

Kentucky Psychological Association

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KPA's Strategic Priorities

Membership	Advocacy	Leadership Development
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Kentucky Psychological Association Regular Board Meeting

Date: March 7, 2025	Time: 1:00PM
Location: Louisville, KY & Zoom Videoconference	

Minutes - DRAFT

Attendance Board Members:

Kari Jones (President)	Present	A.J. Steele (Past President)	Present	Federico Aldarondo President Elect	Present
Sarah Nolan, M.A. (Secretary)	Present	Lisa Steelsmith (Treasurer)	Present		

Attendance Central Office Staff:

Eric Russ, Ph.D. (Executive Director)	Present	Sarah Burress (Director of Operations)	Present	Megan Paxton, Ph.D. (Director of Professional Affairs)	Present
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KPA Board Members/Representatives In Attendance:

- Bluegrass Region Representative: Megan Marks, PhD
- Appalachian Region Representative: Byron Tharpe, MA
- Ohio Region Representative: Collin Davidson, PhD
- Early Career Psychologist Representative: Catherine Veillon, PsyD
- Rural Practice Interest Section Representative: Nathan Ratliff, MA., LPP
- Diversity Interest Section Representative: Clinton Nowicke, PsyD
- Clinical Section Representative: Ashley Belcher, PsyD
- At Large Representative: Melissa Hayden, PsyD
- At Large Representative: Demi Lincoln, PsyD
- Masters Representative: Matthew Davis, EdS
- Education & Training Interest Section Representative: Andri Yennari, PhD
- KPAGS Representative: Miranda Weathers
- APA Council Representative: Felicia Smith, PhD
- Meaning & Connection Ambassador: Patti Weiter, PsyD

KPA Board Members/Representatives Not Attendance w/Notice:

- KPA Western-Central Representative: Michael Farina, PhD
- KPA Academic Representative: Rick Grieve, PhD
- Incoming Health Psychology Interest Section Representative: Ian Boggero, PhD

Not Present-No Notice Received:

- Child & Adolescent Representative: Catherine Huffman, PsyD

TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	CONCLUSION
President’s Remarks	President calls the meeting to order at 1:03PM	
Welcome & Introductions		
Approval of previous meeting minutes	Meeting Minutes from December 2024 were shared and reviewed.	Motion made by Federico Aldarondo to approve meeting minutes as presented, motion passed unanimously.
Last Quarter Financial Report	Lisa Steelsmith shared Q2 Financial Report. Lisa would like to focus on KPA values and how those align or misalign with expenditures; the Finance Committee will also focus on this. Lisa shared graphs of the current	Motion made by Byron Tharpe to approve the Financial Report as

	breakdown of how income is spread across operating expenses, values, and KPA Mission. We will also explore additional grant opportunities but there is also increased competition due to more agencies applying for additional funds. Kentucky Psychological Association-Balance Sheet: Budget vs. Actual, Profit & Loss reviewed Kentucky Psychological Foundation: Balance Sheet, Budget vs. Actual, Profit & Loss, Combined KPA/KPF P&L with Prior Year reviewed. Credit card statements were reviewed, and all expenses were accounted for and reasonable.	presented, motion passed unanimously.
Budget Requests	Sarah Burress requested that those with financial needs to support events for constituents to notify her by the end of the month for any budget requests	
Executive Director Report-Russ	Membership trending upward, CE Events-please promote events on the calendar, Convention planning going well, "Together we Thrive." Interested persons in presenting, please submit a proposal, KPF-we added a new person to the KPF Board; we are still looking for more board members, we are looking for grants/donors for an internship, Communication: we are getting good traffic regarding our advocacy efforts, Be sure to submit articles for the KPA Newsletter; We are looking for grants to support KPA efforts, Registration for the Student Conference is open-we want information spread to undergraduates and graduates students-please share this information if you are involved in the academic realm. Central Office is efficient but may be behind some due to past weather/illness.	No action needed.
Director of Professional Affairs Report-Paxton	Topics discussed at the national level include: AI in practice, Masters Level licensure	
PSLC Report-Jones	Main conversations on Masters licensure but little movement.	
APA Council of Representatives-Smith	This past meeting, Masters licensure was a main focus, the proposed competencies for masters and doctorate licensees were reviewed but it did not pass. These competencies entail accreditation standards, licensing standards, scope of practice standards and more. APA did good work on its commitment to promote justice, dignity, fairness, and advocacy. APA Council	No action needed.

