Governing Council Meeting
November 26, 2018
Conference Call

Minutes

The ACA Governing Council conference call meeting was called to order at on Wednesday, November 26, 2018 at 2:03pm ET. President Simone Lambert presided. Governing Council members present for all or part of the meeting were as follows:

- Simone Lambert, President
- Heather Trepal, President-elect
- Gerard Lawson, Past President
- Thelma Duffey, Treasurer, Ex-officio
- Niloufer Merchant, Process Observer
- Judy Daniels, Parliamentarian
- Richard Yep, CEO, Ex-officio
- Donna Gibson, Governing Council Representative, AARC
- Elsa Soto Leggett, Governing Council Representative, ACAC
- Shane Haberstroh, Governing Council Representative, ACC
- Monica Osburn, Governing Council Representative, ACCA
- Marty Jencius, Governing Council Representative, ACES
- Mark Scholl, Governing Council Representative, AHC
- Jane Rheineck, Governing Council Representative, ALGBTIC
- Carlos Hipolito-Delgado, Governing Council Representative, AMCD
- H. Gray Otis, Governing Council Representative, AMHCA
- Paige Nicole Dunlap, Governing Council Representative, ARCA
- Elizabeth O’Brien, Governing Council Representative, ASERVIC
- Jonathan Orr, Governing Council Representative, ASGW
- Edil Torres Rivera, Governing Council Representative, CSJ
- Leigh Falls Holman, Governing Council Representative, IAAOC
- Paul R. Peluso, Governing Council Representative, IAMFC
- Michele Kerulis, Governing Council Representative, Midwest Region
- Summer Reiner, Governing Council Representative, North Atlantic Region
- Melanie J. Drake Wallace, Governing Council Representative, Southern Region
- Elizabeth Forsyth, Governing Council Representative, Western Region
- Stacey A. Litam, Governing Council Student Representative

Suzanne Degges-White, Governing Council Representative, AADA; Monica Osburn, Governing Council Representative, ACCA; Lynna Meadows Morton, Governing Council Representative, MGCA; Lisa Severy, Governing Council Representative, NCDA; and Seneka Arrington, Governing Council Representative, NECA were not present.

Others in attendance at the meeting as guests or observers include:

- David Kaplan, Chief Professional Officer
- Dave Jackson, Senior Director of Finance and Administration
- Lynn Linde, Senior Director, Center for Counseling Practice, Policy, and Research
Welcome and Chair’s Remarks
President Lambert thanked the members of the Governing Council for changing their schedules to allow for this meeting to take place and hoped that everyone had good Thanksgiving holidays.

Approval of Agenda
- It was moved by D. Gibson and seconded by M. Kerulis to approve the meeting agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED

AMHCA Decision/Notification to Disaffiliate
Referencing the November 6, 2018 letter from AMHCA to ACA seeking to voluntarily withdraw as a Division of ACA, G. Otis shared background on AMHCA’s and ACA’s relationship. He offered that AMHCA saw itself as specifically serving clinically-trained licensed mental health counselors, while ACA served the entire counseling profession. And that, while we have sometimes had different perspectives on how to focus resources, AMHCA’s decision to take this path was not due to any particular reason or incident, just that now is a good time rather than waiting. He shared that AMHCA looks forward to a continuing, collaborative relationship and thanked the Governing Council for the opportunity to work together during the past year.

G. Otis left the conference call meeting.

President Lambert continued the discussion, noting that there were several examples, especially when AMHCA has taken a different stance on policy issues, where we have not been in alignment on efforts and decisions. CEO Yep provided additional perspective regarding ACA and AMHCA’s relationship noting there are a number of areas where we have successfully worked together such as Medicare and on coalitions, but that AMHCA has been functioning as a completely separate entity for at least 20 years.

CEO Yep is in contact with AMHCA Executive Director Joel Miller, and we have communicated the seven components of policy 501.5 where we must come to agreement in order to effect a voluntary separation. Based on a follow-up question, CEO Yep shared that ACA and AMHCA are working on determining how many dual ACA/AMHCA members there are within AMHCA’s approximate 6,000-7,000 members, noting that the information in 2017 indicated it was around 1,700 dual members but that specific information on those members and any additional Division membership overlap isn’t available to either ACA or AMHCA as the de-duping process is handled by a third-party. In response to a question concerning how this separation may impact how the profession of counseling is perceived by other organizations with whom we’re working on licensure portability, President Lambert noted that the NCLEP coalition’s efforts will proceed irrespective to the ACA/AMHCA decision.

CEO Yep stated that if questions arise regarding this issue to feel free to share that ACA is aware that AMHCA has asked to voluntarily withdraw as a Division of ACA, and that the Governing Council is considering the request.

