solving transferring people in very small places
 - b. Social Media takeover Nov 25th, who do we contact – Morgan, email her. Address is on the student section of the website
- 20. TSU—Ginny Monahan
 - a. Excited about the kickball tournament, need help with scoring, referee, and to just watch. \$5 to come
 - b. Third years are on 2nd FW, Second and First years in class
 - c. New clinic on campus, still looking for CI's to watch the OT students be able to practice in the clinic, add this to the newsletter
- 21. Motion to approve August minutes: Elise, 2nd Morgan
- 22. Motion to adjourn: Valery, 2nd Amanda
- 23. Valery will send minutes from July and August to Cindy to post
- 24. Next Meeting Thursday Nov 14th 7:00 CST