**AMTA Iowa**

**Chapter Board Meeting**

**Grand Harbor Hotel & Resort**

**Dubuque, Iowa**

**September 7, 2018**

**1. Call to Order:**

President, Robert Campbell called the meeting to order at 1:20 P.M. He welcomed and thanked everyone for taking time away from their family and work to be here. Robert asked the chapter board if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. He then asked for approval of the agenda. With a few additions and corrections to the agenda it was approved as written.

**2. Present:**

President – Robert Campbell, Board Member 1/Convention coordinator - Holly Rasmusson, Board member 2/Education chair-Karen Sindelar, Secretary- Jeanna Tellin, Financial Administrator – Pam Burnikel, Legislation chair- Rachel Brown, Membership chair- Soraya Wagner, Awards Chair- Cindy Haack, Convention Events Chair/Delegate – Robin Markus. Digital Media Chair-Alex Collins.

**3**. **Absent**: President advisory/Orientation chair- Ken Swenson, Delegate – Keith Kowal.

**4. Guests:** Kathy Lutz

**5. Approval of Minutes:**

Secretary, Jeanna Tellin submitted the minutes from the June 24, 2018 Chapter Board meeting for approval. President, Robert Campbell asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. Karen Sindelar **MADE-A-MOTION** to approve the minutes. Pam Burnikel **SECONDED-MOTION-CARRIED**. With no additions or corrections the minutes were approved as written.

**6. Reports of Officers:**

**6A. President- Robert Campbell:**

Robert discussed with the chapter board Nationals is making a “tour” to all chapters to answer questions/discussions and help with the new Policy Manual that every chapter will be making in the near future. This policy manual should be a “living” document that will provide an access point for board members to help them become proficient at their position. Items that should be in these Policy manuals would include:

Bylaws

Standing Rules

Chapter Policies/Procedures

Position Descriptions

Toolkits that a board position may need

Baseline contracts

A working example of what this should look like is the AMTA-CT Chapter. Becca Torns-Barker, chapter president is a contact person.

What was exciting about this is the fact that our chapter had already started this movement. Alex was already starting to take our chapter paperless. Karen has made a working calendar on google docs and drive.

This was the major theme at the Chapter Presidents Council meeting as well as the leadership training.

**6B.**  **Board Member 1/Convention Coordinator chair– Holly Rasmusson:**

Holly let everyone know the dates for conventions in 2019.

Spring- March 16-17 Prairie Meadows in Altoona. Presenter -Bob McAtee teaching

Facilitating Stretching.

Fall- September Marriott in Coralville. Presenter -TBA.

**6C. Board Member 2/Education chair- Karen Sindelar:**

During her first quarter as board member, Karen Sindelar met with various individuals and groups to speak out about human trafficking/illicit businesses and how city ordinances can be detrimental to LMTS including: Katheryn Kueter, Legislative Liaison & Administrative Assistant for Concerned Women for America of Iowa ([Katherynstatehouse@gmail.com](mailto:Katherynstatehouse@gmail.com)  616-212-1344  [iaa.cwfa.org](http://iaa.cwfa.org/)); Curt Henderson, Retired Iowa State Patrol who created workshops for police officers in the state of Iowa to catch human traffickers to help prepare me for CRPD coffee and conversation; Coffee and Conversation meeting with Cedar Rapids Police Department - CRPD - on June 19th, 2018; Amanda Grieder,SAFE-CR Manager, Cedar Rapids Police Department, SAFE-CR, 505 1st Street SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404, Phone: 319-286-5714, Email: [a.grieder@cedar-rapids.org](mailto:a.grieder@cedar-rapids.org) .

She informed the chapter board the Public Safety and Youth Services Committee Meeting will be held on July 16th, 2018 at 5:30 pm. The meeting will take place at the Cedar Rapids Police Department in the Community Room 505 1st street SW. She urged all members to attend if possible. She will reach out to National AMTA for letters of support.

Here is link to all of the Cedar Rapids Council Members with their contact information.

<http://www.cedar-rapids.org/local_government/city_council/mayor_and_city_council/index.php>

Karen produced a FB live presentation called The Power of Touch on the benefits of treatment by a licensed massage therapist, and how the city ordinances on human trafficking are detrimental to licensed medical workers. The workshop was given live to thirty Cedar Rapids area educators. She also attended a workshop on Countering Human Trafficking in Iowa at the Delta Kappa Gamma State Educators Convention in West Des Moines on June 8. State Representative Zach Nunn did not make it, however, she spoke at length with a lobbyist and other presenters.

