

MACVPR Business Meeting – January 8, 2008

Time started: 9:30AM

Time adjourned: 11:30

Location: Baltimore-Washington Medical Center, Tate Center

Meeting conducted by: Pam Peitz, MACVPR President

Attendance:

Ellen Gorman

Matthew Desmond – DC Metro Affiliate President

Cecily Ludka – MACVPR Vice-President

Linda Price

Nancy Kaylor

Debra Lund

Mary Beth Linthicum – MACVPR Treasurer

Pam Peitz – MACVPR President

Sara Stees – MACVPR Interim Secretary

I. Old business

II. Election of new Treasurer – Mary Beth Linthicum

Motion – Debbie Lund

Second – Cecily Ludka

III. Treasurer's Report – Mary Beth L.

\$16,047.08 total

Dinner meeting: took in \$630 in membership fees, and paid ~ \$400 for dinner

IV. DC Metro report – Matt Desmond

Matt gave a report of his affiliate's general functioning and discussion ensued regarding possible merging of DC Metro and MD affiliates. There are no rehab programs actually in DC – all programs are from surrounding areas. DC Metro has 4 meetings/year – all dinner meetings, but have more frequently occurring conference calls with officers.

1. For now, DC Metro and MACVPR will remain separate with separate dues.
2. All MACVPR members are invited to DC Metro dinner meeting Thurs January 24th, in Bethesda at Tragara Ristorante. Meeting at 5 and dinner at 6PM. RSVP to Matt at mdesmond@ahm.com or at 301-279-6662
3. At MACVPR Fall Conference – we invite all MACVPR and DC Metro members.
4. Debbie Lund will speak with National about legal issues of merging affiliates (other affiliated have merged in the past)
5. Matt will speak with Dr. Hamm (current AACVPR President) about his comments on how to merge affiliates

6. Once we have more direction from the above, we will discuss logistics of how to merge
7. Membership list from DC Metro will be added to membership list from MACVPR and all members will receive newsletter (see below)

V. Leadership Conference in Chicago – Sara Stees

Sara attended the 2nd Annual Leadership Conference in Chicago last November as Pam and Cecily could not attend. The conference covered information on growing affiliate membership and leadership within those affiliates. Sara came back with several ideas of how to grow the membership. Suggested changes:

1. Change from President and Vice-President to: one year commitments for each of the following – President Elect, Current President, and Past-President
2. Add Chairpersons for: Conference/Education, Membership, any others?
3. Add Regional Representatives – have them come to business meetings to discuss local concerns, and then go back to their region and meet with local members to discuss what is happening on state level
4. Make bylaws and officer's responsibilities more easily understandable and accessible to all members to increase interest in taking on responsibilities
5. Create Newsletter for members – first edition to come out for 1st quarter 2008 and to be sent to ALL MD CR/PR programs
 - a. Include in each edition
 - i. Report from President
 - ii. Update on Reimbursement
 - iii. Recent info from business meeting and schedule of upcoming meetings
 - b. First edition will include bios of officers
6. Re-organization of officers will wait until after a decision is made about merging affiliates

VI. Contacting MD hospitals

List of MD hospitals was divided up among attendees and all hospitals will be called to generate a list of those who have CR/PR programs and contact person for each. Newsletter will be sent to all of these individuals as well as members. Sara will collect the completed forms to generate mailing list.

VII. Dues.

Reminder that all dues for 2008 are due now. We will start a new system of collecting most dues at beginning of the year for that year in order to better track who has paid – to make it easier at time of dinner meetings since dinner meetings will no longer be just in the spring. 2008 dues can be sent to PO Box 903, Glen Burnie, MD 21060.

VIII. Spring Dinner meeting – April 10th at Candlelight Inn. Speaker will be Dr. Khotrathi, Interventional Cardiologist from Doctor's Hospital.

IX. Reimbursement and Certification – Debbie Lund

1. Debbie reviewed the newest from DC about the Senate and House bills. The bills were NOT passed in December, but they are not totally “dead”. These bills will be brought up again in January. There may be new numbers for these bills – more info will come from National soon. Day on the Hill will be Feb 28th and 29th. Members from all affiliates will meet with Senators and Representatives to discuss importance of these new bills. (Since the meeting, list of who will be going: Debbie Lund, Preeti Benjamin, Jeanne Ruff, Sara Stees, Matt Desmond).
2. As of 10/12/07 Highmark became the MAC for MD (previously we had a Fiscal Intermediary, but that has been changed to larger MACs). This MAC has been contested, so there is no final decision at this point. Once MAC is decided, we will have a contact for PR and CR who will direct any questions to our regional representative, Joan Helfman, who will then forward concerns to the MAC medical director. This is to prevent multiple programs from calling the medical directors.
3. AACVPR has made it their mission to get these bills passed, so we will continue to hear more about this issue in the coming months
4. Certification – there are two new programs who are applying for AACVPR certification – one CR and one PR. MD Certification Committee consists of Jeanne Ruff, Tina Millman, Debbie Lund, and Pam Peitz

X. Fall Dinner Meeting – 10/21/08 at Best Western in Westminster

1. Set speakers:
 - a. someone from the Association of Black Cardiologists to speak about how to better reach the underserved populations
 - b. Regina Chell from St. Agnes to speak about how to start a CHF clinic
 - c. Keynote speaker is Dr. Hudson, pulmonologist to discuss COPD
 - d. Debbie Lund and Jeanne Ruff about reimbursement and certification issues
2. Potential speakers:
 - a. Registered Dietician
 - b. Dr. Reid Schneider to discuss alternative/complementary medicine
 - c. MD from Johns Hopkins to discuss echo-cardiography

XI. Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 11th at 9:30 at BWMC – meeting room to be announced.