

Group Specialty Council Minutes, April 2025 Meeting

Date: 4/28/2025

Present: Gary Burlingame (AGPA Past-President), Misha Bogomaz (Treasurer; ABGP/ABPP President), Leann Diederich (Secretary), Darryl Pure (Chair, Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health), Noelle Lefforge (President); Leo Leiderman (AGPA President-Elect),

Absent: Michele Ribeiro (Div 49 President-Elect), Lisa Stern (ABGP President), Steve Van Wagoner (IBCGP Chair), Le'Marus Alston (Council Membership Organization from St. Elizabeth's Hospital), Joe Miles (Division 49 President), Kendra Jackson (ASGW Representative), Nina Brown (Past-President),

Agenda/Meeting Minutes Approval: We will approve the [October](#) and [January](#) minutes at our next meeting when we have quorum.

Agenda Items

1. Attendees shared updates on their professional lives.
2. Dr. Lefforge gave an update on the petition.
 - a. We've been given a 1 year extension on our specialty, that's the Commission for the Recognition of Specialties and Proficiencies in Professional Psychology's (CRSPPP) current recommendation to APA Council. We are in the same situation of all other specialties, renewing and the new specialty that have applications in. This is related to the executive orders, supreme court decisions, etc and potential lawsuits.
 - b. We have also received our public comments, which the committee reviewed in the meeting.
 - c. There are several options for moving forward after the 1 year extension:
 - i. We can make substantive changes.
 - ii. We can write a letter that responds to the public comments, but doesn't get submitted publicly with the petition.
 - iii. We can not write a letter and resubmit next year, as is.
 - d. We can respond to the comments in our response letter, but the committee supported Dr. Lefforge's recommendation that we not change the petition and we will not make substantive changes. She noted the letter won't be publicly posted like the petition itself will be. She recommended we provide a thoughtful response appreciating them for their comments and offering a few more resources based on the public comment queries.
3. Dr. Bogomoz brought up the topic of what our annual funding will be from the organizations that support us. This raised a further discussion of the budget.
 - a. Dr. Burlingame wanted to know how many days it took Dr. Lefforge to write the petition. The answer was 10. Dr. Burlingame wanted the committee to consider a stipend for Dr. Lefforge of \$10,000 when we had quorum to vote on it.

- b. Next session on June 23rd we'll discuss what future financial requests will be made (or continued based on our [current MOU when the Group Specialty Council](#) was formed.
- c. The current budget is [here for review](#).

Next Meeting:

June 23, 2025, 1 pm (Eastern)

LINK:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81953133874?pwd=Q3zVbGSnwSolqaq2dzlKlNYtsy4b4KL.1>

Meeting ID: 819 5313 3874

Passcode: 431551

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Submitted By:

Leann T. Diederich, PhD (Secretary)