

MEAPA BOD Minutes
March 14th, 2024, 6:00-7:30 pm by ZOOM
and in person at CMMC 12 High Street, Lower-Level, Conference Room I

6:02 Meeting called to order December Minutes Review/Approval.

- Attendance:
 - Kimberly Caldwell – yes
 - Kathleen Moneghan – yes
 - Rhianna Flanagan – yes
 - Robert Rousseau – yes
 - Stephen Arnold – no
 - Erin Muthig – yes
 - Stephanie Podolski – no
 - Angela Leclerc – no
 - Chris Bates-Withers – no
 - Tim Grace – yes
 - Laura Harper - yes
 - Rebecca Koerting – yes
 - Lydia Caron – yes
 - Elias Pasquerillo – yes
- Move to accept minutes from last meeting - No objection, minutes approved.

6:05 - 2024-2025 BOD Nominations -Kim

- Need letter of intent and CV ASAP - between April 1 and May 1 the nominating committee will need to review

6:06 Legislative Update

- PA Compact Kim/Kathleen/Laura
 - Received favorable report out of Committee meeting
 - From the Financial Office - could require funding from state's general fund or it could pull from Board of Licensure for any expenses (more favorable - would pass without much effort needed)
 - Laura does not expect any push-back and expect this to easily pass if the fiscal note is favorable
- Licensure Board Appointments -Kim
 - Vacancies on Osteopathic and Medical Licensure Boards
 - Have had conversations with numerous potential candidates
 - It is known that there are applicants but we are unaware of who has applied and these may sit idly for over a year
 - Ideally we would have a more vocal advocate representing PAs
 - Melissa Michaud stated there was no conflict of interest in a MEAPA Board member applying.

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- This warrants verification and investigation to see if any BOD members are licensed by the Osteopathic Board.
- Doubt BOLIM would allow MEAPA BOD member to sit on their Board.
- There was discussion on writing on generic letter to the Governor encouraging to appoint someone
 - Kathleen motions to move forward with a letter to the Governor encouraging to fill vacancies on their boards
 - Tim seconds
 - Motion passes
 - Will offer MEAPA support in the selection process
- Provider of the Day -Rob/Kim/Laura
 - Rob is doing next Wednesday
 - Will need someone to fill in next Thursday, March 21st - Rob/Kim looking into this
 - Tiffany Eisenhower will do April 8th - and possibly April 9th and April 12th
 - Need help April 10th and 11th
 - Use Google spreadsheet to sign up
- Cloutier Campaign Contribution?
 - Representative Cloutier now running for Speaker of the House
 - She is sponsor of PA Compact Bill
 - Asking for contribution for campaign - approx \$400 (under \$500)
 - After session closes, MEAPA would be able to contribute as there is a restriction when in session
 - Any objection to MEAPA contributing to an individual's campaign fund? Points brought up:
 - Where does it get us, where does it lead us?
 - Does it alienate other constituents?
 - Do other medical boards support campaigns?
 - MMA has Political Action Committee
 - Unsure if NP Association has donated to any campaigns
 - If we can say why we are supporting her, if and when we do donate, that would be more favorable
 - Recommendation to develop policy on weighing in on these decisions in the future as it may continue to happen to more legislative-forward MEAPA becomes
 - Next speaker gets elected in December. We would donate over the summer.

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- We will circle back with a draft policy for revision to be approved by the current board and brought forward in October to have membership involved and vote on the policy.
- Title Change- Organization and State change, planning.
 - Reminder: Refer to yourself as “PA” not “Physician Assistant” for MEAPA “Maine Association of PAs”
 - Oregon first state to pass this at a state level
 - Propose to change organization name at the Member Meeting in October
 - HOD and at upcoming AAPA conference will assess how other states are dealing with this potential change

7:00 Education Committee Update - Kathleen

- Bar Harbor, Harborside Hotel & Marina, October 2-4th, 2024.
- Registration is now open! Early bird discount ends July 1st
- Search for speakers/exhibitors.
 - Have have a lot of external interest from social media posts
 - About one third of last year’s speakers are interested in speaking again
 - Send any potential speakers to MEAPA.education@gmail.com
 - Kathleen and Rebecca working on speakers this year
 - Chris is working on workshops
 - Rhianna and Kim working on exhibitors
- Where do we want to be in 2025?
 - Heard from membership last year that Harborside was expensive and Bar Harbor was more difficult to travel to, considered changing location to somewhere else for 2025
 - Will plan to send out poll to membership to see where people are interested in going

7:10 Financial Update- Kim

- Committee chairs, submit budgetary requests for 2024 - 2025 by May 1st, 2024.
- All funds are now at Bangor Savings
- \$442 remaining balance from AAPA - the rest spent on Moose Ridge
- Investing in short term investments like CD’s, high interest savings account
 - Need to do review based on current rates - the 7 month CD has the best rate right now
 - Use less than 40% operationally throughout the year
 - Consensus vote to move forward with placing \$40,000 into a 7 month CD account. Kim and Stephen to look into options.

7:19 Board Representation at AAPA Conferences in 2024-Kim

- AAPA, Houston, TX May 18-22nd 2024

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- Encouraged board members to attend annually
- AAPA Leadership and Advocacy Summit (LAS), Washington DC, September 12-14
 - Expand investment in board members attendance
- Executive Leadership Conference (missed 2024, but February 2025)
 - In bylaw re-write, would fund attendance to this like we do LAS and AAPA
 - Can poll board members in July/August and make room in the budget to send those interested - need to rewrite the bylaws to accommodate this budget change annually

7:30 Other Committee Updates

Membership- Rebecca

- Monthly message to expiring memberships started in February
- Membership overall declining - may have to do with reduced CME funds from hospitals

Social Media- Kim

- Sent out summary of our efforts with links in Newsletters to increase awareness
- Active on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn
- Encouraged Board members to like, comment, share posts

Awards & Scholarship- Kathleen

- 2023 Awards selected
- Did not receive any further submission by extending the deadline.
- Physical awards received this week - can mail out or present at 2024 conference
- April 1st - online submission form available for ease of nominating 2024 Awards/Scholarship

Bylaws - Kim

- Kim and Angie reviewing the most recent version
- Hopeful to get it done before July

HOD Update

- PAs for Women Empowerment will be presenting a resolution for policy at HOD (email to be sent out with details)
- Steph in favor of MEAPA signing on, will allow time for BOD review of email and electronically vote.

Motion to adjourn - Rebecca

Seconds - Kathleen

07:45 Closing

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To-Do's

- **All**
 - Submit letter of intent and CV for ongoing MEAPA Board involvement due ASAP
 - Review PAs for Women Empowerment email for electronic vote.
- **Kim:**
 - Writing generic letter to the Governor encouraging to fill vacancies on their boards
 - Draft policy for campaign donation/involvement to be approved by the current board
 - Fill provider of the day week of April 8th
 - send out poll to membership to see where people are interested in going for 2025 conference
 - Look into options for moving \$40,000 into CD account
 - Review and update bylaws
- **Kathleen** - Reach out to 2023 award winners to disperse awards
- **Stephen** - Look into options for moving \$40,000 into CD account
- **Rebecca** - Fill provider of the day week of April 8th
- **Stephanie** - Assess at HOD how other states are handling PA title change
- **Angie** - Review and update bylaws
- **Rob**
 - Assess at HOD how other states are handling PA title change
 - Fill provider of the day week of April 8th