

Houston Texas Association of Occupational Health Nurses



HTAOHN Monthly Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2011

Networking, dinner and introduction of members and guests took place from 5 to 6pm. There were 20 members and 3 guests present.

HTAOHN members wish to extend their thanks to Denise Bach and Shell for the meeting accommodations. We also want to express our gratitude to Sandra Carson and Sysco for sponsoring our dinner.

The continuing education topic for this meeting is “The Business Case for Breastfeeding” presented by Olga Tompkins, MPH, RN, COHN-S/SM, CSP, FAAOHN.

The meeting was called to order at 6pm by President Melinda Harrison who presented Past President Pam Mason an award for her hard work on the HTAOHN mini conference which was held in February 2011.

President Harrison reviewed our meeting schedule for the benefit of our visitors. The next regular monthly meeting for HTAOHN is November 8, 2011.

Reports:

President Elect Jackie Baker – Nothing to report.

Secretary Sandra Cole – Secretary Cole requested that the minutes of the last regular meeting which was May 2011 be approved as written. The motion to approve was made by Director II Judy Perkins and seconded by Past President Mason. The motion was carried by voice vote.

Treasurer Kathy Pierpoline – Treasurer Pierpoline’s report included the current financial status of HTAOHN including bank accounts and CD’s. A written copy of the report is made available to members by making a request to the President.

Director I, Denise Bach reported that there were some good speakers lined up for next year. Ms. Bach requested members to submit names of potential speakers to her and topics that the members were interested in having presented. She also asked members who may be interested in presenting a topic themselves to contact her.

Director II, Judy Perkins reminded members about our Sunshine and Shadows program. She also advised the members to contact her with news that they wish to have communicated to the organization.

Director III, Cathy Henning advised members that she needs names of potential vendors who may be willing to sponsor one of our meals. She also informed members that she has prepared a box for member donations for San Jose Clinic and when the box is full, it will be delivered to the clinic.

Director IV, Marsha Vanlandingham reported that HTAOHN received the Chapter Merit Award at the TSAOHN state conference held in Galveston in September. Award nominations are due December 30th and HTAOHN submitted three nominations last year.

Nominating Chair, Carolyn Ebert advised members of the positions open for the 2011 fall election, President Elect, Treasurer, Director II, Director IV and Nominating Chair. Chairperson Ebert stated that it was her goal to have 4 candidates for each position and to please submit names of members who may be interested in running for office so they can be contacted.

President, Melinda Harrison spoke to members concerning the upcoming election. She asked members to think about what the organization means to us and what we are willing to do to maintain a viable organization and how important active participation is to the chapter.

Ms. Harrison reminded members about our outreach project with a local women's shelter the Bay Area Turning Point and that donations are needed. President Harrison advised the members that the chapter sponsored three members to attend the TSAOHN state conference in Galveston in September. Member scholarships and support to attend continuing education offerings is one of the Pillars of HTAOHN.

President Harrison advised members that San Jose clinic is in need of a microscope and as one of our outreach projects, would the members consider purchasing one for them? President Harrison advised members that Ruben Molina of San Jose clinic had given her the specifications of two different models and the prices of each and advised that either of them would be appreciated. President Elect Baker, stated that Shell may have a microscope that is no longer in use that could be donated and that she would investigate. In the event that Shell does not have a microscope available for donation, a motion was made by Director Perkins that HTAOHN purchase one for San Jose Clinic. The motion was seconded by Director Cathy Henning and carried by voice vote.

President Harrison also advised members that the charges for preparing and submitting our continuing education offerings for approval are going to be increased by our current vendor. President Harrison also advised the members that she would like to see those duties brought back into the organization and asked for a volunteer to take on those duties. HTAOhN member Olga Tompkins graciously volunteered to take on those duties so the chapter could eliminate that expense and therefore purchase a better microscope for San Jose Clinic in the event that Shell does not have one to donate.

President Elect Pam Mason who is working on the Bylaws changes, asked members to consider dropping old verbiage from the Bylaws. She made a motion that changes in HTAOhN Bylaws mirror the AAOHN Bylaws template and align with TSAOhN and any verbiage that does not meet this criteria be dropped. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm and the CE presentation followed.

**Sandra Cole, RN, COHN-S/CM
Secretary, HTAOhN**