

NASWNYS WESTERN DIVISION STEERING/MEMBER COMMITTEE MEETING  
MARCH 2024

Date: 03/05/24

Attendance: Wayne Brown (new member, joined meeting last half hour), Cheryl Eberl, Sylvia Gold, Jesse Grossman, Elaine Rinfrette, Cheryl Mills. Excused: Christopher Ramnauth

Agenda: 1. Welcome New Members

2. February Minutes
3. Social Work Month Events in the Division: Student & Member Events
4. Live Virtual CEU Presentations
5. Future Live CEU Presentations
6. UB Update
7. Grant
8. Division Budget
9. Division Fundraiser
10. Division Student Award Certificates
11. Other

1. Welcome New Members: Elaine stated she sent a Welcome Letter and the March Division Newsletter to the following new Division Members: Daisy Lynn Ambrusko, Christina E. Barrett, LMSW, Betsy Farkas, LMSW, Emily C. Finnemore, Shelby Theresa Lamphier & J. Tim Vanni, PhD. Elaine asked Committee members if they knew any of these folks. The Committee members stated they did not know any of them.
2. February Minutes: Elaine asked Committee members if any revisions needed to be made to the February Minutes. The Committee members stated no. The February Minutes were accepted.
3. Social Work Month Events in the Division: Student & Member Events: A. Student Events: Panel Discussion: Opportunities for Social Work Careers: Panelists include Elaine and several faculty from Buffalo State University Department of Social Work on 03/07/24 from 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Elaine stated the event will be held at Buffalo State University. She stated 35 students have registered. B. Documentary Presentation & Discussion will be held at Buffalo State University on 03/12/24 from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Elaine and Sylvia will facilitate the discussion.  
Member Events: Meet & Greet will be hello virtually on 03/07/24 from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Jesse will facilitate. Film & Discussion (Strong in Broken Places) will be held virtually on 03/21/24 Watch film 7:00 p.m.-7:40 p.m. Discussion will be 7:45 p.m.-8:30 p.m. facilitated by Sylvia and Cheryl M. A book discussion (Half the Sky) will take place virtually on 03/26/24 from 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Elaine and Sylvia will facilitate the discussion. Coffee Hour at Dash's on Hertel Ave. in Buffalo to be held some time in May. Jesse stated she contacted Katie and an e blast was sent to Division members with

a survey of dates & times members would be available to attend. She stated Katie would send another e blast to Division members once the date and time were finalized. Jesse stated she does not know if anyone has responded to the survey.

Elaine stated she has a call scheduled with a member of Forensic Social Workers on 03/07/24. She asked Committee members for possible ideas for a topic related to forensics. The members came up with Intersection of Forensics & Mental Health.

4. Live Virtual CEU Presentations: 03/14/24, 9:00-10:30 a.m., Elaine Macco, PhD: LGBTQA+ Affirming Behavioral Health Treatment. 04/11/24, 9:00-10:30 a.m., Mandy Fauble, PhD: Update on Alcohol Use Disorders. 06/13/24, 9:00-10:30 a.m, Steve Haladay, PhD, LCSW: Is Social Work Ethical? 07/15/24, 2:00-5:00 p.m., Berg Miller, PhD, LCSW: Intersectionality. 10/10/24, 9:00-10:30 a.m., Kerry Causey, LCSW: Trauma Informed Supervision & 11/09/24, 9:00-10:30 a.m. Mark Frank from UB: Deception Detection.
5. Future Live CEU Presentations: 05/17/24, 1:00-2:00 p.m. Emma Fabian, MSW from Evergreen Healthcare: Overdose Prevention & Narcan/Naloxone Administration at Explore Buffalo Office at first Presbyterian Church, 1 Symphony Circle, Buffalo, NY .  
\*Also a docent tour of the church could be available after the presentation.  
Elaine stated she has been in contact with the Social Work Department Faculty at Fredonia State University & Niagara University for some live presentations tentatively for Fall 2024 & Spring 2025. She stated possible topics for Fredonia include: Introduction to Motivational Interviewing & What helps Working with Transgender Clients; for Niagara University: School Social Work and something on the Macro level. She stated paperwork is in process to apply to do CEU through the Chapter (NASW NYS).
6. UB Update: Elaine stated she has been in touch with Katie McClain Meeder, MSW Program Director and she is interested in collaborating with the Division and will be planning for student events in the fall.
7. Grant: Elaine stated the grant to the Garman Family Foundation has been submitted and we should hear back by mid-June.
8. Division Budget: Elaine stated no details available yet on the Division Budget amounts for January & February. She attempted to call Natalya at the Chapter but was advised that Natlaya was not available to speak with at the time. Elaine stated she is concerned as we have had 2 virtual CEU Events sponsored by the Division in January & February, which drew a combined amount of approximately 100 attendees. She stated the February Animal Assisted Treatment event had 77 attendees with strong positive feedback. She stated she awaits a response from Natalya.
9. Division Fundraiser: Elaine stated she has received tickets from the following cultural organizations so far which include: Explore Buffalo-4 tickets, Buffalo Bisons-4 tickets, Family Pass from the Buffalo Zoo, Burchfield Penney Art Center-2 tickets & Irish

