**North Central District – APTA-WI**

**Tuesday February 13, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

**Videoconference via Zoom:** Chris Ashbeck (Chair), Ben Solheim (Vice Chair), Dave Smith (Secretary/Treasurer), Cindy Koehler, Teresa Timmerman, Karna Sandok, Nicki Quarne, Kate Bennett, Ryan Schouweiler, Aaron Homolka, Adam Zamane, Jackie Ritchay

**CE/Presentation/Discussion:** (after business portion): update on the Clinical Practice Guidelines for Plantar Heel Pain by Ben Solheim PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT

**Officer Reports:**

* Review and approval of minutes from October meeting – (on website)
* Treasurer report– Dave Smith. Current balance $15,187 (no change since September)

**Subcommittees/Representatives:**

* Executive Committee
	+ New Executive Committee in January 2024
		- Introduction of Chris Ashbeck – Chair, Ben Solheim – Vice Chair, and Dave Smith – Secretary/Treasurer
		- January meeting:
			* reviewed prior goals; see minutes for details of meeting.
			* Decided goals were broad, difficult to measure success
			* Difficulty engaging Northwoods. CI Credential CE in Minocqua cancelled due to low registration
			* Woodchucks baseball game for PT PAC donators cancelled due to low registration
			* Would like to engage NCD in-person vs emails, “talk to therapists”, ask about needs, explain benefits of membership and legislative efforts at state level, discuss PAC donations and contacting legislators
			* Developed goals for 2024-2026
		- NCD Executive Committee Goals for 2024-2026
			1. Improve engagement of clinicians at a grassroots level (and/or membership in APTA).
				1. Determine membership numbers; use metrics to develop specific goals
				2. Have discussions with clinicians about wants/needs/membership, why or why not
				3. Assist clinicians with engagement including contacting legislators and supporting the PAC
			2. Determine how to use our funds; student scholarships, supporting the PAC
			3. Align CE offerings to support state efforts and district needs (cheaper CEU, Ethics, shorter/pertinent content as able)
* Membership Committee: Cindy Koehler
	+ APTA-WI Membership Committee
		- Cindy monitors numbers monthly
		- Looking to use some money (from the sale of a building) to increase engagement with membership.
		- Question: attempt another social event/membership education event?
	+ Membership for the district – most recent numbers (February 15, 2024)
		- NCD trends similar to other districts (decreasing numbers)
		- NCD – 273 (169 PT, 13 PTA, 3 PT Lifetime, 2 Retired, 84 SPT, 2 SPTA).
			* January: 3 new members (1 SPT, 1 SPTA, 1 PT)
			* February: 6 new members APTA WI (3 SPT, 2 SPTA, 1 PT)
			* Dropped memberships June – December 2023: 8 (5 SPT, 3 PT)
		- Reasons for leaving: no encompassing theme (cost of National dues and lack of perceived benefit of APTA; retiring, move out of state, health crisis, employer won’t cover dues)
		- Difficulty knowing exact numbers: not all APTA members are assigned a district (state will often show out of state address, no email, no district)
		- ? Task: track UWSP students upon graduation and whether they keep membership. Students have been very engaged thus far. Unsure if membership is mandated and paid for by UWSP
		- APTA-WI membership: 2514. Dropped memberships June – December: 161
* Education Committee: (Ben Solheim – Vice Chair, Kate Bennett, Karna Sandok, Nicki Quarne) --- Discussion about CE
	+ CI Credential CE in Minocqua in Fall 2023 cancelled due to low registration
		- Factors: Offered online by APTA. Not required to be a CI. Similar factors to other in-person CE course low attendance.
	+ Aaron Homolka – manager at Marshfield Clinic – discusses with staff at numerous PT locations. Staff want hands on, manual therapy courses
		- ? partner with UWSP, facilities for larger course
		- Per Chris Ashbeck, on staff at UWSP PT Program now. They are working to make CE at their facilities easier than in the past. Pain Conference and several APTA-WI Board meetings held there recently. They ask we use their catering if food provided on site.
	+ Comment: we should not be trying to make money on CE courses considering our balance
	+ Suggestion: do a billing review course with Lynn Steffes. NCD provides money for food, participants donate to PAC.
		- Point Forward is looking at hosting a Billing & Reimbursement course. Jackie Ritchay and Ben Solheim will look into possible partnership
		- Aspirus is hosting an in-house course with Lynn Steffes.
	+ Ethics – fall 2024. Attempt in past was to rotate each cycle between Lynn Steffes course and a different type course to keep content fresh.
	+ Recent graduate comments – prefers in-person CE. Benefit of online didactic work prior to in-person meeting can reduce duration of course in-person.
	+ Concern about Orthopedics emphasis with CE offerings. Work to have courses that benefit therapists from many disciplines.

**Old Business:**

* Legislative Updates
	+ Prior Authorization Reform Legislation (AB 507) in WI
		- Would allow for 12 visits before prior authorization required, and 3 months for chronic pain diagnoses before prior authorization
		- Big push at time of Fall Conference for PT and patient testimonials about problem with prior authorizations.
		- Made it through the first branch of government, then recess for holidays and no news since
		- APTA WI BOD meeting a few weeks; will look for updates

**New Business:** noted above in subcommittee section

**Future Meetings: Note the meetings will be held on the SECOND Tuesday of the month in February, May, and October at 5:30 pm. Our next meeting date is May 14, 2024**

Submitted by NCD Secretary Dave Smith

**CONTACTS:**

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**PT-PAC FUND:** <https://aptawi.org/political-action-committee/>

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