

MACVPR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday March 14, 2006

Time Started: 5:45pm

Time Adjourned: 7:30pm

Location: Baltimore-Washington Medical Center
Main Hospital, Conference Room 3B

Attendees:

- Pretti Benjamin, MACVPR President, Howard County Hospital
- Debra Lund, MACVPR VP, BW Medical Center
- Mary Beth Daniels, MACVPR Treasurer, Memorial Hospital of Easton
- Pam Peitz, Washington County Hospital
- Christine Baker, St. Agnes Hospital
- Nancy Kaylor, Montgomery General Hospital
- Cecily Ludka, Doctors Community Hospital (Took minutes for this meeting)
- Jo Ann Kim, Doctors Community Hospital – Graduate student Catholic University
- Martina Milman, RT Howard County General Hospital

I. Pretti wished all a Happy Pulmonary Week

a. Pulmonary Week Celebrations

1. Nancy (MGH) shared that staff is wearing special buttons and giving a different class each day with pulmonary information; classes were announced in the hospital newsletter
2. Mary Beth (Easton) shared that a Pulmonary related word search puzzle was available to be turned in for a drawing for a prize; Gave out bottle of bubbles!
3. Pretty/Martina (HCG) shared that they passed out pens and served cake

b. Minutes from January Business meeting were reviewed and accepted

II. Treasurer's Report from Mary Beth Daniels

\$18,770.27 - Discussed how to best utilize

- After information obtained about Outcomes Programs, will consider using funds
- Pretti asked if we wanted to consider renting a bus for members to take to the National Conference in Charleston, WV – Answered yes
- Advertise/incentives to get more Maryland representation for AACVPR

III. Reimbursement Update from Deb Lund

- A. Day on the Hill (March 1, 2006) – met with Milkulski aide and legislative Assistant to Ben Cardin
 - 1. Anything in budget reconciliation was nixed due to Katrina
 - 2. Looking for sponsorship for Senate and House Bills to support own benefit category – Need vehicle to attach it to; May be stalled for a year due to legislative climate
 - 3. Pushing for National Pulmonary Policy – Some areas of country can't bill for P. Rehab
 - 4. Deb will Email all if letters are needed for support of National P. Rehab and continued support of an independent C. Rehab benefit category
 - Must Email or fax to return because mail won't get to the right people in time
 - AACVPR usually provides templates to write letters of support
 - Ben Cardin is on House Ways and Means Committee so his support would be helpful

- B. Cardiac Rehab is going under Clinic RVUs – all Maryland programs will be allowed to charge a maximum of 5 RVUs per session (assuming there is a 1:3 staff to patient ratio in a class setting) - Deb told members to be sure to consult their finance department

- C. Noone has heard anything from Highmark – Deb states they may just be still settling in but we can't make any assumptions as yet and continue as we are now Pam has been getting Aetna denials which is new

IV. Spring Conference (April 27, 2006) Updates from Pam Pietz

- A. CEUs – certificates are paid for
 - 1. AACVPR approval complete
 - 2. RTs must have their license # to get CEUs

- B. Marketing
 - 1. Gold Sponsors: St. Judes and Quinton gave \$900
Wal-Mart gave \$1000
 - 2. Silver Sponsors: Vasomed, Guidant, EnterCare, Scott-Care (\$400 each)
Guidant also paying for Dr. Kirschner's lecture
 - 3. Several sponsors still pending (Metronic)
 - 4. Suggestions:
 - a. Pretti suggested sending pamphlets to Doctors offices
 - b. Pam noted that most registrations came the last week (last year)

- C. AV Equipment – Mark taking care of again

Renting from Holiday Inn for \$150 instead of trying to gather and bring

- D. Packets – Chris (St. Agnes) putting together
 - 1. Includes page about sponsors
 - 2. Evaluation Form
 - 3. Outlines from speakers
- E. At the door – Mary Beth
 - 1. Name stickers will include where people are from
 - 2. Packets given out at door
 - 3. Separate list for respiratory therapist (to help with CEUs)
- F. Final Meeting for Conference Setup April 20, 2006
Linda, Chris, Mary Beth, Preeti at Holiday Inn

V. Outcomes Discussion

A. Wisconsin Outcomes Program

Cecily called the program coordinator, Mark V. They haven't had statewide Participation from any one states so far but like the idea and would be happy to work with us to separate the data so we could benchmark to collective Maryland data. They charge \$100/year for individual facilities and we would each have to join separately. Jo Kim agreed to research what tools/projects the Wisconsin Program are involved in. Then MACVPR will then Email members the information and determine interest.

B. Brainstorming

- 1. Preeti asked what measurement tools programs were using
 - a. Pam does % of people who loose weight
The group discussed whether BMI or waist measurements were used in programs
 - b. Mary Beth's program only tracks weight loss if someone identifies weight loss as a goal
 - c. Nancy recently started giving pre and post education tests – The group discussed ideas about how to evaluate education
- 2. Preeti said sales rep. Peter M. suggested giving a graduate student a stipend to coordinate an outcomes project.

VI. Clinical Practice Guidelines for COPD

Martina distributed an article from "Respiratory Care" March 2006 Vol. 51 No. 3 as a good reference for pulmonary rehab. The article suggested merging guidelines from American Thoracic Society, Global Initiative for COPD etc. There are several websites listed to reference that recommend treating symptoms instead of PFT numbers. Medicare requires P. rehab to abide by PFT #s presently. Medicare reimburses 30 sessions.

Preeti said the State of Maryland gives the counties monies to provide smoking cessation programs. Howard County refers smokers to the Health Department for free classes. Check with your county health department for information.

VII. Nominations

- Getting more people involved in the organization was discussed. It was agreed that the same small group of members attend the meetings regardless of whether it's a day or evening meeting. Preeti may include a survey in the Spring Conference packet to look for ways to increase participation.
- Preeti spoke with Barb Courtney (Shady Grove Adventist) of the Washington Area organization to see if merging groups would be feasible. No progress to report.

VIII. Certification

Fredrick Memorial Hospital is the only new certification this year.

XI. Other Business

Preeti invited everyone to attend the 11th Annual Howard County Heart Ball and explained it was a very fun and fancy event - Saturday May 20, 2006 at the Johns Hopkins APL

Nancy told the group about a support group for people with ICDs that she started at Montgomery General. Guidant is assisting with the project. It has been well received and is ongoing.

See everyone at the April 27, 2006 Spring Conference!