



Your board in action

A summary of the work of ASWB's Board of Directors at its August 8, 2015, meeting in Boston, Mass.

The ASWB Board of Directors met in person on Saturday, August 8, at the Boston Park Plaza hotel in Boston, Massachusetts, in conjunction with the Exam Committee meeting. Here is a recap of the activities of the board at that meeting.

Approval of minutes: The Board approved the minutes of the April 30, 2015, Board of Directors meeting in Seattle, Washington, and the July 6, 2015, virtual meeting of the Board.

Confirmation of decisions made in email meetings: The Board confirmed the decisions made in email meetings conducted on June 2 and June 19, 2015.

Consent agenda: Reports approved via consent agenda included: Executive Vice President's report, Examination Services report, and evaluations from the 2015 Education Meeting and June New Board Member Training.

Leadership reports: ASWB CEO Mary Jo Monahan presented the CEO Report, which summarized the work of the association through the second quarter. Of particular note was the record number of exams administered in June—7,233—and a record-breaking number of candidate phone calls answered during

the same month—8,967. Other highlights: the reorganization of the Exam Services department to provide a management team approach in which two candidate services specialists are serving as mentors to the candidate services representatives; growing interest in the Path to Licensure initiative, which now has 42 schools of social work subscribed to the list serve; and ASWB outreach through participation at NASW conferences and expansion of the Social Work Registry through the free student enrollment campaign.

Results were presented to the Board of a feasibility study on creating a leadership academy to provide leadership skills development for members. Research into existing education and training organizations showed that leadership development is already being delivered by these established organizations. The recommendation from the study was to continue to provide new board member and administrator training sessions without cost to members and to create an Education and Training department within ASWB to address members' as well as staff training needs. The Board accepted the recommendations offered in the feasibility study.

ASWB President Dorinda Noble presented the President's Report.

Among the topics discussed were the work of the Governance Task Force as members completed their terms of service; an update on the Board self-evaluation process; and the selection of the practice analysis task force. The overarching role of the Board to provide leadership to the organization and prepare for the future was emphasized, leading into a discussion about the development of the Mobility Task Force. The Board approved the charge of the task force and the list of task force members.

Financial report: Board members reviewed and accepted second quarter financial statements through June 30, 2015; 2014 Form 990; and statements from ASWB's investment accounts through June 30.

Fall 2015 Delegate Assembly: The Board approved the draft agenda for the annual business meeting, which will be held in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. The meeting will begin on Thursday, November 5, and will adjourn on Saturday, November 7. The Board received reports from the liaisons to the Bylaws Committee and the Regulation and Standards Committee on recommendations that will be voted on by the delegates for changes to the ASWB bylaws and the Model Social Work Practice Act.

Locations for 2018 ASWB meetings: Board members approved the following locations for ASWB meetings in 2018: Halifax, Nova Scotia, for the 2018 Education Meeting and San Antonio, Texas, for the Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly.

California ASWB membership application: The Board approved the application of the California Board of Behavioral Sciences to return as a member of ASWB.

Examination policy report: The Board received a report about requests from member boards to use the social work exams outside policy guidelines. The Board requested that research continue into what impact this nonstandard use could have on the exam's validity and legal defensibility for further discussion at the November Board of Directors meeting.

Board service awards: Board members selected recipients of the 2015 Sunny Andrews award and the award for outstanding administrator. Awards will be presented at the 2015 Annual Meeting.

Committee, Task Force, and Meeting reports: The following summarizes the highlights of the committee, task force, and meeting reports made to the Board of Directors.

- **Governance Task Force:** The Governance Task Force held its final meeting in July during which members presented their recommendations for changes to the bylaws. Over their two-year term, members developed a number of ideas for increasing outreach to members and other Board initiatives. The ideas and work of the task force will be summarized in a written report.
- **Approved Continuing Education (ACE) report:** At its July meeting, the ACE Committee reviewed upcoming changes to the program, which include staff taking over some of the application processing duties that the committee has handled. Staff thanked committee members for their significant contribution to the current status of the ACE

approval program, noting that the ACE Approved brand is recognized widely as the gold standard for social work CE.

- **Nominating Committee report:** The Nominating Committee received a large number of nominations this year. Candidates for three positions on the Board of Directors and two positions on the Nominating Committee have been slated.
- **Regulatory Education and Leadership (REAL) Committee report:** The REAL Committee held its second in-person meeting in July to continue planning the 2016 Education Meeting on the theme of moving mobility forward. Presenters have been identified and contacted, and the program agenda is being developed.

Recap of the Foundation Board Meeting

Immediately following the ASWB Board of Directors meeting, the Board reconvened to hold a board meeting of the American Foundation for Research and Consumer Education in Social Work Regulation (the Foundation). The Foundation is ASWB's 501(c)3 organization that sponsors a grant program for research on topics relevant to social work regulation, consumer protection, and related areas. The Foundation Board of Directors comprises the members of ASWB's Board of Directors.

Approval of minutes: The Foundation Board approved the minutes of the January 22, 2015, meeting.

Financial report: The Foundation Board accepted the Foundation financial report and 2014 Form 990.

Review of Governor's State University report: The Foundation Board discussed a report submitted by a current grant recipient requesting an extension due to unforeseen circumstances that caused research to be delayed. The Foundation Board approved an additional 18 months for completion of the research.

Ratification of research applications: The Foundation Board received a report from the Foundation Review Committee about funding requests received during the 2015 application cycle. Three applications were received, but only two were submitted timely. The Foundation Board ratified one project recommended for approval. (See related story.)

Confirmation of decisions made in email meetings: The Foundation Board confirmed the decisions made in the email meeting conducted on June 2, 2015, to deny the application submitted late.