

Maine Medical Association

Meeting Minutes March 2, 2011

Executive Committee

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Member	10-20	12-8	1-23	3-2					Member	10-20	12-8	1-23	3-2				
N. Cummings, MD, Ch	P	P	P	P					K. Mitchell, MD								
D. McDermott, MD	P	P	P	CC					M. Parker, MD	P	P	P	CC				
J. Linder, MD	P	P		P					C. Pattavina			P					
R. Chagrasulis, MD		P	P						B. Pierce, MD	P	P	P	CC				
J. Charity, MD	P	CC		P					C. Reddy, MD	Web	CC		P				
W. Chernin, MD		CC							L. Ryan, DO			P					
K. Christian, MD	P	CC	P	P					J. Smith, MD								
I. Daudi, MD		P	P	P					W. Strassberg, MD				P				
R. DeJong, MD		P															
R. Evans, MD	Web	CC		CC					STAFF								
K. Flanigan, MD		P		P					J. Barnard	P	P	P	P				
R. Flowerdew, MD		P	P	P					H. Lukas	P	P	P	P				
M. Gleaton, MD	P	P	P	P					A. MacLean	P		P	P				
D. Hallbert, MD									D. McMahon		P	P	P				
P. Klainer, MD	Web			P					G. Smith	P	P	P	P				
D. Kreckel, MD		P	P	P													
J. Makin, Jr., MD	P	P		P					GUESTS:								
M. McAllister, MD	P	P	P	CC					Gardiner Harris								
B. Miller, MD		P	P	P					Kristin Murray-James, CNW								

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Call To Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Called to order at 2:00 pm by Chair Kenneth Christian, MD 	
2. Review of Minutes of January 21-23, 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The minutes of the meeting were reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of January 21-23, 2011. 	The minutes of January 21-23, 2011 were approved.
3. Introduction of guests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gardiner Harris, New York Times Science Reporter and Kristin Murray-James, CNM 2nd year law student interning at MMA were introduced. Members introduced themselves. 	
4. Approval of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda was approved as presented. 	Motion was approved to accept agenda as prepared.
5. Report of Operations Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Christian reviewed the Operations Committee Call minutes of February 28, 2011. 	
6. Report of Chief Operating Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. MacLean shared his new concept for the MMA weekly staff meetings. It is a <i>Huddle</i> (originated from a consultant group with attendees standing around a circle). This concept is intended to optimize communications, team work and increase productivity by focusing on priority topics and a shorter meeting time. Mr. MacLean will be meeting with each MMA staff member in his new role. His current role with the MPHP is consuming a fair amount of time. 	

