



# New York State Psychiatric Association, Inc.

Area II Council of the American Psychiatric Association  
400 Garden City Plaza, Garden City, New York 11530 • (516) 542-0077

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

February 16, 2016  
Meeting by Conference Call

### PRESENT:

SEETH VIVEK, M.D., President  
JEFFREY BORENSTEIN, M.D., Vice President  
RAMASWAMY VISWANATHAN, M.D., Secretary  
RUSSELL DENEVA, M.D., Treasurer  
VIVIAN PENDER, M.D., Area II Trustee  
GLENN MARTIN, M.D., Past President  
BARRY PERLMAN, M.D., Chair, Legislation Committee  
JAMES NININGER, M.D., Chair, Membership Committee  
RICHARD GALLO, Legislative Consultant  
JAMIE PAPAPETROS, Legislative Staff  
SETH P. STEIN, ESQ., Executive Director  
RACHEL FERNBACH, ESQ., Deputy Director  
DONNA GAJDA, Coordinator

Dr. Vivek called the meeting to order. The following issues were discussed:

1. Minutes. The minutes for the January 19, 2016 Executive Committee meeting were reviewed and accepted.
2. Financial Statement. The Committee reviewed a financial report for January through December, 2015.
3. Dues Comparison Statement. The Committee reviewed a dues revenue comparison for the months of October through February for the 2010-2015 dues years.
4. 2016 NYSPA Budget Proposal. Mr. Stein reported that a copy of the 2016 NYSPA Budget Proposal was included in the packet for the Committee's review. He reminded the Committee members that the budget will be voted on at the upcoming NYSPA/Area Council meeting.
5. January 2016 PAC Contributions and 2015 PAC Financial Statement. The Committee reviewed the 2015 PAC financial statement and a list of contributions that have been received to date. Mr. Stein reported that contributions appear to be down. A follow up email will be sent to members asking them to contribute. If contributions do not improve we will revisit the possibility of a postal mailing to the membership.
6. Albany Report. Mr. Gallo reported that a request was received from a psychiatrist at Rockland Psychiatric Center asking NYSPA to reach out to Dr. Sullivan in support of a letter that they sent

to OMH in sending letters to Ann Sullivan, M.D., Commissioner, NYS Office of Mental Health, following up on letters that they've sent about a problem that they have had finding psychiatrist to fill vacancies. Dr. Perlman suggested setting up a conference call with Rockland Psychiatric Center and inviting the President from the West Hudson DB to participate to discuss the issue further.

Mr. Gallo reported on a number of items that were included in the written Albany report that was distributed to the Committee including the psychology prescribing, conversion therapy, and corporate practice bills.

Mr. Gallo reported that Doctor on Demand announced it has added psychiatrists to its network and will offer psychiatric video visits on a nationwide scale. Price Chopper is partnering with Doctor on Demand to offer telemedicine services at five of the chain's Schenectady-based stores.

Mr. Gallo reported that NYSPA, MSSNY, NASW-NYS are advocating for \$600,000 (\$200,000 per organization) in additional funding for the Veterans Mental Health Training Initiative.

Mr. Gallo reported that NYSPA, MSSNY and NASW-NYS hosted a joint veterans training event in Niagara Falls. Mr. Gallo stated that the meeting was well attended. Senator Robert Ort, Chair of the Senate Mental Health and Development Disabilities Committee opened the meeting and expressed continued support of the initiative.

7. Parity Enforcement Webinar. Mr. Stein reported that NYSPA will be holding a parity enforcement webinar for its members, focusing on fee issues and medical necessity denials.

8. NYS Justice Center. Mr. Gallo reported that Davin Robinson, Chief of staff for the NYS Justice Center, a Robin Foreshaw, General Counsel, will be attending the NYSPA/Area II Council Meeting on Saturday, March 12, 2016. They will address key issues that have been of concern to NYSPA members.

9. APA Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative. Ashley Rutter, Program Manager of APA's Department of Policy, Program and Partnerships will give a brief presentation at the NYSPA/Area II Council meeting, explaining APA's new Support and Alignment Networks (SAN) plan to train psychiatrists in integrated care through both on line and live trainings.

10. Endorsement of an E-Prescribing Software Vendor. Mr. Stein reported that he has been working on finalizing the endorsement agreement with RxNT and stated that the should be finalized this week.

11. Nominating Committee Report. Mr. Stein reported that a copy of the Nominating Report from Glenn Martin, Chair of the Nominating Committee was included in the packet for the Committee's review.

12. RFM Poster Contest. Dr. Viswanathan reported that the RFM Poster Contest will be taking place during the NYSPA/Area II Council Meeting. Dr. Viswanathan reported that posters will be

available for viewing in the lunch room. Dr. Viswanathan reported that James Nininger, M.D. and Bruce Schwartz, M.D. have agreed to serve as judges for the contest.

13. Action Papers. The Council reviewed and discussed Dr. Viswanathan's Action Paper, Proportional Voting in Election of Assembly Officers.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.