



Virtual Board of Directors Meeting

May 5, 2020

Zoom Meeting

Present: Jay E. Rothkopf, MD, Board Chair; Stanley Askin, MD; Sherry Blumenthal, MD; Charles Cutler, MD; George Green, MD; Walter Klein, MD; Mark Lopatin, MD; Jennifer Lorine, DO; Scott Shapiro, MD; Steve Shapiro, MD; Mark Pyfer, MD; James Thomas, MD; Martin Trichtinger, MD.

Guests: Loice Swisher, MD, FAAEM; Richard S. Eisenstaedt, MD, MACP

Staff: Michele Boylstein, Executive Director; Brendan Leahy, Deputy Executive Director.

Actions:

- 5/5/20 – 1 Meeting called to order by Dr. Rothkopf at 6:03 pm.
- 5/5/20 – 2 Motion to approve the Consent Calendar was seconded and approved without objection.
- 5/5/20 – 3 Motion to approve a reduction of 20% in membership dues for full rate members was seconded and approved.
- 5/5/20 – 4 Meeting was adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Areas of Discussion:

- *Member Survey Results on COVID-19 Conference calls - MCMS staff sent out a member survey asking members if there is interest in running bi-weekly conference for members to be updated on COVID-19 issues in Montgomery County from county officials. The results of the survey showed members are interested so this was presented to the board. Cost quoted for bi-weekly calls, which was estimated out to December 1st, was \$1,500. Discussion took place among the board. Most feel this is good visibility for MCMS but could be redundant. Dr. Rothkopf will discuss with the Executive Director further and convene with the Executive Committee later this month. Ideas from that meeting will be shared with the board.*

- *MCMS sent a letter to the building owners/landlord of the office in King of Prussia, with our intent not to renew the lease in January. The Board Chair felt early notice was the best route and will keep the board posted as any new information evolves.*
- *President's Report – The Healing the Healer Symposium was canceled due to COVID-19. We hope that we can do a live event in the fall and that it not be a virtual meeting. Speakers are available for a Nov 7th rescheduled date. The Planning committee and staff will continue to monitor the situation.*
- *Statement of Financial Activity – We didn't lose as much as anticipated from COVID-19 crisis. The investments are diversified with bonds that cushioned a majority of our losses.*
- *Scott Shapiro provided an update to the board on a project he has been working on – related to COVID-19. He was able to get MAKO (lab in the south) to tentatively commit to PCR based COVID tests for PA. He will provide more information to the MCMS Board Chair when it becomes available but the goal is to share these tests with physicians for their patients in an effort to help in reopening their practices (when restrictions are lifted) after experiencing COVID-19 closures.*
- *Membership Report – This is a re-licensure year for physicians. Promoting the benefits of receiving CMEs (opioid and child abuse modules) through MCMS will be a great membership incentive. Everyone should investigate ways to help recruit more members to the medical society. The group agreed that promoting this to non-members will help in recruitment. It will also be promoted in the magazine.*

Discussion took place on membership rates. A member recommended reducing the membership rates for the county just for the 2021 year due to the COVID-19 pandemic being a hardship for physicians. Motion made and approved.

- *Legislative Dinner – The Legislative Dinner that was to be held on May 19, 2020 was postponed due to COVID-19. It will be hard to socially distance, but the board agreed to review and propose possible dates when restrictions are lifted, and businesses are opened up again in the counties.*
- *Annual Dinner Meeting – discussion took place on how a virtual meeting may look since we may not be able to hold a dinner meeting on June 16th. Suggestions on speakers were given and promoting the event to membership to attend were given. It was determined that honoring awardees at this event would be hard in a virtual setting. Suggestions on delivering 50-year recipients in person and mailing 10 and 25 awardees their certificated with a nice note were given. Possibility of inviting awardees to the holiday dinner in December was also a suggestion.*
- *Legislative Update – The outcome of the House of Delegates PAMED Annual Meeting will take place tomorrow in the PAMED board meeting. It most likely will go virtual instead of being an in-person meeting due to the concerns of a surge of COVID-19 in the fall.*

Marty Trichtinger discussed the advocacy efforts related to COVID-19. Current concerns are medical liability and retired physicians' issues. Many of the states around PA have created immunity for COVID-19 related activities. PAMED is asking all members to contact the Governor and their legislators to support the immunity. MCMS will also place information in the Pulse on these legislative priorities for members.