



MAINE COUNSELING ASSOCIATION

A State Branch of the American Counseling Association

Annual Business Meeting April 10 & 11, 2017

The mission of the American Counseling Association is to enhance the quality of life in society by promoting the development of professional counselors, advancing the counseling profession, and using the profession and practice of counseling to promote respect for human dignity and diversity.

Please note: The business meeting is divided into two days. The order of the meeting is at the discretion of the president

MONDAY, APRIL 10

- **Call to Order-** Start at 11:00 am
- **Review of agenda and adjustments**
- **Review & approval of 2016 Annual Meeting minutes** – adjustments made. First Dean Collins; Second Erin Benson; All in Favor
- **Recognition of special guests-** Thank you to the Penobscot Singers- a drumming band. Please enjoy during lunch. Stan Pelletier will introduce our Keynote- Patricia Arredondo. Presenting Counselors as Social Justice Champions Confront Daily Injustices.
- **Recognition of Sponsors, recognition of Samoset-** Thank you again for a great job. Husson, UMaine, FAME, Conference Committee, and Samoset Staff.
- **President's Message-** Tracy addresses the group and thanks everyone for a great year.
- **Elections for President-Elect / other positions as needed:** Andrea Hallett nominated for President Elect. Marty nominates. Rena second nomination. Andrea addresses the group. All in Favor. As a result of Andrea's nomination, the Treasurer position is open. Tracy opened it to the floor. No Nominations presented. Tracy said there have been some people interested who are asking for more information. Any questions please send her an email.
- **Presentation of Awards-** Terri Mitchell will present Counselor Award- 2017 Distinguished Counselor Award to Jon Yasenck and Rena Lolar will present



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Distinguished Counselor Award to Dale Lolar . Jon Parkman Service to the Profession Award- Andrea Hallett presents this award to Dean Collins. Nick Umphrey presents this award the Jon Parkman Service to the Profession Award to Deb Drew.

- **Begin Committee reports (time permitting)-**

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

Committee Reports Meeting starts 12:20pm

**Nominations for Treasurer for MECA- Andrea nominates Wes Lavigne and Stan
Seconds the nomination. No other nominations. All in Favor**

March 26 and 27, 2018- Next year's conference

- Treasurer, Andrea Hallett- reviewed report. We continue to do well. All in Favor
- Membership, Beth Doane- still doing well
- Public Policy, Ben Milster- see list of Legislative Bills on website under News Section. Stan Pelletier will be taking on the Public Policy role on MeCA. Encourages us to use our voice to help with the theme of the conference of Social Justice. Look up a bill and read a testimony, reach out to your representatives. LD 95, excuse from standardized testing, LD 180- act to enhance higher education of Maine, LD- graduation requirement, LD- to delete guiding principles from graduation requirements, and bring back home economics and shop, LD- asking school to make sure students are aware of what sexual consent is, LD- resolve for substance abuse and addiction in public jails, Concept draft of LD 912- clarify the scope of license practice of conversion therapy, LD- 966- mental health liaisons in county jails, LD- 1376 act to remove barriers for SA counseling to have same rates for LCPC as LCSW.
- Newsletter, Jill Cairns- Reminders of Spring- article due April 22nd. Thank all exhibitors Thank you to the band. Tammy Lothrop- IPAS, Josh for UMFK- got Apple Watch
- Website, Dean Collins- Taking input and trying to keep up with it as well as all the events that are being provided by all the committees and divisions. Increase our size from 500 to 2000 contacts. Upload conference information- pdf's, but need to be a member. ACA will allow us to link some articles to our website.



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- Professional Standards and Ethics, Deb Drew- Thanks everyone for the award. Continues to monitor the professional standards for the conference and that everything meets the qualifications for recertification and licensing purposes. Remind everyone about the ethics committee. Contact Deb through her Husson website - drewd@my.husson.edu
- Historian, Kevin O'Reilly- see Kevin for the report
 - Retirees- Carlena Bean, Mikal Crawford, John Lowe, Ken Fredrick, Suzanne Hews, Ethel Hill, Brenda Holt, Babette Nealey,
 - RoAnn Blood, Hillary Hamilton, Robert Landry, Betty McLaughlin, William Miller, Marguerite Murphy, Andrew Speed, Russell Whitman, Lawrence Wright
- Moment of Silence
- ACA/NAR/NARACES, John Yasenachak- Shares what NAR is about. Tracy received a grant- Most Innovative Leadership Award, written by our Graduate Students. Which we were awarded.

Regional/Division Reports

- Northern Maine, Erin Benson- Continue to be active. Held our Career Fair, 5th, on March 25 with 600 plus Sophomores, NAMI co-sponsored a Suicide Prevention Workshop, Final Meeting in a few weeks and changing leadership.
- Downeast, Carol Wolf- no report
- Eastern, Rena Lolar- adjusting officers to help fill in temporarily for absence, Carole has joined us with help of organization
- Central, Lisa Ellrich- looking at northern maine group model, looking to get reorganized
- Southern, Andrew King- We are back. About 6 years since it was organized. Looking for help and had good productive business today. VP- Brenda Mikalson, Stacy Stevens- treasurer, secretary- nomination to wait. Official meeting in October
- Graduate Student Representatives, Holly Keele- USM, Shannon Charrette- Husson. Holly looking forward to be part of this group and nothing to report at this time.



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- Admissions, Erin Benson- see Erin for this information reps from all areas in the state-university, community, and private. Like to invite new Commissioner of Education, Dept of Labor. Look at proficiency based transcripts.
- Maine School Counselor Association (MeSCA), Jill Davis- no report
- Maine Career Development Association (MCDA), James Westhoff- no report
- Maine Association for Specialists in Group Work (MASGW), Joel Lavenson- no report
- Maine Mental Health Counselors Association (MeMCHA), Bodhi Simpson- no report

New Business

- Conference Evaluations Reminder- On the website to complete. One week to turn it in. It is really important to share that information. Prize is awarded to someone who turns in an evaluation.
- MECA Dates for 2018 – **March 26 and 27, 2018- Next year's conference**
- Summer Leadership reminder – July 20-21 at MMA
- Looking to work to getting MeMCHA and MeSCA to join us at Leadership meeting.
- Deb thanks MeCA for the scholarships for Graduate Students. It makes a difference. It shows in our leaders who were former grad students.
- Introduction of incoming MeCA President, Nicholas Umphrey
- Outgoing Past President recognizes current President. Thank you Tracy.
- Door prizes – MeCA conference registration for 2017- Kristine Voture-one day
Michelle Walsh- two day

Samoset gift package- Carla Dearborne

Thank you out of state Counselors from NH.

Adjournment--thanks for joining us this year and for your continued work and commitment!