

Sunday, May 20, 2018

Maine AMTA Government Relations Committee meeting 10-12

Present: Tarnya Constantino, Heather Laliverte, Christine Boudreau, Wendy Decker

After group discussion, Heather agreed to be **committee chair**. – Wendy will inform the Board of the change

Call to order

**Possible future locations:** Davinci's Eatery in Lewiston, other restaurants, homes or offices of committee members, Auburn Fire Department, store in Auburn that is closed on Sundays. Possible meetings via Zoom or other app.

**Last meeting date was August 20, 2017 - meeting notes** not available at meeting, so they will be sent by email committee members for approval.

**Open Issues:**

**Who writes bill?** A legislator writes a proposal with the bill drafting office/agency

**Massage wording Review: Wording to add to definition section of law:**

Massage, bodywork, myotherapist, body therapy, massage practitioner, massage therapist, massage therapy, massage technician (more research and discussion needed), massagist, masseur, masseuse, myotherapy, touch therapist, body work, body therapy, body therapist

**Two tiers discussion**

**Envelopes & mailing** – Locate – possibly with Board. Wendy will contact Anita to find them

**Health care provider status** – Discussion: Can be under Health & Human Services Board, or can be written into the bill to avoid being taxed in future under a service.

**Discussion** on human trafficking, practitioners not speaking English, and not being trained. Thoughts on groupon helping weed out legitimate practices, Board about advertising to help public determine legitimate practices – national or state

**Grant:** Wendy attempted to contact National Government Relations committee twice, once 3 weeks ago by email and phone and once Thursday by email and phone - no response. Deadline to apply for a grant with national may already have passed by now; it was in May sometime.

**Lobbyist** Robert Howe - Wendy will contact him at Howard & Cahill to find out the costs of lobbying with a bill to change our massage law, then contact AMTA Maine Board to find out if there are any funds available and if we have a budget.

**How to sign up for** google alerts, Statescape, keyword search of state legislature, signing up for emails from specific legislative Committees

**Budget discussed**

**Chair will be in charge of to-do list** – all agreed

**Chair will be responsible for reminder emails** to committee a week or so before meeting and a day or so before. All agreed

**Do to list:**

Heather will contact AMTA national to find out why schools meeting was canceled and where to go from here. She will also find out more information about being chair, Roberts rules, sign the volunteer code, find out about massage technician wording, and grant info. Heather will contact Davinici's restaurant.

Wendy will send meeting minutes of last meeting for approval and today's meeting, send old minutes to Heather, contact daughter about fire station possibility for meeting location, contact PT company to find out wording used for their onsite trained massage people, contact Robert Howe about cost, and Anita about budget, as well as new chair. Wendy agreed to share how to write a position paper and what else to include when visiting or chatting with a legislator next time.

Contact Board about possible advertising to help public determine legitimate practices – who is doing this?

**Next meeting date:** June 24<sup>th</sup>, Sunday, 10-12 Location TBA

Meeting adjourned