MAINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION - PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
June 12, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: Co-Chair, Daniel Oppenheim, MD, Co-Chair, Lani Graham, MD, Jim Maier, MD, Larry Mutty, MD, Carol Eckert, MD (phone)

OTHERS PRESENT: Leah Postman, DVM, Jane Moore, JD, Staff: Jessa Barnard, Andrew MacLean

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/FOLLOWUP/RESULTS
Welcome & Introductions	Introductions were made around the room and on the phone.	
Review of April 2013 Meeting Minutes	Members reviewed the minutes. Motion made to approve April 2013 minutes as written.	**Minutes were accepted.**
Guests & Priority Topics		
1. Legislative Update	Ms. Barnard and Mr. MacLean gave updates on various legislative proposals of interest to the PHC, including: • LD 1066, Medicaid expansion: today bill was debated and voted in the House 97-51 but needed 101 votes to be veto-proof. So, still trying to find enough votes to sway final outcome. • LD 754, Vaccination ingredient bill – died between houses • LD 1240 & other gun control bills – LD 1240 is Mark Dion's bill, with most momentum to pass; moving to floor of House and Senate; includes study of blue paper; still time to contact House & Senate members – just tabled on the floor of the House today • LD 1160, Physical activity in schools – in conference committee, weakened to have 30 min on average of	**Ms. Barnard to send action alert on LD 1240 to PCH members and to all MMA members in e-newsletter**

	activity vs require every day and took out food aspects – still ok bill but not going to fight for it • LD 1181, Reforms to Kids Safe Product Act – very important bill, extends Kids Safe Product Act to all ages – expect it may be vetoed but Alliance for a Clean & Healthy Maine has plan for responding and carrying forward even if vetoed • Dr. Maier provided update on Federal Chemical Policy Reform – Chemical Safety Improvement Act of 2013 (CSIA) recently introduced by bipartisian group – see Mike Belliveau's chart comparing Safe Chemicals Act (Lautenberg bill) and TSCA to CSIA – better than TSCA but not ideal; Alliance for a Clean & Healthy Maine position is to stay involved and try to improve; does have important cosponsors – may actually have momentum to work forward • LD 825, Climate Change – bill has been modified to put work group in Department of Agriculture & Conservation to work to implement recommendations of climate change adaptation report; has passed both houses • Tobacco bills: LD 468, Smoking on college campuses (vetoed); LD 368, restoration of MaineCare smoking cessation benefit (doing well – on appropriations table but not a huge fiscal note – has a lot of support)	**Ms. Barnard to include action alert on LD 1181 for all MMA members in e-newsletter** **Ms. Barnard to circulate Mr. Belliveau chart comparing bills with minutes of meeting**
2. Topics for Resolutions for MMA Annual Membership Meeting	The group discussed possible resolution topics for the MMA Annual Membership Meeting October 5th. Topics included: • Tar Sands: members interested in continuing to pursue this topic now that the MMA Board of Directors has	**Ms. Barnard to discuss strategy with Mr. Smith; consider Dr. Laura Jett for being the sponsor**

	tabled it. • Dr. Maier: consider domestic violence & preemptive confiscation of weapons; in 2001 MMA passed resolution regarding confiscating weapons during period of protection from abuse order, had bill to propose to do this but it did not pass • Dr. Postman: consider something to address domestic violence & animal abuse connection; currently animal abuse concerns reported to animal control – and response is very varied; about 3 states do require reporting of animal abuse by veterinarians; there is state veterinarian who oversees animal control officers but they are generally very decentralized • Evidence based information: all agree to rework Dr. Graham's resolution from last year but reframe to address having an evidence basis for policy makers rather than MMA resolutions • Members suggested a resolution to address partisanship	**Ms. Barnard to talk to Julia Culpits about suggestions – what does she have on table for intersection between DV & firearms; Dr. Maier may help with resolution** **Ms. Barnard to redraft resolution** **Anyone interested in bringing forward a resolution should have an outline or draft by Aug meeting**
Old Business and Brief Updates **1. Update/Next Steps on Domestic Violence Linkage Project**	Dr. Postman reminded the group of the history of the project and how the current home is out of money and does not have time to continue to support. Dr. Postman and Ms. More have a lot of energy to continue the work. They would like to see	**Ms. Barnard to help facilitate conversation between Dr. Postman and the MMET regarding fiscal sponsorship. Dr. Postman to**

	the awareness among veterinarians and health professionals raised that animal welfare issues intersect with family violence. They are working long term to find an administrative home such as UMaine Orono or the Muski School. In the meantime, they are applying for seed funding from Jane's Trust out of Boston. They have begun conversations with Ms. Barnard about whether the Maine Medical Education Trust could be the fiscal sponsor for the grant since they do not yet have 501(c)(3) status. Members all in consensus that the project is worthy of support and the should continue to pursue with MMET. Members also suggested other avenues to pursue, including a Maine Watch interview.	**continue attempts to reach Julie Culpits at MeCEDV to discuss.**
2. Updates from MeCDC	Dr. Sears not able to attend meeting	
3. Physician Wellness	No updates	
New Business		
1. Board taking positions on issues considered by PHC	Members briefly discussed the best course of action when the MMA Board of Directors is considering taking a position on a proposed course of action suggested by the Committee (e.g. tar sands or resolutions presented at annual session).	**Members request that whenever the MMA BOD is considering a PHC suggested position, a co-chair of the Committee is invited to discuss and share information**
2. New Public Health Issues on the	None discussed	

Horizon		
3. Upcoming Events & Announcements	• MMA Annual Session, Fri, Oct 4 – Sun, Oct 6, Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland • MMA Annual Membership Meeting, Sat, Oct 5, 7:30-11:30 am • October 15th PSR Event with Senator King: contact Dr. Oppenheim for more information	
Next Meetings: August 14th, October 9th, December 11th, 4-6 pm, MMA Offices or by phone		**Meeting Adjourned**