Lise McCarthy, Chair of the Cognitive and Mental Health Special Interest Group called the meeting to order at 7:04 am. She thanked the group for coming to the meeting and for all their work the past year. The individuals in attendance introduced themselves and told a little about themselves and their interest in this SIG. Lise informed the group that we currently have a folder in the list serve that has a list of articles and resources pertinent to our SIG. Lise prepared a 2015 recap of all the Cognitive and Mental Health SIG activities and accomplishments over the past year. This recap is attached to these minutes for review. Some highlights here:

1. Development of the A club – posted on the list serve and in the GeriNotes for AGPT members regarding assessment skills for PT in the area of cognition specifically the Mini-Cog test and the FAST.
2. Frequent postings on the list serve.
3. Two educational sessions at 2016 CSM
4. NEXT conference – one educational session on functional outcomes
5. Representation at the Dementia Work Group by our SIG (Lise McCarthy)

After that, Lise discussed some upcoming event and future planning for 2016 into 2017. Some of those were:

1. Inclusion in the AGPT calendar for 2017 (missed deadline for the 2016 calendar)
2. Monthly Posts
3. Develop a CEU series for GeriNotes for the later half of 2016 using material from the 2 educational sessions presented at 2016 CSM.
4. Development of Clinical Practice Guidelines for working with Individuals with Cognitive Impairment. Christy Ross and Laura White are heading this project and are still looking for volunteers.
5. SIG developing a White Paper on “PT Management of People with Dementia”.
6. Submission and subsequent development of a pre-conference course on Cognitive Impairment which will include assessment and interventions.

The floor was then opened for discussion and discussed the following:

1. Cognitive and Mental Health SIG Succession of Officers – who will be up for re-election in the coming year. This will be clarified and information given to the nominating committee for recruiting of potential applicants for open positions.
2. Pre-conference planning – since deadline is coming very soon in early March, the whole group did some initial ideas for a pre-conference. Currently, we are thinking a 2 day comprehensive course.
3. Reaching out to the State Liaisons to recruit additional members but also to plan some activities at the state level for getting information out regarding PT’s role in maximizing function for individuals with cognitive impairment.

The meeting ended at 7:55 am.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Grace Knott PT, GCS
Cognitive and Mental Health SIG Secretary
We had a very successful 2015 and here is the brief recap of our efforts for 2015:

2. Regular monthly posts of links to CMH resource information on Geriatricspt.org. Lead Contributor: Jan Bays.
6. Dementia Measure Work Group: Submitted “Pain Assessment and Follow-Up Measure” along with recommendation for language modification to be more inclusive (e.g. involve caregivers), and additional safety measures (e.g. safe sex). Contributor: Lise McCarthy.

The 2016 works in progress and projects to be completed this year:

2. NEXT Presentation: Functional Outcomes in Individuals With Cognitive or Mental Health Impairments. Presenters: Michele Stanley and Danille Parker.
4. Continuation of monthly CMH resource posts to geriatricspt listserv.
5. Organize and update webpage with new works and publications.
6. Finalization of Update on Dementia Work Group Measures.
8. November CEU GeriNote Edition: 5-6 articles for CEUs.

The AGPT Board of Directors have posed the following questions to us; our initial report is due early May 2016:

1. What aspects of cognitive and mental health should be in the PT exam?
2. What residency/fellowship cognitive and mental health items should be established?
3. What cognitive and mental health aging in place items should be established?
4. What entry level cases showcase the PT’s role in managing the care of people with cognitive and mental health issues?
5. Can we put together a power point presentation for the community and PT/PTA schools?

We are considering developing several projects this year or next year:

1. Dementia/Cognitive/Geri Edge task force to develop clinical guidelines.
2. White Paper on the Physical Therapist’s Management of Pain in People with Dementia. Workshop (e.g. dementia continuing education – teaching cog assessments, measurable goal writing that includes modifiers 2/2 cog dysfunction, common PT diagnoses that frequently have a component of MCI and how to screen for it, adjust programs to improve functional outcomes, and reduce anxiety and stress.)
3. Starting a Neurodegenerative Disease Fellowship.
4. Powerpoint for the PT/PTA schools.
5. Collaboration with other SIGs for GeriNotes articles (e.g. outcome measures, post-surgery guidelines).

We are laying good foundations. Much of what we did in 2015 will need to be repeated in different ways this year so we reach more people. We will build on what we have done as we complete 2016 and prepare for 2017.

Many, many thanks for sharing your interests, ideas and talents with us! If you are interested in helping us, please let us know! If you like what we are doing you can show your support by signing up and becoming a CMH SIG member at www.geriatricspt.org.