

Those present: Zach Shaw Aaron Sinykin Lisa Martinez aka Lisa M
Steve Thompson Dayna Klecak Keffory Levy
Kathy Zepeda Monica Bananto Lisa McNaughton aka Lisa Mac
Angie Rash Linda Thompson

Those Absent: Bob Dailey

Zach was running late so the meeting was called to order by Keffory Levy at 11:35 AM, and roll call was taken.

Minutes: There was no discussion re. the minutes, Steve moved to approve, Dayna seconded the motion and all approved

Treasurers Report: In Bob's absence no discussion occurred. Lisa M moved to approve, Steve seconded and all approved.

HCAoA Report: Steve reported that the chapter meeting was last week and the committee discussed adding, or replacing, people on the team. They discussed education topics and are looking for a speaker on Emergency Preparedness. Nationally, the organization is very proactive in disseminating information about the current crisis.

Zach joined the call at 11:44 AM

Update on meeting with Chamberlain School of Nursing: Zach reported that the committee had met with chamberlain and they like the general concept and want to pursue. They are compiling a survey for the students. One thing to keep in mind is that Chamberlain does not offer certification but does perform CNA testing.

Committee Reports:

Conference 2020: Discussion occurred around how to proceed with conference planning. The team could continue with the live event, but keep a Plan B open to turning it into a virtual event. Zach does not want the planning to go on hold, but rather go forward full steam ahead as if we are going to have an in-person event. Funds will not be collected (or processed) from sponsors and/or exhibitors until a final decision has been made on the type of event it will be. But there needs to be a commitment contract, which Linda has been asked to draft.

Dayna said that all the speakers and exhibitors she has spoken to are willing to participate if the conference becomes a virtual one.

Keffory suggested considering pushing the event out to later in the year. Linda reminded everyone that during high season, the venue may not be available and that the price would be greater.

Education: The March meeting has been postponed to May and the announcement has been sent. Dayna has the April speaker ready to go and it was determined that this meeting would be virtual and would be used as a test for the possibility of using the same method for a virtual conference. Dayna will send Linda the details and she will set up the virtual meeting and create advertising.

Communications: Zach reported that the Fireside chat for February was delayed and that he was committed to posting the March chat by the end of this week.

CPA/AHCCCS/ALTCS/EPDPA: Aaron reported on the current status of the State budget – that they had been doing good at \$7+ million, but with the crisis, a skinny budget is replacing the more comprehensive one and no one knows what’s going to happen next. He said that they may have to go after emergency funding.

His group is also looking at:

- A waiver to do supervisory visits via phone – this apparently has been approved but not yet posted on the website
- A waiver for new case opens and intakes over the phone
- Waivers for CPR and First Aid training and TB testings – extension of requirements until crisis is over
- A waiver for DCW training
- Approvals for priority staffing requirements
- Access to PPE and how the equipment is to be distributed to members
- Waiver for relatives, friends, and/or neighbors to be approve as family caregivers and a relaxation of the background check process
- Relief funds for overtime and sick time – he said that sick pay may come in the form of a tax credit but not sure that’s going to help with immediate needs

Zach asked with the state not funding, is there something AZNHA can do to support EPDPA, to which Aaron responded, Not at this time. Zach said that AZNHA members will follow the guidelines for virtual client visits

Aaron mentioned that he’s looking for guidance from CMS regarding certification for CPR and First Aid.

Zach would like all information to be filtered through Linda so that communication to AZNHA members can go out on Friday, March 20.

Keffory asked the board what they are doing regarding new hire orientation and caregiver training, given the max of 10 in one place rule. Discussion took place on the subject.

Discussion also occurred regarding the testing kit availability and turnaround time for results. Lisa M reported that she has a resource (her husband’s company) for hand sanitizer, but she is unsure how to open it up to members. She said that the supply is possibly several pallets. Logistics need to be determined for storage, for distribution, and for how much goes to each member, and if there will be more or if this is a one time supply. Lisa was also asked if there were other things available (such as gloves) and she said she would find out and report back.

Dayna mentioned that perhaps AZNHA could do a mass purchase, then charge members when the supplies were picked up. Zach asked her to do some research, focusing on storage, who would be on site for distribution, who made the determination of how much goes to who, etc.

Legislative: Steve reported that he did attend the March 5 Family Caregiver Day at the legislature. He said that a few legislators spoke, and that it was more of a lobby day. He shared what the event was and his impressions of it.

Benefits: Zach talked about the Littler and Dorado proposals. These documents did not get to the board in time for everyone to participate, but Zach reported on the basics. Both companies want to speak and perhaps sponsor at conference. He will send the proposals to the board for review. Both have benefit packages they want to offer to AZNHA members, but they are revenue sharing.

Littler is a legal firm with an online toolkit and representation for the home care business. Steve said that they are the pre-eminent legal firm for home care and that Synergy uses them. Littler wants AZNHA to charge their members \$1500 (per member) for the service then AZNHA keeps \$500 with \$1000 going back to Littler. Zach is not comfortable with this model so further discussion needs to occur.

Dorado has a similar model but they offer a comprehensive benefit package – Zach said that they are more an employee benefit package than a legal package. Lisa Mac talked about the Dorado 401(k) option and their overall benefit package.

The board will review these proposals and will discuss at the April board meeting. Zach asked that the conference committee pursue the speakers from each entity.

Zach has a resource for our agency caregivers who need childcare during the Coronavirus crisis. Linda mentioned that one of the members proposed a chatroom for members via Facebook, on the website members' only page, or other platform where members could post a question and other members could respond with how they are handling an issue. Some board members commented that they liked the idea and Linda will talk with Monica Kelly about what is and is not feasible.

New Business:

Zach said that AZNHA has an opportunity for some positive press as it relates to the Coronavirus issue. With layoff's occurring in the same class of profession, but in other industries, perhaps we can reach out to those looking for work or a change in profession. That could relieve the stress on agencies where their caregivers are at home taking care of their own children.

Keffory asked if the home care industry is considered essential services so that it can get in the pipeline for PPE supplies and are allowed the freedom to travel to their clients homes.

Zach asks if the board is in agreement to get something out to the media and if so, what would it look like, focusing on the importance of the homecare industry and how important AZNHA is doing their part to keep from spreading the virus – i.e., make the caregivers the focus of the media release. He asked if everyone was okay with engaging with Suzanne James, the public relations contact AZNHA has used in the past. All were in favor and Linda was tasked with doing the initial legwork with Suzanne. The intent would be to determine the who, what, when, and how much, the bring in Keffory and Zach to work with her.

The next meeting will be in-person on Thursday, April 20 from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM..

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM

Respectively submitted by
Linda Thompson, Board Administrator