

NASWNYS Western Division Monthly Steering/Member Committee Meeting July 8, 2023

Present: Cheryl Eberl, Sylvia Gold, Cheryl Mills, Claudia Claudillo

Absent: Jesse Grossman, Elaine Rinfrette

Agenda: Upcoming Western Division Visit/Meet & Greet with NASWNYS Chapter Staff, Future Visit from NASWNYS Chapter, Policy Coordinator, Olivia Knox, General Discussion of: LCSW Requirements, Elimination of R Designation, & UB School of Social Work Mentor Program

*Introduction of attendees. Claudia Claudillo, a student working on her Bachelor Degree in Social Work from Missouri joined us. Sylvia explained NASWNYS Chapter and the Western Division.

1. **Upcoming Western Division Visit/Meet & Greet with NASWNYS Chapter Staff:** This event will take place at The Eagle House in Williamsville, NY on Wednesday July 12, 2023 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Sylvia stated she did not receive any emails from the State Chapter advertising this event to Western Division Members. She stated she emailed Samantha Fletcher, NASWNYS Executive Director and Samantha advised her several Emails had gone out to Western Division members. She advised Sylvia that they had 16 members registered to attend the event so far. Sylvia stated Samantha informed her that it looked like Sylvia opted out of receiving emails. Sylvia stated she took the necessary steps to opt back in to start receiving Chapter related emails yesterday. Cheryl E. and Cheryl M. stated they both received emails for this event and registered. Sylvia stated that another email from the Chapter promoting this event should be going out on Monday, July 10, 2023. Sylvia stated a staff person from The Eagle House called her and they received the deposit from the Chapter. Also, the Staff person from The Eagle House wanted to confirm the number of attendees. Sylvia stated she has ordered the appetizers we agreed on at last month's meeting and there should be enough food for 20 people. She stated The Eagle House could fill in with a little more appetizer type food if needed. Sylvia stated we will have one server for this event. She stated we will be in a private room off of the Bar on the main floor. Cheryl M. asked when Committee Members should arrive. Sylvia stated between 4:30-4:45 p.m. Cheryl E. stated she could get there at 4:30 p.m. Cheryl M. stated she would get there at 4:30 p.m. as well Cheryl E. stated she would bring some of our Western Division brochures. Cheryl M. stated she would bring our Western Division banner. Sylvia stated she would bring copies of the Annual Accomplishments of the Western Division for 2022 and 2023 thus far, which was written by Jesse. Sylvia stated she would contact Elaine to remind her to bring name tags.

Sylvia asked if we should have an agenda and if so when to do it and what would we want to include. Cheryl E. suggested Samantha may have her own agenda.

She suggested that we give people about a half hour to eat and mingle and then around 5:30 p.m. we could start with introductions and maybe highlight Western Division Accomplishments, get some feedback from Division Members i.e. why they came and what they would like to see the division do and then turn it over to Samantha. Sylvia stated she will talk to Samantha about getting some speakers for future Division Meetings.

2. **Future Visit from NASWNYS Policy Coordinator, Olivia Knox:** Cheryl M. stated she emailed Olivia about coming to one of our future Division Steering/Member Committee Meetings. She stated she gave Olivia our future meeting dates through December 2023. Cheryl M. stated Olivia will be available for our December meeting 12/09/23. Cheryl M. Advised the group that Olivia informed her she could be available for the entire meeting if needed. Cheryl M. asked the group how much time they wanted to devote to Olivia and at what part of the meeting she should attend. The group decided having her start speaking shortly after 10:00 a.m. and speak for 30 minutes and if more time is needed that would be okay. Cheryl M. stated she would follow-up with Olivia via email. Sylvia and Cheryl E. stated an email should go out to Division members advertising this or be put in the State Chapter's update every two weeks about a month before our 12/09/23 Meeting.

General Discussion of LCSW Requirements, Elimination of R Designation and UB School of Social Work Mentor Program: Committee members discussed LCSW Requirements, which requires 3 years of post-Masters Clinical supervision. Further discussed the disappointment of not knowing the elimination of the R Designation until after the fact. Some members expressed concern that now those who had the R Designation will be reimbursed by health insurance companies at the same rate of LCSWs and others including Licensed Mental Health Counselors and Marriage and Family Counselors and how this negatively impacts more experienced clinicians and the general public, who have no idea what the difference is between the various counseling professions and the amount of education and training varies significantly between them.

Claudia was asked what the requirements in Missouri are for the LCSW. She stated she thinks that 3 years of post-Masters clinical supervision is required. She stated she lives in Kansas City, Missouri, which is near the border of Kansas and Kansas City, Kansas. She stated some Social Workers opt to practice in the state of Kansas as the requirements for the LCSW are 2 years of post-Masters clinical supervision.

Cheryl E. stated she received an email from Denise Krause, UB School of Social Work recently regarding interest in being an MSW Student Mentor for the upcoming Academic year. Sylvia stated she did not receive it. Sylvia and Cheryl E. stated

They have both done it in the past. Sylvia stated she hasn't done it in a while and Feels that MSW students did not seem interested in what she had to offer. Cheryl E. Stated she feels it is kind of hit or miss depending on the individual student. Sylvia stated she is still in touch with a former Mentee from several years ago. Sylvia stated she is not sure if she will do it this coming academic year or not.

Next Meetings: Clinical: Tuesday, August 01, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.; Steering/Member: Saturday, August 12, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Both meetings are via Zoom platform and can be registered for on the NASWNYS website, Western Division web page.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl S. Mills, LCSW-R, ACSW