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LOS ANGELES PSYCHOANALYTIC SOCIETY AND INSTITUTE
Board of Directors Meeting

Time: Thursday, October 12, 1967, 6 p.m.

Place: 344 North Bedford Drive, Beverly Hills

Minutes of the Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Dr. Leavitt, President. Present were Drs. Atkins, Bird, Greenson, Harrison, Rollman-Branch, and Vatz. Drs. Dorn and Pastron were present as guests.

1. The minutes of the meeting of September 28, 1967, were approved with the following correction: Page 2, b, b, second paragraph: "However, Dr. Bird stated that if the Clinic Committee so requested, the Projects Funding Committee would consider other ways of raising money to help the Clinic finance this patient's analysis" was changed to "...to help the Clinic finance analyses."

2. Housing Committee - Dr. Pastron:

   Dr. Pastron reported in general terms since Mr. Klein who has the records of the transactions preceding the signing of the new lease was away on vacation. The auditorium chairs and the air conditioning have been fully amortized and therefore are not being paid for in the new lease; however, the rent has been raised. Dr. Pastron considers the increase to be fair since insurance costs, taxes, etc., have increased and a local realtor stated that comparable space in this area of Beverly Hills is more costly to rent.

   Dr. Pastron further stated that Mr. Klein was not willing to pay for a new air conditioning system, though he was willing to work out arrangements for the amortization if the Society/Institute decided to install new air conditioning, which Dr. Pastron considered too expensive, about $6000, without our retaining interest in it.

   It was decided that Dr. Pastron should look into the cost and feasibility of revamping or replacing the present air conditioning units and also determine whether Mr. Klein will pay for this.

3. Proposed Amendment to the By-Laws of the APA:

   Dr. Leavitt stated that three communications from other societies all urging delay of the mail ballot regarding the proposed amandement (a proposed special category of APA membership for non-medical training analysts) had been sent to the members of the Board and are on file.

   Dr. Rollman-Branch, speaking as Executive Councilor, stated that her main objection to the ballot soon to be mailed to the membership of the American is that it offers inadequate choice and is worded in such a way that it is not possible to distinguish what one is really voting for or against. Even though Dr. Branch has the impression that the ballot will not be sent out before the Mid-Winter Meetings, she feels that the Society/Institute should write a letter to the APA suggesting that further discussion is needed and that the ballot should offer a meaningful choice not just the choice of yes or no.

Dr. Greenson felt that the letter to the American should be written as follows: First, the ballot should be postponed. Second, the ballot should offer three choices: 1) No membership for non-medical training analysts, 2) limited membership for non-medical training analysts, 3) full membership for non-medical training analysts.

Dr. Leavitt stated that he planned to present this matter for discussion at the October 19, 1967, business meeting of the Society/Institute and urged those informed to present their views.

4. Proposal of Dr. Dorn:

Dr. Dorn reviewed two communications, one of which he had prepared for presentation to the Joint Committee two years ago and the other a recent follow up to and amplification of the first; both have been mailed to the Board members and are on file.

The first memo represented "an attempt to up-date thinking and prepare for a new kind of community action." Therefore he proposed the following: "With the combined backing of Society and Institute, ...it may be possible to work for a ...graduate school of high caliber. There are no such existing schools nor is it likely that any of the existing universitites will be able to ...incorporate the chair or department of psychoanalysis and the basic behavioral-science area in our lifetime. This affords us a real opportunity to offer the kinds of courses at both an undergraduate and graduate level that could attract the best of young talent and help them incorporate dynamic psychoanalytic thinking as part of their basic scientific philosophies. Undoubtedly there are many anthropologists, political scientists, sociologists, psychologists, and teachers as well as others who would be attracted by an outstanding curriculum. I feel that it would be worthwhile to make inquiries as to the requirements for incorpoaation in the state of California for a college of this type."

In the second letter Dr. Dorn stated, "The paper on psychoanalytic education I gave before the ...Society/Institute was attended by members of the Southern California ...Society. Their President, Dr. Pomer, later wrote suggesting that study groups representing both societies consider using it to initiate discussion to the topic."

He further stated: "Psychoanalysis continues to turn its back on many areas of the behavioral sciences that clamour after knowledge. It would seem to me that if we are to continue as a source of inspiration, we must break out of the mold that gives the impression that psychoanalysis is a finished and polished psychology and that all the psychoanalytic teachers have to do is practice their therapy and pass on well-known knowledge to students."