	did pass a resolution that secures psychological assessment data and keeps it confidential. Russ-Thank you those board members and other Kentucky Psychologists who are participating in these national conversations regarding Masters level licensure.	
KPA Bylaws Amendments/Committee Chair Approval	The bylaws amendments have passed are officially included. Joel Goodrich stepped down from the Ethics Committee, Chris Dewhurst presented as the new chair for Board approval.	Motion made by Lisa Steelsmith to approve the appointment, motion approved unanimously.
Advocacy Report	Individuals felt well prepared for Legislative meetings despite unexpected schedule changes. We are heading toward the end of the short legislative session. Psychology KBEP Reform bill will not happen this session, Conversion Therapy-only overturned Governor's Executive Order, Licensure Boards are still able to hold licensees accountable for practicing conversion therapy, HB4-Plan to testify against it, but it likely will still head to the Senate.	No action needed.
DISCUSSION ITEM: KPA Convention	KPA Convention: Together we Thrive, November 14-16, 2025 Hilton Downtown Lexington, The All Access Pass and Prepayment plans are active.	
DISCUSSION ITEM: KBEP Updates	We will try the reform bill next session, KBEP continues to be challenging, the most recent meeting was 3.5hrs, they did submit a letter against the Conversion Therapy bill, the board is in severe financial state-they have a large deficit and there are increased legal costs due to hourly attorney charges, they established a work group and it is anticipated that they will raise licensure fees. There are also impressions that the board is not functioning well internally. The board needs investigators for disciplinary actions.	No action needed.
DISCUSSION ITEM: Eastern Ky Support	There are significant needs, especially internship opportunities, as many of the internship sites have been damaged by the floods.	
DISCUSSION ITEM: Response to Federal Challenges	There are practitioners that are feeling unsafe now with their federal jobs, and they may need assistance transitioning into the private sector. For individuals in the teaching environment, we are required to be careful in the content in courses in both public/private because students/schools are receiving federal aid. KPA could host more Town Hall events about these issues. Students and ECPs are also feeling anxious and emotionally heavy about these changes as well. Lisa proposed establishing a small group to offer pro-bono peer support to those affected.	

DISCUSSION ITEM: Assessment Issues-Belcher	Reported concerns about other licensees outside of Psychology conducting Autism assessment, there are a limited number of providers providing thorough psychological assessment–funding through medicaid cut as well for assessment. KPA can provide more education on a psychoeducation on what a thorough psychological evaluation includes. We can also educate community members on how to critique evaluations done and how to make sure they are receiving what they need.	
DISCUSSION ITEM: Leadership Academy-Lincoln	In January 2026, we will launch a revamped program for Leadership Academy. Commitment may range from 1-5hrs/week and connected with a mentor, will have access to webinars, will participate in advocacy efforts and present at convention, goal is to advertise the program at convention this year. We are looking for people to present during the seminars.	
DISCUSSION ITEM: Annual Leadership Retreat	June 6-7, 2025-we are still looking at places to host. If you need financial assistance, please let Sarah Burrell know.	
DISCUSSION ITEM: Board Member Expectations	Board expectations were shared and reviewed. If you are planning socials, please share information as soon as possible so KPA can advertise in advance.	
DISCUSSION ITEM: KPA Member Communication	We are working on updating the psychological services locator, but we need updated information from members. Please send communication to constituents to update their information. All listserv addresses are listed on the Board agenda. Patti Weiter wished to create a private social media group for KPA Members for members to find value in connecting with other psychologists across the state. Facebook/Meta initial goal, and we can explore other media options after gathering baseline data of usage from members.	
DISCUSSION ITEM: Board Member Quarterly Reports	KPA Board Member Quarterly Reports were shared and reviewed electronically.	

Adjournment: Motion was made by Collin Davidson to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:50PM ; Next Meeting Scheduled for June 6-7, 2025 at the In Person Retreat, Location TBD.