MiOTA, Southwest Chapter Meeting 9/15/15 Summary:

Attendance of 27 at the Rider-Sammons Residence.

The meeting started with 30 minutes of networking and dinner, then:

1. Denise Hoffman, MiOTA’s Advocacy Director, shared updates.
   1. MiOTA was able to comment on the ABA Bill, to express their concerns on areas such as credentialing, adequate supervision standards, and scope of practice. Some changes were made based on these comments. The OTs made an important connection with State Senator Margaret O’Brien who expressed her support and was very helpful in educating them in how to be more effective in future advocacy efforts. Check the MiOTA website for updates. Questions or to volunteer to help, contact Denise: [dhoffmanot@gmail.com](mailto:dhoffmanot@gmail.com) or Holly [hmauk@mhsa.com](mailto:hmauk@mhsa.com) .)
   2. Lt Governor Calley is sponsoring focus groups on special education. In the next few months, there should be more opportunities for OTs to participate.
   3. There is an opportunity to respond to a document about essential health benefits and the Benchmark Plan for Michigan. Refer to the email sent out Tuesday afternoon (9/15/15), use the links in the attachment. In Colorado, it was discovered that services for habilitative care that were being denied were actually covered benefits.
2. Remember the Michigan Occupational Therapy annual conference coming up. Deb Lindstrom is looking for donations for the Michigan OT PAC silent auction. Contact Deb at [debra.lindstrom@wmich.edu](mailto:debra.lindstrom@wmich.edu). The Changing Colors, MiOTA Annual Conference 2015, October 12-13, 2015, Grand Traverse Resort, Acme, MI – more information on the MiOTA website.
3. Ed Kehoe, Tai Chi and Qi Gong instructor, gave a very entertaining and informative presentation. Both Tai Chi and Qi Gong provide excellent mental and physical health benefits. Interested in more information: P.O. Box 123, Nazareth, MI 49074-0123; phone: 269-217-2932; email: [ejkehoe@netzero.net](mailto:ejkehoe@netzero.net); [www.kehoesmartialarts.com](http://www.kehoesmartialarts.com), youtube channel: Kehoe’s martial arts.
4. Michigan Occupational Therapy website: [www.miota.org](http://www.miota.org)

Attendees of the meeting on 9/15/15 will be sent a CEU certificate via email soon. Thanks to Dr. Atchison and the Western Michigan University OT Department for providing these.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine