SSWLHC Board Meeting Minutes
January 30, 2009

.
Northern California Chapter

Agenda Item	Discussion/Conclusions/Actions/Due Dates
Attendance	**Present: Sylvia Barrosa, Betsy Schenk, Marsha Luster, Ann Segovia, Tony Yamamoto**
Minutes	Unanimously accepted for last Board minutes.
Continuing Education Topics for Future Meeings.	It was last discussed that these topics maybe considered: TBI, neurological psychology and alcoholism, "hoarding", neuroplasticity, de-escalating aggressive patients. Other topics suggested were "cutting" as it relates to sexual abuse, self mutilative behavior, eating disorders, dissociative identity disorder. One other suggestion is what kinds of conduct or licensing violations resulting loss of license. The discussion of current legislations was talked about. Peggy Pettit agreed to contact Gary Esposito and Jann Lee about possible topics such as scope of practice, state NASW forums, BBSC sanctions, clinical supervision exposure. Some talk was discussed about possible impact of budgetary cuts on social services in the state. No firm topic was decided. It was decided a survey monkey would be sent out to the membership soliciting their input as to topics.
Ethics Conference	Discussed as a follow up item was the plans for a law and ethics conference. Originally scheduled for sometime in Spring, but due to the lateness of planning, it was suggested that the May meeting be the workshop. Checking to see if space is available. Greg Merrill asked to see if UC Berkeley had space. Betsy Schenk has agreed to chair the workshop planning. If we can't do on May, may need to substitute a topic of education. Marsha Luster will also check for space at Oakland Children's Hospital. If space not available, may need to look at June. The plan is to have this workshop address the licensing requirement for law and ethics.
Medical Social Worker Certificate	Nancy from DRG reported that the workshop that was developed last year is being planned for this year. It was reported that there was some interest by San Jose State to co-sponsor the education, but the University has not initiated any efforts to get it on schedule and cleared for space. The University requires that any event must have a University employee on campus that will work with any outside group. Inquired about S. F. State co-sponsoring. Betsy Schenk, as a faculty member, responded that the university may considered, but there are organizational hoops to go through. Question was raised about what is the goal of the workshop. Is it to provide training for mid level professionals seeking a change? If it meet the gap for medical social education? Originally, the goal was to recruit new social workers who were interested in entering into the field of medical social work and provide cross training for social workers in other fields to get a basic foundation in medical social work. It was commented in the current

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	economy, job openings are more limited. However, the general feelings are that it will open up again and there will be a demand for medical social workers. The question is when to have it… on Friday or weekend. A large interested party has been graduate students. At the last training, there were a number of people on the waiting list and a number of graduate students. The decision of the group was to go forward with planning the training and find schedule a time and place. Efforts would continue to see if the MSW schools would like to partner or not. Betsy Schenk agreed to chair a conference call for planning. Possible schedule in 1st week of April or beginning of May to have this workshop. The target audience would be MSW students and regular post graduate working professionals interested in medical social work.
National Unification with Local Chapters with Society for Social Work Leadership in Health Care	Sylvia Barrosa indicated that she attended the telephonic conference call regarding the unification of national and local chapters. Tony Yamamoto was asked to speak to this issue since he is a national Board member and a member of the task force addressing the national unification of the chapters. Tony briefly indicated that the national Board studied this matter in 2007. It was decided by that Board that the organization move towards unification of the chapters with the national organization. In 2008, this issue was presented to the chapter presidents at Montreal. There were a number of questions that arose from this discussion. As a result, a task force was convened to address the questions and examine how this organizational change would occur. Members from the chapter presidents, current Board members and the past president of the Board were involved in this task force. In the midst of this work, the IRS issued out new 990 regulations that were now mandating specific reporting requirements and accountabilities. Chapters would need to be affiliated with national, or affiliate with another non profit organization, become a non profit. Some chapters are not non profits, others have affiliated with another organization (ie. State Association of Hospitals), or have become non profits. If a chapter decided to affiliate with national, then the chapters would need to conform to an affiliation agreement. All chapter members would have to become national members and pay the national dues vs. the local dues. If the chapters affiliated with another organization, they would to be compliant with whatever agreement that was created with this non profit organization. This organization would assume the legal and statutory requirements for IRS. Or the chapters could become a non profit organization. With this legal status, they would have two choices: Be a stand alone organization or join national. The biggest concern was the cost of the national membership and the benefit of being part of the national organization. Tony explained that the biggest benefit is the partnerships that would be leveraged with

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	other organizations that address social health issues and the efforts of health care social workers across the country on a national level. In the time increasing competition and short dollars, the Society would use its relationship to gain momentum and a voice. He gave the example of the work with national NASW. NASW does not have a separate health care forum for social worker. NASW views the Society as voice of health care social workers. Tony indicated that there is a web page on the National Society web site with more detailed information. A timeline has been established as to what a local chapter must do during this year to meet the new IRS requirement. At the national meeting in April, the Society will continue the dialogue with the chapter presidents. However, the chapters will need to decide before the end of the year to affiliate or not affiliate. The consensus of the group is that a survey would be sent out to the local chapter membership as to their wishes. Tony indicated that as the regional representative from the Board that he is available for any questions from the membership.
Adjourned	Meeting adjourned

Submitted by: Tony Yamamoto, Secretary