

**Oregon Physical Therapy Association
Fall Business Meeting**

MINUTES

October 18, 2008

Crowne Plaza Hotel Portland/Lake Oswego – Lake Oswego, OR

President Walz declared a quorum present, and called the meeting to order.

Elections: Anne Carlin Ripley announced the elections for two active delegate positions, and the candidates in attendance gave an overview of their qualifications. Carlin Ripley read a statement from a candidate that was unable to attend. There were no nominations from the floor.

President's Report: Karen Walz asked attendees what activities they are conducting for physical therapy month. She gave some examples of activities that she has seen being done and has done with her clinic. Walz welcomed the students, award winners and other special guests in attendance. She referred attendees to her president's report in the business meeting packet. Walz reported on the APTA branding campaign and gave an overview of public relations projects that OPTA is working on.

Treasurer's Report: Jerry Cain referred everyone to the September 30, 2008 financial statement and to his written report in the committee report section of the business meeting packet.

Committee Reports:

Education: Trevor Todd solicited feedback for workshop ideas and invited members to join the committee.

Public Relations: Heather Goodell reported on the APTA branding campaign which will take approximately two years to roll out. She highlighted the potential challenge we may face in 2010 of a chiropractor's ballot initiative to remove PT's ability to do spinal manipulation. She encouraged members to participate in grassroots marketing efforts that will be sent out through OPTA and APTA.

Reimbursement Committee: Bob Thomas reported that the reimbursement committee has been revived. He encouraged members to join the reimbursement committee.

Membership Committee: Jeff Cox encouraged everyone to get involved in the membership drive to help recruit members. A drawing will be held for a free year's membership if you recruit a member and submit the drawing form. APTA is also having a facility highlight member drive, encouraging 100% participation from facilities. He reported on the membership dues assistance program that was launched for some of the PTA students. He reported on the PT/PTA dues assistance program that is open to members who are financially unable to make their dues payment.

Licensing Board Update: Jane Cedar reported that there is a licensing board hearing coming up on proposed administrative rule changes on November 14. She encouraged licensees to submit email or written testimony to the licensing board.

Legislative Update: Ricci Susick reported on the potential chiropractor's ballot initiative on spinal manipulation. As of July 2008, they could begin collecting signatures for this ballot initiative. If successful, the measure would be on the 2010 ballot. The legislative committee will continue to monitor this situation. We have formed a coalition with the OMA, DO's and naturopaths to prepare to fight this initiative if it comes to fruition.

Susick reported that OPTA will not be submitting any legislation that affects the PT statute for the 2009 session. Laws that will be worked on during the session include: allowing DPTs to be called "doctors"; having PTs be

mandatory child abuse reporters, monitoring healthcare reform bills, and licensing board standardization laws. She also reported that we are searching for a new lobbyist as Tracy Rutten will be doing different services for Western Advocates. She noted that the committee has been busy attending interim session meetings, fundraisers, etc. She encouraged everyone to contribute to the PAC as they are able.

Stacey Comstock reported on a PAC fundraiser event scheduled for November 8 at 6:00 pm at Portland City Grill. The fundraiser will feature a speaker on POPTS.

Tracy Rutten reported that having a new child has led to her decision to quit lobbying work. She reported that the 2009 session will begin in January. The Democrats are expected to be in control again. They are trying to get a super majority in the House. Rep. Dave Hunt is being looked at for the Speaker of the House.

Workers Comp Update: Diana Godwin, executive director of OPTIP, gave an update on the worker's compensation battle in Oregon, which as of Wednesday was won by PTs. The fee dispute process was started by PTs filing fee disputes against carriers over PPO's. A lawsuit was filed against the workers compensation division on an emergency rule that they had enforced to wipe out the fee disputes. On Wednesday the worker's comp division issued a new permanent rule that no PPO discounts will be allowed in the work comp system as of January 2009. MCO's only can provide discounts on enrolled workers. On the same day the insurance commissioner was fired. The fallout has opened eyes on the disparity of the power of the provider and the PPO networks. The OMA will be putting forth a provider's bill of rights on PPO networks in the 2009 session.

APTA Branding Presentation: Karen Walz reviewed the APTA Strategy for Branding the Physical Therapist PowerPoint presentation to the group.

Election Results: Anne Carlin Ripley reported that the two new active delegates are Derek Fenwick and Tasha MacIvveen.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Fisher, CAE
Executive Director