

**Minutes - MDPHA Board Meeting**  
**University of Maryland School of Pharmacy**  
**June 23, 2008, 7:00 - 8:30 PM**

**In Attendance:** Brenda Afzal, Jacqueline Douge, Lorece Edwards, Donald Fedder, Michaeline Fedder, Judy LaKind, Nicholas Laughton (UM Student President), Elaine Lindsay, Katherine Marconi, Brooke McDonald, Michael Meit (by phone), Susan Montenegro, Suzanne Reuben, Patrick Richard (by phone), Gillian Silver, Hoai an Truong, Ann Walsh

**Unable to Attend:** Margaret Hayes, Roger Harrell, James Hodge, Shirish Shah, Roger Sorensen

## **I. Meeting Purpose**

The purpose of this meeting was to plan and organize the revitalization efforts of MDPHA. The goals were to organize Officer and Board functions of MDPHA within the next three months. This was also the first opportunity for the new Officers and Board members to meet each other. The Officers and Board were formally elected on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Don Fedder reviewed the background of MDPHA. He noted that MDPHA has been dormant for about the past 3 years. He has been working to "redevelop" the MDPHA office at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health with a file case and someone to do some work. His effort has been slowed as Michael Klag, Dean, Bloomberg School, has been out of the office.

## **II. Membership**

Ann Walsh and Gillian Silver have been working off a list serve to put together a list of MDPHA members without charging 2008 dues. There are approximately 130 to 150 identified MDPHA members out of the 10,000 to 15,000 public health workers in Md. There next step is to obtain MDPHA/APHA membership files from Ruth Maiorana.

There was discussion about the rules for the Board ListServ – any Board member can ask for an information item or action item.

- Ann and Gillian plan to start targeting new members starting with the APHA list.
- They discussed and the Board members present agreed that MDPHA could start collecting dues this Fall for 2009.
- Michaeline Fedder pointed to the need to connect with the Health Education Section. The local health dept. educators, who are part of this section, need to join MDPHA.
- The Membership Committee asked for proposals for reaching people.

**ACTION ITEM: Ann and Gillian will present a membership campaign plan at the Fall Board Meeting. Brooke McDonald offer to assist them.**

**ACTION ITEM: It was recommended to add one of the Health Education Section members to our Board as their liaison. Kathy Marconi will follow up with section.**

### **III. Treasury Report**

**Finances** – Patrick Richard, Don Fedder, and Kathy Marconi have received past MDPHA financial records, which now need to be organized. Ruth Maiorana presented a treasury report at the MDPHA Business meeting held on June 3<sup>rd</sup> which showed 2007-2008 revenues of \$1445, expenditures of \$3,412.08 and a balance of \$10,913.72. It was also noted that MDPHA has received a \$5,000 grant from the APHA for reorganization efforts. There is the potential for an additional \$5,000 available from APHA.

**ACTION ITEM: Patrick Richard will put together a budget report from the materials that Ruth Maiorana turned over to him and a working budget for 2008-2009.**

### **IV. Organizational Needs**

For the revitalization effort, the Basic Needs of the organization were discussed as follows based on the attached organizational framework:

1. **Setting up an MDPHA Office:** Donald Fedder suggested moving the Office to the University of Maryland at Baltimore because of the very active MDPHA student body there. Hoai An Truong, Susan Montenegro, and Nicholas Laughton volunteered to investigate.
2. **Website:** It currently is hosted by Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and Hygiene. Don Fedder will follow up with Dean Klag to see about keeping it there. Gillian was looking into how it's updated. Gillian, Brooke and Brenda agreed to review the website and make recommendations on it.
3. **Administrative Assistance:** Kathy volunteered to draft a job description for a person to organize and maintain files and membership, update the website, and prepare membership packets. There would be an opportunity for applicants to write organizational development papers from the experience, or to use this position for a Capstone for a Public Health degree. The University of MD, Baltimore group will look into the Work Study program. As background, Brenda Afzul said that the program allots 10 to 20 hours/week and requires faculty oversight.

4. **Dues:** Don Fedder recommended sending a bill for dues on Jan. 1, 2009. Elaine Lindsay discussed using Pay Pal for payments. There was additional discussion of using PayPal or some similar online billing system. Gillian and Ann said they would prepare a proposal for dues for members and students. We need to confirm the organization's fiscal year.
5. **Revision of the bylaws:** It was mentioned that a consultant from APHA is available. Judy LaKind volunteered to lead this effort and we would ask James Hodge to assist. Don Fedder suggested that we "avoid minutia" and keep the by-laws relatively simple.

## V. 12 Month Agenda

We then discussed, "How does the association contribute to public health in Maryland? At the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, Josh Sharfstein, MD, Baltimore City Health Commissioner, discussed the importance of knowing the evidence for formulating public health policy, understanding the political will for policy support, and organizing the social support for policy acceptance and implementation. With this advice, the Board started to discuss policy making. Brenda Afzal suggested that we focus on 1 or 2 priorities that we could really accomplish. Her suggestion was met with positive agreement and the Board brainstormed on priorities for next year, including:

- Creating a networking event as well as a student event
- Develop Social Networking online
- Using Survey Monkey for members to express their interests in a committee (suggested by Jackie Douge).
- Using Greater DC Cares as an example for MDPHA
- Expand mentoring programs for students (suggested by Susan Montenegro and Nick Laughton).
- Get MDPHA more involved with the media (suggested by Michaeline Fedder)
- Look for a good public health bill "that just missed" this year to promote next year (suggested by Suzanne Reuben)
  - A number of members including Lorece Edwards discussed the importance of reducing **childhood obesity** and supporting related state legislation.
  - Donald Fedder talked about his own passion for dealing with chronic illnesses and wellness -- he talked about how MDPHA could contribute to a "paradigm shift" on **chronic disease**
  - Hoai An Truong discussed the importance of **health care for the homeless**
  - Gillian Sliver discussed the importance of reaching out to bring a **public health awareness to high school youth**.
  - Brenda Afzal talked about her passion for the **environment and public health**.

The Board agreed to continue this discussion on-line and at the next meeting. It was also agreed to meet on Wednesdays.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:**

Wednesday, September 24, 2008 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM.

MANO

190 West Ostend Street

Baltimore MD