"Is it possible that the two psychoanalytic societies could agree on a school with beliefs common to both memberships?" "If this were to be a joint effort of the two societies in Southern California, the task could prove exciting and inspiring ...I ...mention the many rewards for psychoanalysts that would result; postgraduate teachers from related disciplines have much to teach us."

Dr. Greenson stated that he wished to confirm what Dr. Dorn was saying and pointed out that the UCLA Medical Extension Division was organizing a symposium on violence. Dr. Greenson wondered why the Society/Institute was not presenting subjects of this nature.

Dr. Harrison reviewed a discussion that he had with Dr. Wallerstein in regard to the vital community activities of the San Francisco Institute in conjunction with Mt. Zion Hospital; the advantage of a hospital as a focus for psychoanalytic activities was underscored. Dr. Harrison stated that he was astounded at the amount of work psychoanalysts do in the community and the difficulty in having community activities accepted by the Society. He proposed that the Community Education Committee and the Community Activities Committee should be combined into one committee.

Dr. Vatz stated that the Society/Institute is already incorporated as a school in the state of California and that it has the organization and the money, from the Mahon bequest, to carry out a proposal such as Dr. Dorn's.

Dr. Bird pointed out that the Projects Funding Committee had made some recommendations very similar to Dr. Dorn's and had presented them at the last meeting of the Board.

Dr. Leavitt reviewed the status of the Community Activities Committee and the Community Education Committee, indicating that if it became apparent that their functions overlapped a great deal, they could be combined by amending the by-laws; but that for the present, in areas such as those under discussion, they should function in close liaison, meet together, and Drs. Harrison, Dorn, Atkins, and Greenson should join in. Such a joint meeting is already planned.

Dr. Atkins suggested that the Community Education Committee and the Community Activities Committee get together and start working with the other Society with the aim of offering a plan of action to the Society/ Institute by next September.

Motion: Dr. Atkins moved, s/Dr. Greenson, m/c, that the Community Education Committee and the Community Activitees Committee meet jointly and that Dr. Dorn's proposals should be the first item on their agenda.

Motion: Dr. Greenson moved, s/Dr. Rollman-Branch, m/c, that the Community Education Committee and the Community Activities Committee be encouraged, as they see fit, to meet jointly or in liaison with the equivalent committees of the other institute with the aim of joining forces to pursue ideas.

5. Public Information:

Dr. Leavitt pointed out that there is no public information committee or officer.

Motion: Dr. Greenson moved, s/Dr. Vatz, m/c, that the

Secretary of the Society/Institute shall be responsible for public information.

6. New Business:

a. Dr. Leavitt stated that Dr. Abrahams had accepted the Chairmanship of the Community Activities Committee, subject to approval by the Board, which was then moved unanimously.

b. Dr. Leavitt informed the Board members that the permanent Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at UCLA still has not been selected. It was the concensus of the Board that the Society/Institute membership should be so informed and requested to make individual suggestions to the Board of possible people for this job.

c. Dr. Bird stated that one of the candidates will miss two weeks of seminars since it is a requirement of his work for UCLA that he travel; he has asked Dr. Bird whether or not he must pay for those two weeks of classes. It was the concensus of the Board that he should pay, since the charge for courses is by trimester.

d. Dr. Atkins distributed to the Board a copy of a letter that he had received from Dr. Sandler. This letter is on file. At the last meeting of the Board Dr. Atkins had been instructed to pursue the possibility of Dr. Sandler's giving some talks to the Society/Institute. This correspondence is now going on.

e. Dr. Rollman-Branch stated that the one-half-hour business meeting preceding scientific meetings is often not enough. Dr. Leavitt suggested that future business meetings could start at 7:15 p.m. and last until 8:15 p.m. This was approved.

f. Dr. Vatz stated that he had had a phone coversation with Dr. Kligerman regarding the possibility of Dr. Orr becoming a training analyst for the Southern Calfiornia Institute as well as for the Society/Institute. Dr. Vatz wondered whether the decision to accept or reject this idea belonged to the Co-ordinating Council or the board of Directors. It was agreed that such a decision should go first to the full faculty and then to the Board.

g. It was decided that the Board will meet at the Institute from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Maimon Leavitt, M. D.
President

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