As education chair, Karen created an AMTA IA Chapter BOD timeline to keep track of national and state deadlines for the Chapter. She distributed AMTA Research Roundup handouts at the Spring Convention Education table, and is working on new education requirement handouts/pdfs for the fall convention and the website. Anyone who would like to assist with creating education materials for our members, please contact Karen.

**6D. Financial Administrator-Pam Burnikel:**

Pam stated Advocacy Strategies is keeping us updated very well. Also, as mentioned before this has been a very costly process. However, as a board we feel it is a much needed service.

Our balance as of 7/31/2018 is $110,216.15.

**7. Report of Committee Chairs:**

**7A. Legislation chair- Rachel Brown:**

Rachel explained she is here to help with any government relations issues. She is excited to serve in this capacity.

It has quickly come to her attention that communication has been lacking and for that she apologized. Keeping you informed is one of her biggest priorities!

The first thing Rachel wants to make sure we know is she does care and will do all that she can to stand up for and protect our profession!

We have some issues at hand right now. One of the biggest being City Massage Therapy Business Ordinances.11 cities have adopted ordinances. Johnston, Newton, West Des Moines, Clive, Altoona, Pleasant Hill, Urbandale, Iowa City, Coralville, Marion, and Clinton. 3 cities have tabled ordinances. Sioux City, Marshalltown, and Windsor Heights. 4 cities are proposing ordinances. Cedar Rapids, Boone, Des Moines, and North Liberty. We do not agree with these city ordinances. However, after much experience, research, and consideration, we have decided that the most effective way to continue approaching this issue is to work with city officials and law enforcement on the language of their proposed ordinances. We are encouraging cities to look at the simple and less restrictive ordinances of Urbandale and now Iowa City. When she finds out that a city is proposing an ordinance, she will send a letter to the chief of police and the city attorney expressing my desire to work with them on the drafting of the ordinance. Rachel will then try to meet with them, talk with them, and attend the public safety meeting where it is discussed. Rachel will then try to attend the city council meetings for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Readings. She apologizes to those of you up to this point who have had to go at this alone. As she works with each city, she is also creating an online group to connect all of the local LMT's from that city for better communication. Rachel is grateful and proud of all of you who are stepping up in your city! We need your voices! We have to do this together!

We have hired a lobbyist for this year. Rachel is working with her on our 2019 Legislation Agenda. We will have it finalized by Sept. 30th. Rachel will share it with you then. We have two big items that we will be working toward. She doesn’t have exact wording for you at this point but one is to do with changing Iowa Code to state that it is a criminal serious misdemeanor for practicing massage therapy without a license. The other is to do with changing Iowa Code in regards to these city ordinances.

Rachel will plan to do a monthly email update. Please do email her with any questions or concerns that you have. Rachel is here to help in any way she can. Please do let her know if there are any updates on your city that may have been missed. You can also call her on her mobile phone at 641-691-4010.

**7B. Membership chair- Soraya Wagner:**

Soraya shared our member numbers;  
 931 total members

746 professional active

78 graduate

95 students

9 professional inactive

3 professional retired

**7C. Convention Events Chair/Delegate-2017-2019 – Robin Markus:**

This conference we have 5 Vendors:

Healing Hands and More: Michelle Moen

Rapid Fire: Kevin Burns

LuLaRoe: Tara McDonald

Young Living: Christe Davis

Mother Earth Pillows: Dori Stephens

Robin would like to highly encourage all the members to get involved with board of the AMTA-IA. There is a great benefit of getting continuing education at a really great price and some of your expenses covered! So if you are thinking about it, Do it! If you enjoy calling businesses for donations, and working with vendors to make our conferences more successful, please fill out the shinning stars! And of course: Shop the vendors!!

**7D. Awards Chair- Cindy Haack:**

Cindy shared she has been busy working on awards. She updated handout list of awards.

Upcoming Events;

Dukie’s One Eye Open – Sept.28, 2018, @ Prairie Links Golf Course, Waverly, Iowa

Chair Massages from 8:30-10:00 on Putting / practice green

3:30- 4:00 until 5:30, outside on the Veranda.

Free Will donation that we will donate towards the $100,000.00 GOAL to Stead family Children’s Hospital at U OF I.

Veteran’s Day Appreciation – Nov. 11, 2018 @ The Centre in Waverly, Iowa from

8:00am – 2:00pm.

Cindy picked up shirt samples and prices for us to discuss to have AMTA Iowa Chapter Logo on them for upcoming events for board members.

She’s having a banner made with AMTA Iowa Chapter Logo printed on it for upcoming events.

Cindy talked again about pig lapel pins for AMTA Iowa Chapter Anniversary.

She shared samples of different items for members and new members that join AMTA Iowa Chapter or events.

