



**Oregon Association for Music Therapy  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
May 22nd, 2022, 1pm**

The board meeting of the Oregon Association for Music Therapy was called to order at 1:01 on May 22nd, 2022 with Chris Korb, Cody Mills, Joshua Pearl, Kate Caruso, Airel Farley, and Natalia Uribe present. **Quorum was established.**

***Approval of Agenda***

**Airel Farley moves to approve the agenda. Second: Joshua Pearl Motion carries.**

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**Chris Korb moves to approve the April 24th, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Second: Natalia Uribe. Motion carries.**

**Officer Reports**

***President, Chris Korb***

Sent out letter of support for development of MT program at Western Oregon University. Lilly Fugita has volunteered to support students who want to talk about this new MT program.

***President-Elect, Joshua Pearl***

Reviewing officer handbook. (Sending out officer report beforehand). Combing through current committees and coming up with ways to avoid redundancy and to streamline. Review the workforce analysis. Talking to local MT-BCs. Met with Natalia about global outreach and DEI. Talking to Cody about the members committee. Talking to WFMT, the cost will be \$150. Communication with Anita Swanson about that. Identifying needs for new committees or projects- need for interdisciplinary outreach. Online conversation with Brian Abrams about innovative conversations he is having with students and looking at how that might affect our community.

***Vice President, Kate Caruso***

This month I researched parks and venues for our upcoming summer event as well as the State conference, and contacted some spaces about their availability for July 23 and July 16. I compiled a list of potential topics/themes for both events, as well as lightly researched speakers. I tried to keep the feedback from the workforce survey in mind while coming up with ideas.

***Secretary, Airel Farley***

Sent out The Blast for May. Prepped approved board meeting minutes to be put on the website and new meeting minutes to be approved. Prepping for The Blast for June (Please let me know anything you think we should include).

***Treasurer, Brea Murakami***

In May 2022, I continued to keep track of the OAMT finances. I sent Emily Ross the \$500 for the Professional Grant via PayPal. We currently have \$5,056.87 in the U.S. Bank Account and \$56.93 in the PayPal account. In my other duties, I completed a final draft of the 2022 OAMT Workforce Survey report and sent it to board members for three eyes' approval. I also met with the communications task force twice to strategize social media presence and met with the peer support group task force twice to plan our first session. I'll be leading a discussion about the workforce survey results during the first peer support group meeting on June 20th, 2022.

***Public Relations, Cody Mills***

Meeting with Joshua Pearl to discuss strengthening numbers and current members. Meeting with Natalia and Brea for the Communications Taskforce.

***Media Coordinator, Natalia Uribe***

Instagram posts for introducing the board. Thinking about doing individual spotlight posts and allowing public to ask questions. Met with communications taskforce- ideas of content for both MTs and non-MTS. Met with Joshua to work on DEI and Global Outreach Committees. Met with the Peer Support Committee

### **Government Relations Representative (Melissa Potts)**

Another meeting has taken place towards the goal of reimbursement. It appears that Medicaid provider status may be the best route for us. We are exploring Medicaid Waivers and plan to meet with the national team next week for support. We will meet again with OHA in the near future. The meeting we had on Monday was difficult, but there will be another meeting with the head of national advocacy sometime this week.

### **Student Representative, Lily Fugita**

On Saturday, 9 Music Therapy graduates from Pacific University graduated! Students have finished finals and are now headed into summer plans. I will be a research assistant to Shelly Zeiser, the current clinical coordinator at Pacific University. We received a summer research grant from Pacific University and will be researching core components of successful music therapy practicum sites.

### **Old Business**

- Board members' focus: Education, Community/State Outreach, Member supports
  - \*Monthly peer support group?
  - \*Bi-weekly support group to accommodate members' needs & requests?
    - Peer Support Planning committee
      - The peer support group met twice in the last month. We have the first meeting scheduled virtually for Monday June 20, 12:30-1:45 on Zoom with the topic of the Oregon Workforce Survey as well as time and space to bring your own ideas or issues that think could benefit from peer support. We discussed the difference between supervision and peer support, and hope to foster and create a sense of community, personal and professional connections between MTs, have an open, safe, and inviting space to share topics and concerns, and extend the group to all MTs in Oregon, especially those in more rural or isolated areas. We hope this group will help to create a shared identity of what it means to be an Oregon Music Therapist.
      - First Meeting:
        - Topics- Workforce analysis & anything they would like to discuss in future meetings.
        - June 20th, 12:40-1:45
          - Link to come
      - Next peer support committee meeting will be before the event
      - Identified areas of what peer support means, offering professional growth, work life balance, peer support is many things and we will continue to define it as well as leave room for all of those
      - Advertising-

