



Bucks CMS
 Board of Directors Meeting
 Wednesday, July 15, 2020
 Online Zoom Meeting
 6:30 pm

MINUTES

Board Members Attending – President: Drs. Bob Mirsky, Joseph O’Neill, Jerry Burke, Chris Frankel, Marilyn Heine, Karl Helmold, Judy Gallagher-Braun, Bindu Kansupada, and David Damsker.

Staff: Michele Boylstein, Executive Director

Item	Discussion	Action Taken or Planned
Welcome, Introduction, and Call to Order		Dr. Robert Mirsky, President, called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.
Update on COVID-19	<p>David Damsker, MD, MPH the Director of the Bucks County Department of Health provided an update on COVID-19 within Bucks County and how COVID-19 has impacted our communities and hospitals. Most of the COVID deaths in the county have been in long-term care facilities. We are many months away from a vaccine. Masks, physical distancing and hand washing will be the norm for quite some time.</p> <p>Discussion between Dr. Damsker and the group took place in regards to types of cases seen. The responses seen from younger generations on the pandemic as well as the impact on students in virtual classrooms.</p>	
Approval of Minutes	Board Meeting Minutes – May 6, 2020	Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

<p>Membership Report</p>	<p>Total Membership is 702 members which includes 633 total physicians. Our membership is lower this year than last year at this time.</p> <p>In June, staff sent out an eblast to lapsed members regarding benefits to being a Bucks CMS member. We gained 8 members as a result of the eblast. Board members were encouraged to reach out to those lapsed members that they know, to renew.</p>	<p>Michele will send out the lapsed member list to board members for personal outreach to their colleagues in addition to the eblast communications. This will be done when the new cycle begins for member renewals 9/1.</p>
<p>PAMED House of Delegates</p>	<p>We did not hold our Annual Meeting this spring where we would have had candidates nominated from the floor for the 2020 HOD delegation. An eblast to membership will be necessary to ask members to submit nominations with a 200-word mini-essay explaining why they feel this nominee should be elected to represent Bucks CMS members on the delegation at the House of Delegates.</p> <p>The PAMED House of Delegates will be held as a virtual meeting this year. Details are still being refined but it will take place over the weekend of October 24-25, 2020. The allocated number of delegates this year for Bucks County to the PAMED HOD is nine delegates. 1 slot is for the Secretary of Bucks CMS (in accordance with the bylaws) and 1 slot was added this year for a Resident. That leaves 7 slots for delegates available. Staff sent out an eblast to all residents within Bucks County asking resident members to express their interest by submitting their names with a 200-word mini-essay. We received two resident responses. The deadline for delegate/alternate delegate submissions to PAMED is August 16th.</p>	<p>Staff will reach out to the 2019 delegation informing them that if they are interested in being a 2020 delegate, to submit their 200-word essay to us.</p> <p>Staff is sending an eblast to membership requesting delegate nominations similar to the eblast sent out to resident members. This request will include a 200-word essay explaining why they should be elected to represent Bucks CMS at the PAMED HOD.</p> <p>Once staff receives the results from the delegate nominations to the House of Delegates, staff will send an eblast out to membership with a ballot for electronic voting of all nominees for the 7 available delegate slots and 1 available resident delegate slot. The final results will be submitted to PAMED by August 16th deadline.</p>
<p>Legislative Update</p>	<p>The Governor's Executive order provided medical liability immunity for the care of COVID-19 patients if they were in the hospital setting but it did not cover care of COVID-19 patients out of the hospital setting despite advocacy by PAMED, including coalition letters with the Bucks County Medical Society sent to the Governor urging broader immunity for physicians.</p> <p>SB 1239, Pandemic Liability Protections is to provide businesses with liability protection and it includes</p>	<p>Dr. Heine will send board members AMA resources including links to topics of interest in advocacy for: Liability protection, Medicaid reimbursement physician practice support, request for PPE, testing, and supplies. She also provided some guidelines on practice reopening, financial relief, telemedicine and cybersecurity.</p>

	<p>physicians due to COVID-19 related liabilities. Senator Lisa Baker is the Chair of the Judiciary committee where this bill is currently. She is trying to move it forward. We will have to wait and see if this will advance.</p> <p>Non-compete contract clause might be an issue for some physicians in this area, particularly when in an area of market dominance. One of the legislators was responsive to an interest from PAMED to introduce a bill that would protect against non-compete clauses.</p> <p>A question was raised about the status of a bill to provide parity in years of training for US medical graduates and IMGs prior to being eligible to apply for an unrestricted license to practice medicine. The bill is currently in the Senator Professional Licensure Committee.</p> <p>PAMED is surveying members regarding COVID care. If you are interested in responding to it, that would help inform the medical society.</p>	
Legislative Breakfast Discussion	<p>Consider possibly having it virtually, perhaps in October. While it's not optimal, it would allow Bucks CMS members a dialogue with the state legislators representing our region.</p>	
New Business	<p>Dr. Kansupada provided an update from PAMED on proposed amendments from the PAMED Bylaws Committee meeting with the group.</p> <p>Dr. Kansupada is seeking re-election to serve as an Alternate Delegate from PAMED to the AMA HOD. He has requested support for his re-election.</p>	
Treasurer's Report	<p>Dr. Gallagher provided an overview on the finances for the society. We lost almost \$39K in the funds but the Admiral funds are still among the safest investment currently. Maybe look at them in the fall to see if we need to change them. The Vanguard funds have been relatively stable considering the pandemic.</p>	<p>The Investment statement for period ending June 30th should be out shortly. The Executive Director will send a copy to the full board for review.</p>
Old Business	<p>The Healing the Healer Planning Committee will be meeting soon (Bucks CMS and Montgomery CMS</p>	

	<p>members) to discuss plans for the postponed event and moving forward either face-to-face or virtual.</p> <p>The Bucks CMS Finance Committee will be meeting soon to review donation requests. Some requests have come in from BCHIP to review.</p> <p>The Bucks CMS Bylaws Committee will be meeting soon to consider proposed updates.</p> <p>The Nominating Committee will be meeting consider open slots for hospital staff representatives and board positions.</p> <p>Committee updates will be provided at the next board meeting in September.</p>	
Adjourned		The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Upcoming Bucks CMS Board Meetings

Bucks CMS Board Meeting: Wednesday, September 9, 2020
6:30 p.m., Virtual Zoom Meeting

Submitted by: Marilyn Heine, MD, Secretary and Michele Boylstein, Executive Director