

SPSWA Board Meeting Minutes

Title: SPSWA Board Meeting

Date: 9/11/2025

Format: Virtual

Attendees

- **Jarrold Peterson**
- **Kathy Cameron-Kuehn**
- **Angela Elwell**
- **Lauren Bednar**
- **Ian D. Bruess**
- **Rachelle Strasburg**
- **Logan Kubista**
- **Mary Poggione**

1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order by **Jarrold Peterson** at 8:30am

2. Committee and Officer Reports

Programs/Education – Kathy Cameron-Kuehn

- Reported the program/speaker **spreadsheet** is essentially complete and invited any questions or concerns.
- Tracking potential future topics, including **mental health and seniors**.
- Jarrold noted the spreadsheet was very helpful for recent meeting logistics.

Secretary/Outreach – Angela Elwell

- Has been attending multiple **networking groups** and promoting the **fall conference**.
- Reported several **new contacts** interested in SPSWA and potential **membership**, including a downsizing business expanding into the metro.

At-Large – Rachelle Strasburg

- Shared feedback from **Allie** that the recent SPSWA meeting at **Shaller Campus / Sholom** was **well attended** and the presentation **well received**.
- Jarrold credited the strong turnout to **group outreach**.

Fall Aging Conference – Ian D. Bruess

- Reported that most of the **Fall Aging Conference** offerings appear **sold out** and the event is in a good position.
- Emphasized continued **communication** to encourage attendance among social workers, nurses, and other professionals.

Communications – Lauren Bednar

- Requested clarification on her **communications role** and any needed handoff with Brian.
- Jarrod indicated that specifics will be **formalized at the board retreat** and that he will provide Lauren with **supporting materials**.

Membership – Logan Kubista

- Current membership count: **81 members**.
- Logan is distributing **membership cards** at meetings.
- Jarrod noted membership typically increases around the Fall Aging Conference due to the **member discount**.

3. Public Policy Meeting (November)

Location

- Jarrod noted a host site is not yet confirmed for the **November public policy meeting**.
- Kathy will check for organizations interested in **hosting**, especially those that have not yet had the opportunity.

Topic

- Traditionally, this meeting is a **legislative session preview**.
- Jarrod proposed focusing instead (or in addition) on **de-escalating political rhetoric** and having constructive cross-viewpoint conversations, particularly in workplaces and organizations.
- Rachelle strongly supported this topic as timely and relevant.
- Kathy confirmed her separate planned topic on **guns and dementia**, which will not conflict with the proposed rhetoric/de-escalation focus.
- Jarrod will explore potential **speakers** through the **Leadership Council on Aging** and similar organizations; if none are identified, the meeting will revert to the traditional **session preview**. No objections were raised.

4. Board Retreat

- Based on the **Doodle poll**, the retreat will be held on **November 13**, coinciding with the regular board meeting day and extended by a couple of hours.
- Proposed location: **The Original Pancake House**, as used last year, with a private room available.

- Jarrod will send a **calendar invite** for the retreat.

5. Fall Aging Conference – SPSWA Participation

- Board discussed **registration costs** and booth staffing:
 - Current registration (per Ian): approx. **\$100** for members, **\$125** for non-members.
 - Historically, even those **manning the SPSWA booth** have paid standard registration.
- Logan asked about sending a **calendar invite** for Fall Aging; concern was raised that this might imply a **free event**.
- Consensus: SPSWA will **not** send its own calendar invite; promotion will occur via **website, social media, and member communications**, while official registration remains with the conference organizers.
- Rachelle suggested:
 - Sending the **current SPSWA membership list** to **Levi** (conference marketing/registration) and suggesting they use it for invitations with registration links.
 - Asking Levi whether **discounted rates** could be offered for SPSWA/MASWA board members volunteering at the booth.
- Logan will send the **membership list**, and Rachelle will **contact Levi** about a possible board volunteer discount.
- Jarrod and Kathy confirmed they can attend **all day** and help staff the booth.

6. Adjournment

- With no further business, Jarrod thanked the board and adjourned the meeting at 9:22am.