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
7. Membership Report a. Membership numbers b. Report on any new group memberships	MMA membership continues to grow as reflected in the report. • No report at this time as Mr. Smith was not available until 3:00 pm.	
8. Finance Report a. February financials b. Budget Committee meeting	• Dr. Flanigan reported that the financials are tracking very close to budget. The goal is to create a more effective use of MMA reserves. • The Budget Committee will meet in the Small Conference Room following the Executive Committee.	Ms. Lukas will be designing a more efficient way to monitor the programs that MMA is currently managing.
9. Priority Topics for Discussion a. Bylaws Draft 2011	• The Bylaws Draft for 2011 organized by Dr. McDermott was presented for discussion. A discussion followed. The following were the changes noted during the discussion. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 4.1: eliminate registered. ➤ 5.5: reword to eliminate registered. ➤ 7.3.3: select, appoint, and evaluate EVP, not just appoint. Get to hire concept. ➤ 9.4.9.2.6: Dr. Klainer to provide input on. ➤ Limit numbers of members on some committees. Check with Dr. Chagrasulis on the MPHP and other members may e-mail specific suggestions to Dr. McDermott. ➤ Add in subsection 9.4.4.2.6 a line that the CPQ will address concerns regarding ethics and professionalism. More wordsmithing to be done on this section. ➤ Define quorums: suggest language that you have "those present" at regular committee meetings, 50% +1 at EC, ? for Board. Must be defined or falls to majority. Check with staff attorneys for customary language. 	Dr. McDermott was recognized for his diligent efforts in the restructured draft bylaws.
b. Legislative priorities	• Mr. MacLean presented Legislative priorities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LD 612 "An Act to Provide Reimbursement for Medication Therapy Management Services" was presented for feedback. The general consensus recognized that pharmacists do give good advice although members felt the bill is outside the pharmacists' current scope of practice. • Mr. MacLean reviewed an excerpt from the Weekly Update on the Biennial Budget, noting the bulleted items on how the budget is suppose to be balanced. Noted items were: employees' pension plans, welfare involving five different budget areas and a redistribution of funds in the Fund for a Healthy Maine. • Mr. MacLean presented the Tracking Sheet of LD's. His recommendation was to review this list of bills, and to specifically note the many bills of high concern where legislators are trying to legislate and regulate the practice of medicine. He noted the monetary issues from a reimbursement standpoint are good including payments past due to hospitals. • Kristin Murray-James, CNM is following LD 443; An Act to Require Prompt MaineCare Decisions on Care for Children with Life-threatening Conditions which MMA is supporting.	MMA to oppose this bill. Participation in Weekly Legislative Committee Conference Calls have been excellent. Executive Committee members were encouraged to participate on the call on Tuesday evenings at 8 pm. The Superintendent of Insurance will be present for the next Legislative Meeting on March 15 (face to face meeting) to address health care reform and insurance issues.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>The Executive Committee Survey was distributed relative to the issues of importance at the Legislature this session. Members were encouraged to complete the survey</p>	<p>The completed survey should be returned to Ms. McMahon via fax 622-3332.</p>
<p>c. Invitation to join Healthcare for Maine Coalition</p>	<p>The member organizations of Health Care for Maine (HC4ME) have invited MMA to join its Steering Committee. This organization is not staffed or incorporated. Its goal is to advance the opportunity for every person in Maine to have high quality health care at a cost that is affordable. Their principles are very similar to the principles of MMA. There is no cost to join other than staff time involved in the monthly steering committee meetings. Mr. Smith would like to be involved in the Steering Committee and would be willing to resign from one or more other boards in order to free up time to do so. A motion was made to authorize management to participate as requested.</p>	<p>The motion was seconded and approved.</p>
<p>10. Leadership Reports</p>		
<p>a. Dr. Linder</p>		
<p>1. AMA President's Forum & National Advocacy Conference Feb., 2011</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Linder reported on a successful AMA President's Forum and National Advocacy Conference and noted that Mr. Smith spoke at the President's Forum. The hill visits with the entire Congressional Delegation of Collins, Snowe, Michaud and Pingree were remarkably successful. Senators Snowe and Collins were recognized for their collective interest in the same issues as MMA. AMA folders from the conference were available for all committee members. The AMA Foundation Excellence in Medicine Awards were also presented to medical students and residents. The Nathan Davis Awards were also presented. 	
<p>2. Annual Session 2011</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Linder noted that the planning for the Annual Session CME program is going well and is ahead of schedule. The theme for 2011 is Innovation. The Friday program will again be held at Jackson Laboratories beginning with the new CEO at Jackson Labs. Tours will be given by researchers to allow for a more interactive approach. Saturday CME will be held at the Harborside with the focus on Innovations using Technology starting with Randy Darby, MD as the keynote speaker. Dr. Letourneau will lead a panel on EMR and "meaningful use" on Saturday. This topic should be practical for all physicians. The Sunday morning program will focus on Physician wellness. The Executive Committee will meet on Friday from 10 am to 12 noon followed by lunch. A silent auction will also be held again this year on Saturday evening. The 50-year pin recipients will be awarded their pins at the breakfast event on Saturday morning during the General Membership meeting. The 50 year pin recipients will also be recognized at the Annual Banquet on Saturday evening. 	
<p>2. Physician re-entry program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Linder referred to the attached article addressing the issue of organizations aiming to assist inactive Physicians wishing to practice again. This would allow a pool of physicians to return to service to staff volunteer clinics and to help relieve the physician shortage. A link for more information http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/40/physician-reentry-recommendations.pdf 	
<p>b. President-elect; Dr. Cummings</p>		
<p>1. Location of President's Retreat</p>	<p>Dr. Cummings noted after receiving notification via e-mail this afternoon Sunday River has been able open up the Grand Jordan Hotel for the 2012 Retreat. (Our regular weekend January 20-22, 2012).</p>	