- Social media and RSVP form
      - The meetings will be once a month and via zoom June-September
- Enrollment Committee, newly formed
  - Now Called : Membership and Enrollment Committee
  - Designing a survey to reach out to MT-BCs in Oregon (to discover what they want/are looking for) to be able to be strategic in outreach
- Western Oregon University program development
  - We sent letter of support and we will be kept abreast of developments
- Government relations/reimbursement
  - Difficult to discover from state personnel what we need for identification and what we need from them for reimbursement.
  - Currently we are looking at getting Medicaid waivers
  - We will know more by the next meeting
  - Florida state has reimbursement from Medicaid and no licensure. Korb has asked what their referral process is.
- Any other Committee reports
  - DEI
    - Want to start Implementing 4 points
    - Add “people of the global majority” to new business for next meeting
      - This committee will discuss and present at next meeting
    - **Joshua Pearl motions** to divide the cultural outreach committee into two committees : DEI & Global Outreach. **Chris Korb seconds. Motion Passes**
  - Global Outreach
    - Looking into whether other state organizations are members of WFMT
  -

## **New Business**

- Summer OAMT conference
  - Need to decide on location and content
  - DATE: July 23rd
  - Either outdoor hangout and collective music making or indoor and could be hybrid
    - Idea that in Taberspace we could do both
    - Definitely liking the idea of being able to include indoor, outdoor, and virtual. It allows opportunity to pivot quickly
    - Could do half virtual and then one big meetup

- Library has hotspots that are free or rentable- Natalia will reach out to contact at Multnomah county library
    - Taberspace is familiar and easy considering the event is only two months away. (Then we can focus on other decisions)
  - **Cody motions** to give options a numerical value to decide which one we want in what order. **Joshua amends motion** to say Taberspace 1, Encorprenuer cafe 2, Portland public park 3, tauchman not listed. **Natalia Uribe seconds. Joshua amends motion** to be that we do the event at Taberspace on July 23rd with the other two being pursued in subsequent order of importance if the Taberspace is not available. **Chris Korb seconds. Motion passes**
  - Theme
    - We looked at and added to the document “Event Planning Brain Dump”
    - Proposed- Community and Inclusivity in a Hybrid World
    - Each taking turns sharing what is popping out to them (ideas we don’t use won’t be thrown out)
      - Natalia- you’re not alone in your struggles etc.
        - First conference with new board should be focused on community building, we should mention the reimbursement, but that might be a time later for deeper discussion
      - Joshua Pearl- inclusivity is also its own topic so maybe just Community building in a Hybrid World
    - Kate will send out and vote on titles by Tuesday or Wednesday
    - OVERALL THEME: Music Therapy and Community Building
    - Kate will turn Event Planning Brain Dump into Future Event Ideas
  - Beginning portion would be virtual
    - Do we want the presenter to be virtual or in person?
    - Possibly more experts
- Government Relations and Medicaid
  - Mental health crisis and Music Therapy underemployment (crisis) calls for an urgent task force.
    - Everyday Joshua is getting people who need services and he can’t serve them and/or they can’t pay him.
  - The focus should be on reimbursement so that people can receive our services.
    - We’ve already been working on this for so long and further waiting is unacceptable.

- We need this. Our clients need this.
  - Propose that this is an overriding conversation and that this is our priority #1.
  - Korb has talked to an art therapist in the state who has never been paid by medicaid, but only by private insurance.
  - How do we get people to listen to us?
  - We need to move the conversation from “how” to “now” (Without excluding the necessary incremental work). We don’t want to do this for another 10 years, in some ways no longer asking, but demanding.
  - Calling for an attitude shift ^ addressing it as the crisis it is.
  - What makes it go so slow?
    - Getting people together- scheduling
    - Different personnel and turnover that causes us to have to start over
    - Person of the last three years didn’t really know what we needed to do or what she needed to do to help us. (Maybe we don’t need a Medicaid committee, maybe we need a waivers committee)
    - AKA the person we are communicating with needs to know what they need and what we need.
  - What we need to do now is to discover what other states have done and what their referral system is. (As of Monday)
  - Be willing to change our strategy because we can’t expect them to stay consistent. Maybe we need more “guerilla tactic”. Everyone can contribute to the “battering ram”
- Committee Reports on future Agenda?
  - **Joshua Pearl motions** that in future agendas committee reports follow officer reports and stand on their own. **Chris seconds. Motion passes**
- New MT Conversations
  - His students were moving away from looking at MT as meeting goals and objectives and instead as giving opportunities. The possibility of implicit harm. As we offer opportunities we still succeed whether they do the objective or not.
  - The idea of implicit harm in trying to mimic other disciplines.
  - Joshua Pearl will attempt to summarize, put them in a document and discuss during the next meeting.
- Communications Task Force Purpose and Evolution
  - Creating pool of content to keep community engaged
  - Waiting on Emily to see when we will post about that

- Adding resources from non-music therapists that could aid music therapists
  - Taxes
  - How to use space efficiently
  - Managing finances in private practices
- Please send any ideas to Natalia
- Posts where people respond
- These are on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter
- Could this committee provide analytics about responses & interaction with those posts
  - Natalia will be meeting with a data analyst friend to be able to share that

#### **Good and Welfare**

- Natalia officially started private practice & reached out to Bradley Angle to ask that they pay her instead of the individual clients. (Uribe Music Therapy)
- Joshua heard “a problem shared is a problem cut in half”
- Chris just submitted the review for “Ethical Thinking for Music Therapy”

#### **Adjournment**

Next Meeting at 1pm on June 26th, 2022.

**Chris Korb motions to adjourn. Airel Farley seconds. Motion passes** Meeting adjourned at 3:01 May 22nd, 2022.