

ArkSHA Annual Business Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2020
Zoom

Call to Order by President-Rachel Glade at 6:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Present: Rachel Glade-President
Present: Aleecia Starkey-President-Elect
Present: LeeAnn Griffith-Past President
Present: Kelli Watts-Treasurer
Present: Shayla McCullough-Secretary
Present: Aletha Cook -VP-Continuing Ed
Present: Miriam Stafford-VP Elect Cont. Ed
Present: Shelly Keller-VP SLP Services

Absent: Donna Smiley-VP Aud. Services
Present: Marilyn Porterfield-Best Management
Present: Lauren Rogers-ASHA SEAL
Absent: Cheri Stevenson-ASHA STAR
Present: Portia Carr-ASHA StAMP
Present: Randy Thurman-Lobbyist
Absent: Courtney Sheppard-Lobbyist

Other ArkSHA Member Attendance:

Dr. Betholyn Gentry
Amy Faith
Dr. Christina Akbari
Shelly Wier
Megan Fraser
Zoe McGee
Martha Alman

President Rachel Glade welcomed all attendees to the virtual annual business meeting and provided an overview of the meeting “rules” and disclosures before introducing the current board members.

Nominees for 2021 ArkSHA Board (LeeAnn Griffith): LeeAnn presented the current slate of nominees, providing information about each nominee. No nominations were received from the floor. Ballots will be emailed to ArkSHA members in the coming days.

Financial Update (Kelli Watts): Kelli relayed to those in attendance that the current expenditures outweigh the profits received, but most profits come from the annual convention. Convention registration is set to open this week. ArkSHA members are encouraged to share information regarding the virtual convention on social media. Convention registration costs were shared by Aletha Cook for both student and professional members and non-members registering before October 1st, before October 11th, and after October 11th.

Advocacy Updates (Rachel Glade, LeeAnn Griffith, Aleecia Starkey): Rachel shared the 2020 advocacy updates and those planned for 2021. The Interim Study Proposal (ISP) hearing with legislators will be postponed until next summer due to COVID-19. ArkSHA is working closely with the licensing board (ABESPA). A letter will be composed for ABESPA in the coming days requesting permission for the ArkSHA President-Elect to attend ABESPA meetings as a non-voting member. This is also set to be added to the ArkSHA Policies and Procedures. Contact Aleecia if there are topics/items of importance to you.

ArkSHA Lobbyist Updates (Randy Thurman, Rachel Glade): Described role that lobbyists serve for ArkSHA—developing and maintaining positive relationships with senators, representatives, the governor, etc. The lobbyists are ArkSHA’s eyes, ears, and voice at the state capitol, finding sponsors for legislation that is important to us as SLPs and Audiologists. Discussed impact of legislators suing the Department of Health Director on telepractice. When asked about ArkSHA members reviewing bills to assist in determining importance to SLPs and Audiologists, it was

shared that an ArkSHA Government Affairs Committee will begin in 2021. Those interested in getting involved can email arksha@arksha.org.

2020 Convention (Aletha Cook): Kudos to Marilyn and the convention committee for all of their hard work. Convention registration opening in the next week. Can register after the convention starts to receive access to the recorded sessions. Sponsors are needed and appreciated and will be highlighted on the explore page. All areas of the virtual exhibit hall are clickable links. Sessions can be added to your calendar so that you only see your preferences. Photos and business cards can be uploaded and shared on the registration portal. Social media feeds can be followed on the convention platform using the ArkSHA hashtags. Aletha reported that the convention speakers are excited to present virtually. A preview of the convention portal was conducted by Marilyn Porterfield at the conclusion of the business meeting.

Professional Benefits (Aleecia Starkey): Aleecia shared the benefits of ArkSHA membership, such as lobbyists, convention discounts, access to Audiology Online, SpeechPathology.com, and MedBridge, and “supporting the future of our professions.”

Student Benefits (Rachel Glade): Rachel shared the student member benefits, such as scholarship opportunities, recognitions, networking, and member discounts. The “Gift-to-Grad” program was introduced, providing graduate students that have been ArkSHA members for 2 years free membership for their first year as a professional. Current 2nd year graduate students that have been members for one year will be grandfathered in for 2021.

Leadership Opportunities (Rachel Glade): Rachel shared leadership opportunities and committees to serve on.

Publishing and Recognition Opportunities (Shayla McCullough): Shayla shared the focus of the board on increasing member engagement and involvement through social media, service on committees, and volunteering at the annual convention. Shared the opportunity to provide information for the quarterly newsletter, to present at the annual convention, and spotlighting professional and student members of the moment.

Get Connected (Rachel Glade): Rachel encouraged members to follow and share the ArkSHA social media pages and posts, as well as to encourage members and non-members to follow them.

Adjourn – at 7:18 pm by President, Rachel Glade