



## 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 January 20, 2015 Meeting by Conference Call

#### PRESENT:

SEETH VIVEK, M.D., President  
JEFFREY BORENSTEIN, M.D., Vice-President  
RUSSELL DENEVA, M.D., Treasurer  
GLENN MARTIN, M.D., Past-President  
DEBORAH CROSS, M.D., Chair, Committee on Public Affairs  
RICHARD GALLO, Legislative Consultant  
JAMIE PAPAPETROS, Legislative Staff  
SETH P. STEIN, ESQ., Executive Director  
RACHEL FERNBACH, ESQ., Associate Director  
DONNA GAJDA, NYSPA Coordinator

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

1. Minutes. The minutes from the December 16, 2014 meeting were reviewed and accepted.
2. Financial Report. The Committee reviewed a financial report for calendar year 2014. Mr. Stein reported that the report separates the restricted OMH Veterans Mental Health-Primary Care Training Initiative funds from NYSPA's unrestricted funds. There was a loss of \$40,000 to the unrestricted fund in 2014.
3. Dues Increase. After review of the 2014 Financial Report, a Motion to change the 2015 Proposed NYSPA Budget recommendation for a dues increase from \$15 to \$30 for the 2016 dues year was APPROVED.
4. PAC Financial Report. The Committee reviewed the PAC financial report for 2014. Mr. Stein reported that PAC contributions are up slightly from 2013 and that NYSPA will again send out the PAC solicitation by email with a follow-up mailing to those members for whom we do not have email addresses.
5. Albany Report. Mr. Gallo reported on a number of items that were included in the printed legislative report that was sent to the Committee members including concerns related to Chapter 548 of the Laws of 2014 related to mental health discharge planning for inmates that will be released from state correctional facilities.

Mr. Gallo reported that he has been discussing with Mr. Stein the issue of whether there needs to be an amendment to Chapter 550 of the Laws of 2014 requiring health insurers to make coverage

available for telehealth. The law appears not to be related to access to care and seems to offer telehealth as an alternative to face to face treatment in any situation.

Mr. Gallo reported that NYSPA, along with a number of other specialty society organizations, has signed on to a letter that was sent to the State Commissioner of the Office of the Professions regarding concerns about scope of practice issues related to nurse practitioners.

Mr. Gallo reported on changes that have been made to the Governor's Staff and Cabinet.

Mr. Gallo reported that Dr. Perlman retired last week from his position of Medical Director and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at St. Joseph's Hospital. The Governor's office issued a Certificate of Recognition to Dr. Perlman. The Assembly adopted a Resolution honoring Dr. Perlman and the Senate is expected to pass a resolution as well.

Mr. Gallo reported that the Governor will deliver the State of the State address and the Executive Budget Proposal on Wednesday, January 21, 2015.

6. Veterans Mental Health-Primary Care Training Initiative. Mr. Gallo reported that he has not yet received a response from OMH regarding two proposed dinner meetings for the Veterans Mental Health-Primary Care Initiative. Mr. Stein reported that a Train-the-Trainer webinar has been scheduled for Wednesday, January 21, 2015. Dr. Vivek reported that he has confirmed April 2, 2015 for a Grand Rounds Training in Jamaica Hospital.

7. RxNT Endorsement Proposal. The Committee discussed the possibility of endorsing a software vendor that offers electronic prescribing software and reviewed the Endorsement Proposal received from RxNT, a software vendor that offers both a standalone electronic prescribing program and an electronic health record.

8. Conference with Area 6. The Executive Committee met, by conference call, with the Area 6 Representative, Joseph Mawhinney, M.D., Deputy Representative, Barbara Weissman, M.D., and Executive Director, Lila Schmall, to discuss strategy regarding the upcoming changes to the APA Assembly representation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.