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
for 2012		
c. Chair, Dr. Christian	Previously noted in 5 above.	
11. Committee, section or AMA delegation reports requiring discussion		
a. Legislative Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previously discussed in 9b. 	
b. Public Health Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While Ms. Barnard is on maternity leave, Mariah Gleaton will work with the Public Health Committee for 6 hours a week. 	
c. Senior Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Miller reported that the Senior Section will meet next on April 27. The topic will be changes in medical education for medical students. Dr. Linder and Robert Trowbridge, MD will be the speakers. 	
d. Membership & Member Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Pierce inquired of Mr. Smith the status of speakers for the Corporate Affiliate breakfast on April 14. Mr. Smith reported that he will confirm if Bill Green of Bill Green's Maine (WCSH television) will be the speaker. Two backup speakers are available if Bill Green is not. 	
e. Committee on Technology and Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Klainer noted that the committee has not met recently. Dr. Klainer reviewed the 4-year State Strategic HIT plan. In year two of the plan the major question is sustainability, although it is the most successful one in the country. 1,000 physicians have signed up thru the Regional Extension Center for the project. Mr. Smith expressed his concern about the bills that could be stumbling blocks for mental health and confidentiality issues. Dr. Klainer noted that HealthInfoNet is fully encrypted. Dr. Flowerdew recommended that MMA put a lot of effort into making this work. 	
1. Website redesign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No decision yet made on a vendor for the website redesign. There are currently four proposals being considered. 	
f. AMA Delegation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The delegation noted the most recent update was that of the National Advocacy Conference as noted under Dr. Linder's report. The physician re-entry program is a good program supported by the AMA that needs to get promoted. The New England Delegation's spring meeting will be at the Harraseeket at the end of April. (April 30) The CMS ruling that was suppose to go into effect January 1, 2010 requiring physicians to sign off on all laboratory slips – has now been extended to an implementation date out 6 months – CMS will issue a intermittent rule on this delay. It should be completely rescinded. Medical Liability Reform was endorsed at the House of Delegates and is supported by the AMA. MMA has successfully received adequate membership to retain 2 AMA Delegates and 2 Alternate Delegates. 	Continue to have second alternate slot occupied by MMA President each year.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<p>12. EVP Report</p> <p>a. First Friday's Educational Presentations</p> <p>b. 20th Annual Practice Education Forum May 18 at Augusta Civic Center</p> <p>c. Annual Corporate Affiliate Breakfast</p> <p>d. MMA opinion sought by DEAPA (Downeast Association of Physician Assistants)</p> <p>e. Reorganization of MPH Committee</p> <p>f. Maine Rx Card</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first Friday's on March 4 is "Human Resources in the Medical Practice". It is expected to be a good program and has good attendance both in person and via webex. The remaining programs for the year are on the back of the form. These programs continue to be a positive income source for MMA. • Notice of program attached. • Noted previously in 11 d. The event this year was unable to be scheduled on the same day as the Executive Committee meeting, thus it is scheduled on Thursday, April 14 at the Portland Country Club in Falmouth. • As explained by Mr. Smith, DEAPA has asked for MMA guidance on some issues. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Board of Licensure in Medicine is potentially changing its Chapter 2 rules for supervising PA's. The proposal is to not allow PA's to employ a physician as their supervising physician. The role of the Board is to make proper supervision and not to micromanage. Mr. Smith noted it should be about transparency and disclosure. If this rule is imposed, a few practices would have to close. 2. Mandatory participation in the Prescription Monitoring Program. MMA is scheduled to testify on this proposed bill and would recommended to put the date as far off as possible and have a waiver for those without internet access. This bill is currently in the Budget Committee and should be in the Health Committee. 3. The requirement of completion of Juris Prudence Exam prior to license renewal for PA's. This requirement is to have an open book exam every four years. It was agreed this is an important issue that will need more discussion, for both PA's and physicians. • Letter attached noting Dr. Graham's reorganizing the terms of committee members to incorporate representation of the seven different disciplines in the MPHP. This being a first step toward the Committee transitioning in the new few years. • Mr. Smith noted the Maine Rx Card information. 	<p>The group agreed to let normal process take its course.</p> <p>MMA should show concern and support mandated use in concept as it long as we can be successful in avoiding interference with the details of practice.</p> <p>Tabled to the April 13 meeting. Should be a priority topic at the meeting, if possible.</p> <p>This topic will be taken to the Member & Membership Benefits Committee on April 14.</p>
<p>13. Legislative Update</p> <p>a. Tracking Sheet</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. MacLean discussed previously under 9b. 	
<p>14. Old Business</p>		
<p>15. Review meeting; identify items for next meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not referenced 	

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
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16. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm

Submitted by Diane McMahon

Minutes authenticated by Kenneth Christian, MD

NEXT MEETING: APRIL 13, 2011

2:00 PM at THE MAINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

**NOTE: LONG TERM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MEETS AT
PORTLAND COUNTRY CLUB
FOLLOWING THE MEETING**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
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TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
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