

**Board Minutes from the APA MN Board Meeting on March 25, 2021**

# APA MN Board Meeting

March 25, 2021

## Welcome and Introductions

The meeting started at 12:30 PM

### **Attendees:**

Raya Esmaili

Erin Perdu

Jason Zimmerman

Andrea Jauli

Angie Bersaw

Mike Thompson

Haila Maze

Mike Palermo

Lance Bernard

Luke Sims

Emily Goellner

Justin Otsea

PeggySue Imihy

Chloe McGuire

Alexandra de Alcuaz

Joe Janish

Dr. Luis Estevez

Caroline Miller

Jaquelyn Kramer

Collete Baumgard

Rita Albrecht

Andrew Andrusko

## **Agenda Item: Discuss and Vote on Voting Rights on the Board and Bylaws Changes**

The APA MN Board had discussed the potential for altering voting rights on the Board during the Spring Workshop. The Executive Committee decided to set an additional meeting to the meeting calendar in March to discuss this idea and the potential alternatives as well as make a final decision on whether to move forward.

### **Student Director Discussion**

The Student Director position had been a topic of interest during the Spring Workshop with respect to the issue of voting and voting rights.

Student Director Jed Hanson was sick and unable to attend this March meeting. He did forward his recommendation that the APA MN Chapter should consider amending the bylaws to recognize the Planning Student Organization(s) to elect a non-voting student representative to the APA MN Board. The student representative would be elected by the students from the PSO(s) at a term and election schedule that better aligns with student needs as opposed to the APA National elections. He also recommended the Student Director remains an appointed position. He suggested that this position would be selected by the board from the currently serving student representative(s) and that the selection be moved to May so that student directors are not serving after graduation. He deferred to the Board on whether the Director should continue to have voting rights.

The Board discussed the issue and after some conversation it was the consensus of the group to revise the Bylaws to transition the Student Director to be an elected position. The students would elect the Student Director. These changes would make the role more consistent with all of the other positions on the APA MN Chapter Board. All roles would then be elected and have voting rights. A Bylaw change is slated to make these changes. The Bylaw change would also fix errors in the current student director and student representative descriptions in the Bylaws text which do not currently match the Chapter's practices for these positions.

### **Voting Rights and Committee Chairs**

The Board next discussed voting rights changes. One proposal for this was to provide Committee Chairs voting rights. This proposal included potentially continuing to have Committee Chairs be appointed.

The group had significant discussion on this subject. The Executive Committee had reached out to other Chapters and found that there was a range of practices and that there was no standard across all of the chapters of the APA.

There was discussion about the level of responsibility for committee members. Some Committee Chairs felt that committee volunteering was just the right amount of responsibility without having to take on additional responsibilities/concerns/expectations that voting members of the Board have. In addition, some attendees present voiced support for continuing to align voting rights with elected positions on the chapter board.

After discussion there was a vote held called by Chapter President Raya Esmaili. There was a motion to call the question of whether any further changes should be made to voting rights.

The Board voted and the decision was made to not make any further changes based on input from the majority of the board, committee members and others at the meeting.

### **Next Meeting and Future Agendas**

As a follow-up the next meeting for the chapter would focus on planning for the conference, activities of the committees, board reports, a follow up on the financial planning for the chapter and other topics.

At 1:02 PM the meeting adjourned.