

Massage Therapist Association of Saskatchewan, Inc
Annual General Meeting
April 2nd, 2017
Saskatoon Inn and Conference Centre – Ballroom B
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
Minutes of the meeting

Call to order (9:06 a.m.) – President Garret Woynarski

1.0 Housekeeping:

- Introduction of Board of Directors, staff and special guests.
- The AGM is being recorded - must come to the microphone to speak. For recording purposes, please identify yourself every time you speak. Microphones are identified as opposed and in favour.
- Turn off all cell phones.
- Please leave your voting cards on the tables for collection at the end of the meeting.

2.0 Review/amend/adopt Agenda.

2017AGM-1 Motion to adopt the Agenda.

T. Senz/R. Valois

CARRIED

3.0 Review/amend/adopt Minutes of AGM April 3rd, 2016.

2017AGM-2 Motion to review/amend/adopt the Minutes as presented.

C. Gerlinsky/L. Veszi

CARRIED

4.0 Business arising from Minutes.

No business.

GUEST SPEAKER: Michael Desrochers, RMT.

Overview of his business model – painPRO Therapeutics, BC.

5.0 Directors' Reports.

5.1 President – Garret Woynarski.

5.2 Vice President/Human Resources – Marles Kerns.

5.3 Treasurer – Cecilia Mryglod.

2017AGM-3 Motion to approve the 2016 audited statements as presented.

C. Mryglod/G. Barrett

CARRIED

2017AGM-4 Motion to appoint Stewart, Gee & Murray CPA LLP as the auditors for 2017.

C. Mryglod/C. Schultz

CARRIED

5.4 Education/Exam – Mandy Fahr.

5.5 Insurance – Jordan Smith.

5.6 Complaints/Investigation – Gus Giannoutsos.

ADDITION TO WRITTEN REPORT:

- There has been a question to the office about what happens when a complaint is received.
- When dealing with the media, please remember that MTAS has no control over what the media prints/says.
- Facebook and other social media may be informative and engaging, but all information posted should not necessarily be considered accurate in all circumstances.
- MTAS has a comprehensive complaints and investigation policy and Bylaw in place. Refer to the Bylaws, Section 10, for full comprehension.

- Bylaws are written to protect both the therapist and the patient. We require a written and signed complaint form to fully disclose the nature of the complaint and the person who is asking for the investigation.
- MTAS cannot act on information that is anecdotal or rumour.
- MTAS can, has and will suspend members who may be perceived as being a danger to the public, or in severe conflict with the Code of Ethics or Standards of Practice.
- Since there is currently no legislation in this province, MTAS cannot legally interfere with a police investigation, nor are we privy to any information or resources that the police may or may not be investigating.
- Currently MTAS has the unfortunate duty of advocating on behalf of the professional RMT Association, and the protection of the public (the College). We are looking forward to the distinction between the two, and when regulation for the Sask. College of Massage Therapists comes to fruition.

M. Churchman: “Are there privacy issues with information sharing with other provinces when there is a complaint and our member is suspended or removed? Is that information shared with other provinces if they request it?”

L. Green, Executive Director: “We cannot send out a notice that a member has been suspended or removed from the Association. However, with the CMTA members, we do require membership in good standing. We would not give a good standing report – we would reveal that the member had been removed/suspended. In conjunction with the MTAS lawyer, Mark Mulatz, we have recorded all complaints and investigations since long before MTAS was incorporated, and in the event of regulation, if someone tries to access back into the College, that information will be available.”

G. Woynarski, President: One thing to remember with the media is that they tweak words. e.g the word “rub”. We would never use that word. The media is just trying to get hits on their articles.”

5.7 Membership/Public Relations – Camille Lapierre.

5.8 Competency – Aileen Tran Mapletoft.

5.9 Research – Donelda Gowan-Moody.

ADDITION TO WRITTEN REPORT:

Review the purpose and objectives of the MTAS research portfolio.

Purpose: to promote research literacy, research capacity and knowledge translation.

Objectives of this Board around research:

1. To be visible as a leader in massage therapy research so that we can share resources and expertise among the massage therapy and healthcare communities.
2. To strengthen our and your research literacy, capacity and knowledge translation skills so that we can use and do research.

Summary of accomplishments in the last four years:

1. We have created and developed some pretty cool research literacy activities:
 - research symposium
 - journal clubs

These were centred around improving research literacy.

Research literacy is the ability to read and understand research.

2. We have conducted some research:
 - a narrative review of the literature
 - wrote an evidence brief

These were to answer the Ministry of Health’s questions about whether there is risk of harm in the practice of massage therapy. In doing so, we overcame decades long barriers to regulation.

3. In the last year, there has been lots of helping out – lots of work with peer reviewing papers, reviewing grants through other organizations that are supportive of massage therapy.

4. Also in the last year trying and failing to create some infrastructure for massage therapy research in Canada.
5. For the future/moving forward: we have a healthy fund and are going to talk about what to be doing at strategic planning, and make some decisions.

5.10 Executive Director – Lori Green.

Adjourn for 20-minute break – 10:10am

Re-convene – 10:30am

NEW BUSINESS:

6.0 Amendments to the Bylaws.

11.5 Membership Fees and Annual Dues:

Motion to raise the membership fees by \$10.00 per MTAS member for contribution of a MTAS Compassionate Fund. The fund will be restricted, and audited as a separate account. The Committee will meet at arms length from the MTAS Board of Directors, and submit their decisions on a quarterly basis. The fund will not exceed more than \$25,000.00 without full consultation with the MTAS membership.

2017AGM-5 Motion to increase membership fees by \$10.00 per member per year.

M. Kerns/C. Lapierre

DEFEATED

G. Woynarski, President: “We will be meeting soon with the Ministry of Health to discuss our proposal for legislation. We have been in contact with both the NDP and Saskatchewan Party Caucus regarding logistics in the legislature as to the Massage Therapy Bill. We will keep you posted. We have good momentum and the Sask. Party has indicated that they will be introducing legislation in the Fall sitting of the legislation.”

7.0 Motions from the Membership.

No motions.

8.0 Report of the Nominating Committee – Marles Kerns, Vice President.

Full slate of 10 members.

Call for nominations from the floor – no nominations.

2017AGM-6 Motion that nominations cease.

M. Kerns/M. Churchman

CARRIED

9.0 Elections.

Not necessary.

10.0 Date of next meeting.

President G. Woynarski announced the date of the next AGM in Regina to be Sunday, April 8th, 2018.

11.0 Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.