

International Association of Counselling Hypnotherapists

Minutes of the June 7th, 2008 Annual General Meeting

The fifth annual general meeting of the International Association of Counselling Hypnotherapist was called to order on June 7th, 2008 at 10:15 at the Coast Plaza Hotel, Vancouver, BC.

President Sheldon Bilsker thanked the board members for their diligent work. The members of the Board of Director are as follows: Gabrielle Lightfoot, Diane Auld, Tyler Gjernes, Theresa Dupuis, Kristina Vandervoort and Joanna Komorowska.

President Bilsker welcomed the members who were able to participate in the meeting. He reported that there are now sixty members of our Association. A brief introduction of members and guests followed.

A motion to adopt the agenda was moved, seconded and carried.

Mover: Carol Keane

Secunder: Gabrielle Lightfoot

The minutes of the previous annual general meeting were moved, seconded and carried/

Mover: Diane Auld

Secunder: Carol Keane

Election of Officers:

- Sheldon Bilsker was elected president by acclamation. This is a one year position.
- Diane Auld was elected newsletter editor by acclamation. This is a two year position.

Reports from the Board of Directors:

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. It was moved, seconded and carried.

Mover: Carol Keane

Secunder: Diane Auld

Motion: That a policy be implemented that the executive may acknowledge service by board and other members and that they have the authority to approve honorariums. The motion was moved, seconded and carried.

President's Report:

President Sheldon Bilsker reported that:

- Regarding membership standards, the Association has sixty members that have met standards comparable to top 5%. There may be less members but they are of better quality.
- There is a class with a group from Sri Lanka. These counselling hypnotherapists desire a North American certification.

- More of our Association's members are at the resident level. There are about six members ready to get their resident level.
- The Orca Institute has gone to great lengths to keep the school and IACH separate. There is a process for schools to apply for certification and there are three schools approved of which the Orca Institute is one.

President Bilsker's report was moved, seconded and carried;

Mover Diane Auld

Seconder Gabrielle Lightfoot

Standards Report:

Joanna Komorowska thanked Tyler Gjernes for the sophisticated data base. The executive can access the data base directly. Joanna reported that Tyler continually upgrades and the data base is always current and on-line. The Forum is ready. A referral data base is being developed so that clients can locate therapists in their own community, this will be a two week project. Joanna reminded the Association's members that we are very fortunate to have someone of Tyler's capacity in designing and developing our data base. He has seven years experience with web designs and a UBC degree in computer science.

Joanna reported that Association members can purchase insurance for \$340 per year.

The report was moved, seconded and carried.

Mover: Carol Keane

Seconder: Gabrielle Lightfoot

Newsletter Editor's Report:

Diane Auld reported that she would like to increase the number of articles. She invited contributions of information, studies, not necessarily of hypnotherapy but it can be in the counselling field as well. She would like to continue two articles per newsletter. Members were requested to forward interesting web site information, in a good time frame - Diane will contact the web site to receive authorization to use the information. Diane reported that she loves to receive quotes, poetry and interesting information which she will keep on file to use in future issues. She reminded members that as "editors will edit" articles submitted may not be printed exactly as submitted.

The newsletter editor's report was moved, seconded and carried.

Mover: Gabrielle Lightfoot

Seconder: Tyler Gjernes

Guest Speaker: Dr. Jim Browne

We were encouraged by Dr. Jim Browne, Coordinator for the Task Group for Counsellor Regulations in BC, who gave a very detailed and most informative presentation and package, on the regulation of counseling therapists in BC. This regulation may be proclaimed law within the year, as part of the BC

government's Bill 25 amendment to the Health Professions Act. What is particularly encouraging to the IACH is the proposal that our members should be part of the BC College of Clinical Counsellors.

Workshop Presenter: Mahmud Nestman

Previous IACH board member, Dr. Mahmud Nestman presented an extremely valuable afternoon workshop, in particular the portions on the integrated Ericksonian approach and "Q's & A's"

Mahmud reinforced that "It is the client that does the therapy, the therapist furnishes the climate." "It is the client that does the work, what is this climate that the therapist need to create for the client? Try to understand the personal meanings of the client's words."

Mahmud reminded the members of Erickson's's short definition of hypnosis "Hypnotherapy is focusing your attention inwards".

The members in attendance thanked Mahmud profusely for his presentation.

Motion: That in appreciation of his support of the IACH, Dr. Jim Browne be made an honorary member of the IACH.

The motion was moved, seconded and carried;

Mover: Sheldon Bilsker

Secunder: Diane Auld

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting.