

Society of Indian Psychologists Executive Council Meeting Minutes
Special MEETING to discuss documentary and Water Protectors
April 21, 2017

A special conference call with the Executive Council of the Society of Indian Psychologists was held on Friday, April 21, 2017. The meeting convened at approximately 1:30pm (CST).

Members in attendance: Art Blume, Melinda Garcia, Joanna Shadlow, Melissa Teehee, Amanda Blume, Marge Smith, Iva Greywolf, Kee Straits, Gayle Morse.

Agenda items:

President update

Documentary discussion:

Jane would like to have key players represented throughout the production of the documentary. Cost is a huge concern. Discussion was held on whether SIP should insist on having a Native filmmaker.

Main questions of discussion was does SIP want to be involved with the documentary. Gayle Morse reported it would be better to be involved. Consensus was to participate and to also recommend the use of a Native American filmmaker.

Potential collaboration with water protectors:

Discussion surrounded how SIP could be used as a powerful tool to encourage change to the system however individuals can choose or not choose to reach out to water protectors and provide services.

Iva suggested videos online of elders talking about camp etiquette to avoid some of the missteps at Standing Rock in the past.

Gayle suggested it would be important to expand our membership with more Masters' level therapists. There do not seem to be any membership barriers to doing so. Melissa suggested potentially partnering with family therapists, counselors, and social workers.

Kee reflected on that our "word warrior" responses may have been the most effective.

Iva suggested the importance of including the recovery community in serving future camps.

Suggestions were made to have briefing sheets on clinical issues to help caregivers at the camp, written more in lay person language, and brief (one page).

A suggestion of a virtual caregiver support network was made. Brief descriptions of those provide the services with their photos would be used to enhance trust and promote use of the network.

The EC unanimously approved continued discussion on collaboration with the groups Inter-National Initiative for Transformative Collaboration (INITC) and Healing the Waters Within. Permission was granted by the EC to share the call for volunteers by Healing the Waters Within on the broader SIP list serve.

There also seemed to be broad support for SIP working with these groups on issues related to social justice for Native Americans and Native Hawaiians, and especially working toward systemic transformation.

Next conference call is scheduled for April 28th from 1-2pm (CST).

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm (CST).