Classical Theater-2 tickets. We discussed what format we should use. We agreed on a virtual Auction Format. We discussed pricing for tickets for the auction and decided on \$ 4.00 for a single ticket and \$20.00 for 6 tickets. Jesse and Cheryl E. raised questions if any of the cultural tickets/passes had expiration dates on them. We determined the Buffalo Zoo has an expiration date of 2025, Irish Classical Theater has 06/30/24 expiration and Buffalo Bisons expires at the end of the season 08 or 09/24. We decided we should aim for May 01, 2024 to hold the auction. We discussed methods of payment credit cards, cheques etc.

10. Division Student Award Certificates: Cheryl E. stated she continues to have issues with the format of the Certificate that Katie sent to her. She stated she can't edit things in the certificate that she feels need to be changed. She stated 2 lines are needed for the Schools, Western Division of State Chapter needs to be on there not just State Chapter and Elaine's name as Division Director needs to be on there. Cheryl E. stated her son, who is computer savvy, has tried to help her to open the certificate format and has not been able to do so. Elaine suggested she has a son who is computer savvy as well and he could help with the issue. Cheryl E. stated she has sent an email to Katie asking if the format could be changed to a PDF format. She stated so far she has names of student awardees from Buffalo State University and Niagara University. Sylvia stated she will contact Daemen University & Fredonia State University to remind them we need their student awardee names. Jesse stated she contacted UB and gave Cheryl E. the information.
11. Other Issues: Sylvia stated she has received a letter that she has been awarded the Stated Chapter's Lifetime Achievement Award. She stated there is a virtual ceremony 03/28/24 at 6:00 p.m. she thinks. Jesse stated she was asked to do a brief introduction of Sylvia at the ceremony. Elaine Stated Rolanda Ward from Niagara University is getting an award from the Chapter as well but could not recall what it is. Committee members spontaneously cheered for acknowledgement of the awardees from the Division. Elaine brought Wayne up to speed about agenda items he missed. He introduced Himself and stated he does private practice work and teaches a course at UB School of Social Work. Cheryl M. brought up concern about the new mandate for Social Workers To complete updated mandatory Child Abuse Training by the end of April 2025 and will The Chapter provide training for this. She stated the information on the State Education, Office of the Professions lists approved agencies for this training & NASWNYS is not on The list and there are really no details on there instructing on how to go about obtaining The training. Do we just contact one of the agencies on the list? Wayne stated he has submitted to do an 8 hour training on the updated child abuse Mandatory training and that attendees will receive a certificate at the end of the Training. Cheryl E. asked if this is a one time only training or if it will need to be done Every 3 years like the ethics training. Wayne stated right now it sounds like a one time Only training but with New York State things are always subject to change. Cheryl M. informed Committee members about the Social Work Census 2024, a

A joint national and Canadian census with 2 components. A workforce component which will provide comprehensive and up to date picture of what Social Workers do and will be shared with the profession. The second component focuses on social work practice and the information obtained will be the core of practice analysis for the new iteration of

Social

Work licensing exams. She stated it is being conducted by the Social Work Workforce Coalition and can be found on [swcensus.org](http://swcensus.org) It will be available from 03/01/24-05/31/24, Takes about 90 minutes to complete and you get 2 free CEUs and a certificate of Completion. Jesse shared she emailed us a survey on Social Workers and Anti Semitism. Sylvia and Cheryl M. both stated they completed and submitted it.

Next Meetings: Clinical, 03/18/24 at 6:00 p.m. Virtually. Next Steering/Member Meeting: 04/02/24 at 6:00 p.m. Virtually.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl S. Mills, LCSW-R, ACSW