

ALOTA Spring Board Meeting
April 10, 2021

- I. Call to Order 13:02
- II. Establishment of quorum, introduction of guests
In attendance were: Rachel Ashcraft, Rachel Gahan, Alyssa Ritenour, R.J. Higginbotham, Casey Brock, Anna Rae Reesor, Kimberly Harn, Dwayne Hamilton, Candra Taylor, Tara Thompson, Mia Tigue
- III. Review and approval of minutes from previous meeting
- IV. Old Business/New Business:
 - a. Call for Papers open for Fall Conference until May 31, 2021. Excited to be in a new space and everyone being together again. The conference is in person. Please tell people about conference and encourage your colleagues to submit a proposals. Talk to your colleagues that have specialty area or excel in an area of practice to share with practitioners. Reminder there is a Practitioner track and Student track. Please get the word out.
- V. Officer/Committee Reports:
 - a. VP
 - i. Fall Conference Update
 - 1. The Lodge at Gulf State Park on September 10-12, 2021. We are ready to make it a great in person conference. We will update you for registration opens, July 2021. Most important thing right now is to get a great line up of speakers to make this the best conference yet!
 - ii. District events at Fall Conference
 - 1. Looking for the districts to do an event at Conference to help people in each district to get to know each other. This can be anything the district wants to make it (walk on the beach, meet and greet in the lobby, go to a restaurant, anything). Hoping this could be a launching point for district events throughout the year.
 - 2. RJ made the recommendation to hold events at the beginning of conference so people could get to know each other throughout the weekend.
 - 3. More discussion on this during the summer meeting.
 - b. Government Affairs
 - i. Good year in Government affairs. 2 issues on the table:
 - 1. Joining the OT Compact. OT compact allows an OT to use his/her OT License across state lines. This would really benefit all OTs

especially OTs that live at state lines or working in telehealth. It has to pass in all 50 states. The Alabama Lieutenant Governor's office pushed this issue to next year. We are confident it will pass at that time.

2. Adding verbiage to the OT Practice Act for Impaired Practitioners. Right now the practice act is very vague on how to proceed with disciplinary actions. This has been becoming more of an issue over the last few years with the Opioid Epidemic. Current Practice Act language makes it difficult for the OT State Board handle this sensitive issue. This year new verbiage allowing the Board to consult experts to best determine how to proceed with appropriate disciplinary action. This motion has passed through the Senate and the house and put on the senate calendar and waiting for the governor to sign.

c. Secretary

i. Supporting Districts Events

1. District Chairs please let us know what you are planning so we can assist you to get the word out!

d. Treasurer

- i. Financial Report: Please reach out to treasurer@alota.org for update.
- ii. Virtual platform was a success and ALOTA made a profit from both the Fall and Spring virtual conferences! Thank you for everyone's hard work to make this year a success during this very difficult time.

e. Membership

- i. Needing an update of new practitioners from OT State Board.
- ii. Membership currently at 394.
- iii. We have maintained membership during the last year.

f. Recognitions

- i. Nominations for OT/OTA Awards this summer.

g. Social Media

- i. Keeping social media active. Use as a tool to show membership everything that we have doing here at ALOTA.
- ii. Please share our posts. Get the word out there for Call for Papers, Fall Conference, District events!

h. RA Update

- i. No update at this time

i. District Chairs

- i. North

1. No update at this time.
- ii. NorthCentral
 1. Difficulty with Covid to have meetings. Did not attempt virtual meeting. Looking forward to beginning in person activities soon.
- iii. Central
 1. No in person meetings. 1 Zoom call that was successful. Looking forward to getting back normal.
- iv. EastCentral
 1. Looking forward to getting back to having meeting. Begin to reach out and welcome people back to normalcy.
- v. South
 1. Looking forward to getting back to normal at fall conference.
- j. Student Reps
 - i. Next week we are having elections for a new student reps. Anna to provide Rachel the new list. Thank you to the students for everything they have done. You all have been such an asset to ALOTA and been so engaged in a really tough year. We are so thankful for you all!

VI. Adjourn: 13:35