

Minutes

WNY-NASW General/Steering Comm. Meeting

10/8/2022; 10:00- 11:00 A.M.

In attendance

Sylvia Gold

Jesse Grossman

Cheryl Mills

Cheryl Eberl

Agenda

- AGR September Meeting General Highlights
- Discussion of protection of Social Worker Title
- Current NASW Literature
- Discussion on creating a Western Division Brochure

*The group members briefly discussed problems getting on to Zoom so the start of the meeting was delayed due to this. We are not sure if the problem was on the State Chapter's end or not.

AGR September Meeting General Highlights

Cheryl M. stated she forgot about the meeting and remembered toward the end of it and attended the last few minutes of the meeting. She provided a brief update. Some highlights included the following. NYSED: There is a general consensus from NASWNYS that LMSWs are trying to engage in clinical Social Work, which is extremely dangerous for the general public and our profession. The Chapter has a good working relationship with Evan, the new Executive Secretary for NYSED. The Chapter has asked NYSED to send a message indicating scope of practice and clarifying the regulations of Licensed Masters Social Worker vs. Licensed Clinical Social Worker.

Legislative Updates: In terms of the Chapter's NYS Legislative priorities for 2022-2023, Student Loan Forgiveness and Social Work Salaries will be a couple of the priorities. The Chapter has completed a report on Social Work salaries, which will be sent to Senator Persaud and she might lead legislative work on this. Also, what happens as the Result of the November elections will give a sense of policy direction.

Licensure Compact: The public comment period on the Licensure Compact is now Closed. NASW has been question if we want to support it with what is going on with the ASWB test (discrepancies regarding exam questions and racially biased scores). ASWB Is the only nationwide exam. No conclusions on this yet. The bill language of the Interstate Licensure Compact helps bring other states up but would bring NYState Down (ex. Reimbursement rates). NY State is one of the higher reimbursement

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States and the compact would likely lower the reimbursement rate in NY State as

We would be competing with states that have lower reimbursement rates. It is

Rare that the Compact will pass in NY State any time soon as NYS has never

Signed on to a professional interstate compact.

Discussion of Protection of Social Work Title

Cheryl M. stated that another priority of NASWNYS is to work on title protection of "Social Worker," and NASWNYS Executive Director Samantha Fletcher and the Chapter are working on this. J. Grossman asked if Other professions have title protection. Cheryl M. stated she did not know.

Current NASW Literature

Jesse stated she e-mailed Melissa Torregrossa, BSW Student Intern at The Chapter and asked if The Chapter had any current NASW literature. Jesse stated Melissa was not sure and would look into it. Jesse stated Melissa got back to her and was going to mail it to her. Jesse stated she has not received anything yet. Jesse stated she would reach out to Melissa again.

Discussion on Creating a Western Division Brochure

The Committee members discussed that creating a Western Division Brochure and sending it to the Schools of Social Work (BSW & MSW) in our division as a way to grow the division membership and involvement. We discussed that we are not aware of any other divisions in the chapter who has a brochure. We agreed to schedule a meeting to specifically work on this task. We agreed to meet at Jesse's home on 10/18/22 at 12:30 p.m. Cheryl E. offered to bring some brochures of agencies for ideas.

Next Clinical Meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on 11/01/22 at 6:00 p.m.

Next Steering Committee Meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on 11/12/22 at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Mills