Interstate Compact Update
CEO Yep shared that ACA had received a proposal from NCIC/CSG on pursing an interstate compact initiative. D. Kaplan noted that the first draft of an agreement between NCIC/CSG was consistent with what had been outlined in the proposal regarding how the process would proceed, such as specifying the minimum number of states, minimum number of hearings, etc. ACA is working with NCIC/CSG to continue to develop the agreement and additional updates will be provided to the Governing Council on efforts to finalize it.

Financial and Investment Update
Treasurer Duffey provided an overview of ACA’s financials, referencing September 2018 information shared with the Governing Council. She noted that ACA is off to a solid start for FY2019:
- Our net operations were $61,469 better than expected by our budget
• Net revenues were a little behind budget through September, but no particular revenue area is alarming or dramatically off our budget expectations
  o For example, membership dues revenue was about $29,000 behind budget; at the same time last year, membership was $156,000 behind budget
• One of the main reasons we’re off to a good financial start is because of the budget results from both the Governing Council meeting and ILT in July
  o The Governing Council meeting only cost about $55,000 compared to a budget of $91,000; ILT had a net direct loss of $28,000 while we had budgeted for a net direct loss of $50,000
  o These events were less expensive to put on based on holding the Governing Council meeting at ACA Headquarters and the ILT in Alexandria instead of D.C.
• Aside from the Governing Council and ILT meetings, we’re doing well with managing expenses essentially across all areas, with almost every expense area performing to budget or coming in under budget thus far
• Our balance sheet also remains strong, as we had a little over $1 million in cash and almost $7.5 million in investments as of September 30, 2018

Questions for CEO
CEO Yep shared that he’s providing more frequent updates on an ongoing basis to the Governing Council via ACA Connect and he appreciates the individual outreach opportunities from members of the Governing Council, too.

Executive Session
➢ It was moved by M. Jencius and seconded by S. Litam to enter into Executive Session at 2:40pm ET. MOTION CARRIED
➢ It was moved by M. Jencius and seconded by D. Gibson to exit Executive Session at 3:13pm ET. MOTION CARRIED

No action was taken in Executive Session.

Consent Agenda
The consent agenda was discussed and no changes were requested.
➢ It was moved by M. Jencius and seconded by S. Litem to approve the consent agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED

Items on the Consent Agenda:
• Approval of Minutes
  o September 2018 Governing Council Meeting
  o October 2018 Governing Council Meeting
• Approval of 2019-2020 Election of Slate of Candidates for the ACA Governing Council
  It was moved by the Nominations and Elections Committee that the Governing Council approve the 2019-2020 Election Slate of Candidates:

  **Governing Council Representative, North Atlantic Region**
  Summer Reiner
  Berlina Wallace

  **Governing Council Representative, Midwest Region**
  Jason Marotzke

  **Governing Council Representative, Association for Adult Development and Aging (AADA)**
  Wendy Killam
Approval of Gun Violence Statement

It was moved by the Human Rights Committee that the Governing Council adopt the following statement:

The American Counseling Association (ACA) does not condone acts of gun violence and advocates for prevention of gun violence and early intervention in the treatment of the psychological harm that it causes individuals, communities, and society. ACA acknowledges that gun violence is a major threat to the physical, emotional, and mental health of individuals and that it is a human right to be safe and free from fear.

Therefore, it is moved that the ACA Executive Committee examine the following action strategies designed to promote gun violence advocacy, raise awareness to the detrimental effects of gun violence in society at-large and determine which ones are feasible to do within the next two years.

1. Advocate for a national call for increased availability of and access to professional counselors and other support services in urban and rural settings to assess the environment and make recommendations in terms of mental health needs and gun violence prevention.
2. Support the use of increased professional counseling services for individuals who present with mental health needs, with a particular emphasis on adequate staffing in mental health settings.
3. Promote research efforts focused on understanding and identifying factors related to perpetrating acts of gun violence, intervention and prevention strategies aimed at decreasing the frequency of these acts.
4. Endorse research efforts toward understanding the immediate and long-term consequences of acts of gun violence and determining evidence-based treatment interventions for individuals suffering from negative consequence related to gun violence.

5. Provide training to educate counselors and the public regarding risk and protective factors associated with gun violence, as well as evidence-based interventions that address subsequent mental health symptoms.

6. Initiate prevention and early intervention efforts focused on mental health resources and raising awareness in the community related to gun violence. Support a preventative stance toward gun violence rather than a reactive one.

7. Develop advocacy efforts including marches, talks, speeches, conferences, and media and promotional campaigns with counselors, community leaders, social service providers, and other service leaders to promote increased the public’s awareness of the mental health consequences and prevalence of gun violence.

8. Encourage research focused on the mental health consequences of gun violence, promoting resilience and wellness, reducing negative outcomes.