**7E. Digital/Social Media Chair- Alexander Collins:**

Alex shared:

NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS IS http://ia.wp.amtamassage.org

The current numbers for us as of September 5th 2018

Facebook- 665 like/following us

Twitter- 53 following us

Instagram- 114 following us

**7F. CVOP/Delegate Report - Robin Markus:**

Robin stated “Another fantastic National Convention”! It kicked off with Chapter Volunteer Orientation Program. They learned about teamwork. How different personality types think and tips on working together. Diversity makes a well-rounded board! A youtube video was shared about lollipop moments, a TED talk. Every day you have countless moments. How interacting with a person can make a big difference, and can have ripple effects. It’s worth looking up!

**The high light of the AMTA National Board Meeting:**

They celebrated AMTA’s 75th Anniversary with Cake! More importantly, they announced the position statement about massage as being a treatment for pain.

**Assembly of Delegates**: It was a little disheartening. First off, the topics for discussion were sent to legal for approval before we could discuss them. We didn’t get them back until a few weeks before convention. A statement on human trafficking that was wanted last year wasn’t even brought up for discussion. It is affecting us in Iowa with the city ordinances’ and it would have been ice to try to come to a consensus. When we got to the Assembly of delegates, we just voiced our opinion on the topics chosen by the board. Suggestions will be taken to the committee to finalize. It doesn’t come back to the assembly for final approval. So it appears to me we are less and less a grass roots organization. If you remember a few years back, the board is now pre-selected from nominations and as members, we just approve the panel. I will have copies available on the AMTA-IA table for you to see.

**7G. CVOP Report- Keith Kowal:**

Keith sent in his report.

I was allowed the honor of attending the Chapter Volunteer Orientation Program training this year at the AMTA National Convention in Washington DC. For those that are unaware, CVOP is a program offered to volunteers with the intent of better acquainting them with the important what's and why's of the organization, as well as the impact of our role within the organization.

The category of what includes learning more about the AMTA Governing Documents. As an organization this details why we do certain things (Articles of Incorporation), what we do (Bylaws), and how we do them (Policy Manual). We also learn what it means to be a not-for-profit organization and exactly what type of not-for-profit organization we are. We are a type 501 (c) (6), which is a designation for organizations with the goal of advancing an industry and/or profession.

As Chapter volunteers we discuss the intended purpose of the Chapter, the value the Chapter can offer the Membership, and opportunities to serve the members of each chapter. We also cover the extent of our powers as a Chapter in relation to the National body. In other words, while we have the power to do certain things in each Chapter, it is the National Board that has the overall responsibility, authority, and liability for the conduct of the Chapters.

With this in mind, we cover the roles and responsibilities of the National Board of Directors, the Chapter Board of Directors, and Chapter Committee Chairs. We have a volunteer Code of Conduct that we are expected to understand and adhere to. And, as a volunteer force that needs to operate as a team, we need to work on how we communicate with one another as volunteers and with the Membership that we serve in the most effective way possible. This is another component of the CVOP training we attend.

This is a very brief overview of what was covered over the course of a day and a half, and one intended to relay basic facts, not my opinion. It is my intent to write more articles in the coming year that details more of the aspects touched on above.

The CVOP manual is available on the AMTA Hub at [www.amtamassage.org](http://www.amtamassage.org/). Go to FORUMS on the tool bar and then to CVOP to access this information.

As always, it is an honor and pleasure to serve the people of this Chapter and of our profession.

CHAPTER VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

PROGRAM (CVOP) REPORT

AMTA NATIONAL CONVENTION 2018

WASHINGTON DC

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**8**. **Discussion Items/Motions:**

**8A. Iowa/Nebraska Conference- Robert Campbell:**

Robert and the chapter board discussed Iowa and Nebraska having a conferences together. It was agreed to have the cost be split in half for these events.

**8B. Iowa City Ordinance- Robert Campbell:**

Robert talked about the Iowa City ordinance. Coming from the Sargent Jory Bailey who is the contact at the police station, spoke with Robert before national convention. There is two different kinds of ordinances. One charges the therapists and the other does not. Or there is basically no ordinance. We would want to have the ordinance that does not have a fee for the LMT. They have no desire to charge. They would just want it accessible if there is something that needs to be done. Therefor giving them the authority to do it and do what is important to protect ourselves. All of the ordinances will take time. Hopefully this is where Advocacy Strategies comes in. This is something we need for the process to shut down illicit businesses. There is no option around it.

**8C. Legislative issues- Rachel Brown:**

See Rachel’s report- 7A.

**9. Announcements/Adjournment:**

Holly Rasmusson -**MADE-A-MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Pam Burnikel **SECONDED-MOTION –CARRIED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Jeanna R. Tellin**

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Secretary