

RIOTA Executive Board Meeting

Monday, September 10, 2007

Present: Beth Horne, Karen Morgenstein, Beth Smith, Gina Alston, Sue Higgins, Rachel Vitello, Lisa Edwards, Bob Pezzullo, Ann Harwood, Natalie Leland Wiatrowski

Meeting called to order by Karen Morgenstein, President of RIOTA, following the distributions of agendas.

I. Treasurer's Report (Sue Higgins)

- \$2105.00 current balance with projected membership
- With the current budget, we will be \$600.00 in the red if we don't do anything to raise more money
- A fund raiser project will be undertaken for the upcoming pediatric SIG meeting and the Volunteerism general membership meeting. Beth S. will make handiwriters for the fund raiser and a group will meet at NEIT to make chocolate pops on Thursday September 13th at 4:00
- The transfer of names on the bank account will be finalized this week

II. Pediatric SIG Report (Beth Smith)

- September 19th is the Hippotherapy meeting
- October 15th is the meeting at the stable as a follow up to the Hippotherapy meeting
- January- Feeding
- March-TECH Access/power mobility
- May- EI/School collaboration-this meeting will include the Discovery Toys Fundraiser
- FYI – Laura Barker's "Ready Approach" Conference is coming to Providence the 1st weekend in December. Conference cost is \$355 for 2 days

III. Licensure Dues (Karen Morgenstein)

- Chuck Wilmarth from AOTA notified that Rhode Island is planning on raising the licensure fees for all licensed professions by 30%. Karen contacted several people to see about appealing the raise or modifying it. Donna Dickerman, from the OT licensure board, was contacted and stated that it is a legislative issue and that the proposed increase was passed as a law in last year's session, thereby negating any appeals.

IV. Update on Volunteerism (Natalie Leland Wiatrowski/Lisa Edwards)

- Rebuilding Together has been contacted and is very positive about our volunteering with them
- They currently have 2 offices- one in Newport and one in Providence
- The Newport chapter works on approximately 3 houses/year and the Providence chapter works on approximately 30 houses/year

- They do the actual work in April and will contact us in March
- The RI Building Association has a program called ‘Builders Helping Heroes’ and they work with getting homes ready for returning soldiers. Natalie will contact them.
- Car Fit is a national volunteer program that does ergonomic assessments of cars and their owners. Car Fit sponsors events with the local AAA.
- The Volunteerism lecture will be at the general membership meeting on September 24th. There will be break out sessions after the lecture to help create more ideas for volunteering opportunities.

V. **Adult SIG** (Karen Morgenstein)

- Trish has asked for ideas for possible topics to interest the adult therapists
- OTR/COTA supervision issues across the field-using case studies to discuss situations-Lisa Edwards will be willing to lead the discussion
- NDT tapes- would be limited to 12 people at a time due to space required to do the practice sessions on the mats
- Mentoring Program-what does it mean to be a mentor/mentee and what are the requirements of NBCOT for mentoring-Karen will continue to investigate this subject
- Ethics in the Workplace including OTR/COTA supervision-Sue Higgins has the handouts on the program
- Book club- to review articles, book reviews, etc. NBCOT also has info on the requirements for independent learning and book clubs

VI. **RIOTA Fall Events**

- a. September General Membership Mtg (Week of 9/23) – Volunteerism
- b. November General Membership Mtg (date TBA) – “Handwriting Without Tears” by Keith Kline– sponsored by Kim Gilbert
- c. December General Membership Mtg (date TBA) – (?) NDT Educational Opportunity.
- d. March General Membership Mtg (date TBA) – (?) “Osteoporosis & You” program – Lori Colasanto, OTR/L – St. Joe’s.
- e. April General Membership Mtg (date TBA) – OT Month Party

VII. **Change of date for next meeting**

Due to conflicts with the pediatric Hippotherapy visit to the stables in Cranston on October 15th, the next board meeting is changed to October 22nd at 5:30 PM.