Group Specialty Council Minutes
February 22, 2021


Nina Brown, President, welcomed attendees and requested a moment of silence in memory of Dr. Alicia Marsh, the representative from St. Elizabeth’s Hospital.

The agenda was approved as were the minutes from January 26, 2021.

Dr. Brown proposed changes in the GSC bylaws to include approved affiliates in membership and to designate an Executive Committee of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and representatives from AGPA and ABGP. The office of Secretary-Treasurer is to be divided into two separate roles. These by-law changes were approved.

Misha Bogomaz was elected Treasurer and Eleanor Counselman was elected Secretary.

Dr. Burlingame gave an update on the proposed web page, which will be important for reaccreditation, along with getting more high quality programs signed up and greater public presence (Education and Training Guidelines published, the Special Issue on Group of the American Journal of Psychotherapy). The goal is to create an evidence-based website similar to that of Division 12. One possibility is for this to be a Group Specialty Council website with Education and Training as one tab. Other tabs could be Membership, Resources, Training, and Research.

There was discussion of location for the website and Division 49 seems like the logical site. This led to a discussion of the relationship between the GSC and Division 49. It seems time for the GSC to have full committee status within the society. It was agreed that the Division 49 board needs to have greater clarity about the work of the Council and a Group Specialty Council 101 presentation was suggested. Amy Nitza, Division 49 President-Elect, will work on this.

Ana Puig said that she will present the GSC invitation to the AGSW Board in March. She asked for and was given reassurance that Mental Health Counselors and MSWs were welcome on the Council.

Noelle reminded everyone of the Division 49 YouTube channel and videos about group as a specialty.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor F. Counselman, Ed.D., CGP, DLFAGPA
Secretary