



BIO & CONSENT FORM

Instructions to the Candidate: Please complete the following information regarding your candidacy. The information provided on this form will appear on the APTA Alaska Website. Please submit a headshot as well.

1. Name: **Meera Parekh**
3. APTA Member Since: **2011** AK Chapter Member Since: **2016**
4. Office Consenting to Serve: **Secretary**
5. Education: **BS – Clemson University, Language and International Health. DPT – Duke University. Orthopaedic Residency – Northwestern University + Shirley Ryan Ability Lab (Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago).**
6. Current Employment Position(s): **Southcentral Foundation – Outpatient Physical Therapist, CCCE**
7. Past APTA Leadership/Service Experience (Chapter level, APTA or other): **APTA Alaska – Secretary, 2020-21.**
8. Candidate Statement (please limit to ½ page):
I have served as our Chapter Secretary for the last two years. As Secretary, I worked to revise the APTA Alaska Bylaws with our Bylaws Committee. Our goal was to make sure that the Bylaws are in agreement with APTA's Bylaws as well as to make sure all roles and courses of action are well-defined within the Bylaws. Member feedback and engagement is very important to me. The engagement aspect has been especially challenging during this pandemic but my priority has been to increase member involvement and participation at both local and state levels. I have driven the development of programs such as the Alaska Regions to increase involvement at a local level and most recently an activity challenge to involve PTs across the State. The Board has also been working to increase PTA engagement and opportunities for leadership. If I am elected, I hope to continue to find ways to best serve our members in ways they value their membership with APTA Alaska.

QUESTIONS:

1. What talents/attributes do you possess that will contribute to your service on the Chapter Board or Directors?
I enjoy working as a part of a team and try to draw on the strengths of my team members when collaborating. I take on a role of trying to figure out ways to drive projects and new ideas. I value prompt and succinct communication. I like to be creative and incorporate my team members' input when working on my own projects. I am passionate in promoting the field of physical therapy and elevating our profession.
2. As a member of the Chapter Board of Directors, you will collaborate with other Board Members. What talents and experiences will you draw upon to enable you to be a successful team member?
During my time as Secretary, I have had the wonderful opportunity to collaborate with and learn from my fellow board members. It was valuable to have both seasoned and up-and-coming leaders to look up to. I am flexible and enjoy working on new challenges. Revising the Bylaws was a challenge as a new board member who was generally unfamiliar this process but I was able to collaborate with my team to revise the Bylaws into a more useful tool for our members.
3. Please share one fact that most members may not know about you.

I'm getting married next year to a fellow APTA Member!

CONSENT

I, **INSERT NAME**, consent to run for the office of **INSERT OFFICE**, and, if elected, conduct the duties of that office as described in the APTA Alaska bylaws.

SIGNED: _____ Meera Parekh _____

Electronic Signatures Accepted