These action strategies can be supported through the development of taskforces and volunteer leadership initiatives, position statements, articles in *Counseling Today*, advocating for and supporting legislation and other strategies as appropriate.

- Approval of Climate Change Statement
  It was moved by the Human Rights Committee that the Governing Council adopt the following statement:

  The American Counseling Association (ACA) acknowledges that climate change and its consequences impact mental health and wellness for individuals, families, communities, and can disrupt social support systems and cultural traditions. Furthermore, the ACA affirms the UN Human Rights Commission and the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recognition that the impact of climate change poses a clear threat to the full and effective enjoyment of human rights, including the right to mental health and wellness. Moreover, the ACA stands in alliance with all individuals who have been and will be impacted by climate change and supports counselors who work to address the needs of those most vulnerable to the consequences of climate change.

  Therefore, it is hereby resolved that the ACA affirms and recognizes the important role that counselors play in understanding the psychological impact of climate change and its effect on clients, families, and the communities that they serve. This includes but is not limited to encouraging research, education, and advocacy efforts pertaining to the psychological, behavioral, cultural and ethical implications of climate change and its subsequent impact on human behavior and global relations.

- Approval of Committee Appointments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Branch Development Committee</th>
<th>Term</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christian Chan, Co-chair</td>
<td>July 1, 2017-June 30, 2020 (6355909)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Henderson, Co-chair</td>
<td>July 1, 2016-June 30, 2019 (6293459)</td>
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<td>Monica Band</td>
<td>November 26, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6346480)*</td>
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<td>Daniel Cinotti</td>
<td>July 1, 2016-June 30, 2019 (6273408)</td>
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<td>Michael DeVoll</td>
<td>July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6150556)</td>
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<td>Laura Fazio-Griffith</td>
<td>July 1, 2017-June 30, 2020 (6111510)</td>
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<td>William Fields</td>
<td>July 1, 2016-June 30, 2019 (6040078)</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Ford</td>
<td>July 1, 2016-June 30, 2019 (6344939)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandra Kakacek</td>
<td>July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (5090117)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sadiqa Long</td>
<td>July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6295614)</td>
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Rashunda Miller Reed July 1, 2016-June 30, 2019 (6215487)
Hillary Press July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6406025)
John Randall July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6368474)
Rufus Spann July 1, 2016-June 30, 2019 (6276177)
Jordan Pearce, Student Member July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019 (6450783)

**Human Rights Committee**

Michael Chaney, Co-chair July 1, 2016-June 30, 2019 (6130447)
Carman Gill, Co-chair July 1, 2016-June 30, 2019 (6130209)
Betty Cardona July 1, 2017-June 30, 2020 (6220932)
Andrew Campbell July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6400820)
Judy Daniels July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (5070352)
Lawrence Gerstein July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (4067240)
Daniel Gutierrez July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6270121)
Amney Harper July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6229567)
Susan Levine July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6029519)
Zoya McCants July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6430689)
John Nance July 1, 2016-June 30, 2019 (6171684)
Claire Openshaw July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6412651)
Sam Steen July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6199338)
Helena Stevens July 1, 2016-June 30, 2019 (6368456)
John Super July 1, 2016-June 30, 2019 (6252698)
Clark Ausloos, Student Member July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019 (6417060)
Danna Demezier, Student Member Nov. 26, 2018-June 30, 2019 (6509907)*
Brittany Garcia, Student Member July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019 (6461567)

**Public Policy & Legislation Committee**

Audrey Elion, Co-chair July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019 (6121102)
Patricia Nunez, Co-chair July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019 (6182321)
Janelle Bettis July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6329970)
Maggie Fitzsimmons July 1, 2017-June 30, 2020 (6410375)
Duane France July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6368013)
Matthew Fullen July 1, 2017-June 30, 2020 (6336638)
Elisabeth Liles July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6269335)
Matthew Lyons July 1, 2016-June 30, 2019 (6328257)
Maureen McGuire-Kuletian July 1, 2017-June 30, 2020 (6141773)
Diana Pals July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (5064343)
Wilma Rivera July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6468964)
Carol Sommer July 1, 2016-June 30, 2019 (6106093)
Laura Thompson July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 (6478584)
Nicolette Castagna, Student Member Nov. 26, 2018-June 30, 2019 (6524036)*
Nikia Collins, Student Member July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019 (6484868)
Candice Jackson Ashburn, Student Member July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019 (6461701)

* New Member

**New Business**

President Lambert requested that each Governing Council representative post by December 7, a brief paragraph about the Division or Region that elected you to serve on ACA Governing Council that includes a few exciting initiatives and any challenges that the Division or Region is facing that would be helpful for ACA Governing Council to know about in order for us to make informed policy changes or recommendations.

**Adjournment**

- It was moved by M. Jencius and seconded by E. Torres Rivera to adjourn the meeting at 3:19pm ET. MOTION CARRIED