

HOUSTON TEXAS CHAPTER
ASSOCIATION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSES



Chapter Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2013

Dinner and networking held from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Meeting was called to order by President Dana Werner and a Quorum was established at 5:35 p.m. President Werner outlined health and safety information to include the evacuation procedure, stairwell locations and restroom locations of the meeting facilities. Thanks were expressed to Denise Back and Shell Corporation for providing the meeting facility. Thanks were also expressed to BSN Medical and L.V. Davis for sponsoring dinner and the educational offering for this meeting entitled, “DVT Prevention with Compression Therapy”.

WELCOME

President Werner welcomed visitors to the meeting and led all attendees in introducing themselves. Michael Chambers, R.N., was recognized as a visitor from Port Arthur who heard about our chapter online and opted to join us for the meeting.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS / NEW BUSINESS

President elect – Brenda Young passed out informal survey to generate ideas for vendors and educational offerings the group might like to see in the future. Expressed she is working on recruiting and solicited ideas from the group on how to “seal the deal” with potential new members. Dana Warner suggested that personal phone calls may be effective as a tool for recruiting new members.

President – Dana Warner passed around the sign up list for the chapter Membership Challenge and encouraged participation and commitment until May 2013 on the task members sign up for.

Treasurer – Terethia Walker not in attendance.

Director 1 – Carolyn Ebert asked members to write ideas for speakers who might be available for future meetings. She noted that we might have a tropical medicine physician speak at the April chapter meeting.

Director 2 – Judy Perkins reminded the membership that Sunshine and Shadows is still in effect and gave an explanation as to what this program is and how it is beneficial to our membership. Reminded membership that she will disseminate any information that needs to be shared with the membership throughout the month.

Director 3, Denise Bach (newly elected) announced that volunteers are needed for conference committees. Offered that Shell has new vaccine refrigerator and offered to show it to anyone who is interested. Also explained parking at the Shell complex and gave reminder that speed limit is 10 mph or less. All members should bring their drivers' licenses as security on the Shell campus is getting tighter. She further noted that there will be a raffle to raise funds for the chapter at the next scheduled meeting and relayed that member RSVPs were better this month. The importance of RSVP's was stressed so that our Sponsors will be able to plan for the meeting appropriately.

The membership was also informed that there are 157 people on our membership roster and that only 20-30 members attend each month. The group discussed why members may not be attending, i.e. location, time, etc. Denise also mentioned that Shell is still looking to fill a Disability Case Manager position if anyone is interested.

Members should turn items for re-gifting, mini-conference, or donations to Denise Bach.

Director 4 – Marsha Vanlandingham had no new information to report. She noted that her position as Director 4 will be open in December in case anyone is interested in succeeding her. Marsha will pass around sheet at each meeting for members to log their volunteer hours regularly.

Election Advisor – Marsha Wood will announce positions as they are due to come open and have the current holder of that position give a short explanation to the membership about what the position involves.

UNFINISHED/OLD/CONTINUED BUSINESS

Voted on January Annual Business Meeting minutes. Approved by motion of Linda Harris with second by Doris Devries. No one opposed.

President Dana Warner expressed thanks to retired chapter members Cathy Henning, Denise Bach, Sandra Cole and Melinda Harrison. She also reviewed our chapter pillars and discussed membership assistance and that the board's decision was to reimburse 5 members who request

assistance ½ the cost of membership. Members were advised to notify Dana if they need assistance for their upcoming dues.

Community Service Projects were discussed including the American Diabetes Walk, Bay Area Turning Point Women's Shelter and the Shell Walk for Schools. Group shared ideas about other walks and events that we might want to participate in.

The annual conference was announced by Dana Warner. It is scheduled for April 15-18. Location, cost and accommodations were shared, to include instructions on how to get preferred rate for AAOHN members at the hotel.

President Dana Warner issued a membership challenge asking each member to bring a friend or colleague and to become more active in the organization. She also shared information about a special Town Hall meeting via webinar that will take place later in February in which AAOHN President C. Pepler will address all AAOHN members. Dana also announced a lectureship at TWU that members may want to attend later this month.

Dana asked members to supply pictures taken during chapter events or meetings to submit to the AAOHN website and gave reminder about resources available on the website for Governmental Affairs affecting nurses, NORA Seminar on Respiratory Protection for Health Care Workers and that Occupational Health Nursing Week will be April 19-26, 2013.

Dana also called on members to serve on a committee or task force at the national level for 2013 noting that membership is easy and requires only 1 hour commitment for a monthly phone conference.

Elaine Thomas, RN, BSN

Secretary, HTAOHN