

Child Psychoanalysis Committee Meeting

Minutes June 1, 2021

Present: Julie, Co-chair; Flaviane Ferreira, Denise Fort, Ann de Lancey, Diane Grise, Kathryn McCormick, David Shaner, Kimberly McKittrick.

(Absent: Don Schimmel, Sheri Butler, Ken King, Stan Case, Taryn Beard, Ellika McGuire, Janelle Eckhardt, Gina Balli)

1. No formal minutes for Feb, April meetings – At those meetings discussions addressed admissions process for child candidates, planning fun activities, addressing creative ideas for curriculum, and making time to connect as a child analysis community.
2. Creative thinking about curriculum
 - a. Curriculum Committee will plan a focus group for 2022-23 planning in a half day curriculum retreat format. Want child analysts in process.
 - b. Integrating contemporary writings on impact of pandemic on child development.
3. Child gathering – Denise will host a gathering of the child analysis community late summer, early fall. Don volunteered to help coordinate.
4. Reflections on the year: Rough, tired, exhausted; impact of social unrest, politics, racial injustice, Black lives matter, and violence toward Asians; pandemic impact ranged from “enjoyed it” to major loss and trauma, awareness of impact not seen or felt yet, awareness of impact over time on us and patients. We need conversations about peoples’ comings and goings, desire an institute culture of conversation and collaboration, attending to group dynamics; fostering a containing learning community, regular structure and support for the “first year of (analytic) life”. While it’s been difficult, we are doing it! Persistence, hanging in there with each other and with patients, kids and parents hanging in there when its rough, SPSI teachers and consultants hanging in there with CA’s.
5. How we might want to be together in the coming year: Make space to attend to group process in child didactics, impact of pandemic on clinical experience, include contemporary developmental research as it emerges on impact of pandemic on child development. Study group with books, articles, cases, a place to focus on countertransference, format in consecutive weeks so it’s a closed committed group, then reset for new topics, alternate months format, in alternate months of committee meeting. We need to Play! Dance parties, play time, bring toys, share games, art therapy, improve group, re-energizing
6. Committee members affirmed the value of continuing to meet.
7. Next scheduled meetings:
 - a. 2021: October 5, December 7.
 - b. 2022: February 1, April 5, June 7.