



New York State Psychiatric Association, Inc.

Area II Council of the American Psychiatric Association
400 Garden City Plaza, Garden City, New York 11530 • (516) 542-0077

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE December 16, 2014 Meeting by Conference Call

PRESENT:

SEETH VIVEK, M.D., President
JEFFREY BORENSTEIN, M.D., Vice-President
RAMASWAMY VISWANATHAN, M.D., Secretary
RUSSELL DENEVA, M.D., Treasurer
GLENN MARTIN, M.D., Past-President
DEBORAH CROSS, M.D., Chair, Committee on Public Affairs
BARRY PERLMAN, M.D., Chair, Committee on Legislation
RICHARD GALLO, Legislative Consultant
JAMIE PAPAPETROS, Legislative Staff
SETH P. STEIN, ESQ., Executive Director
RACHEL FERNBACH, ESQ., Associate Director
DONNA GAJDA, NYSPA Coordinator

Dr. Vivek called the meeting to order. The following issues were discussed:

1. Financial Report. The Committee reviewed a financial report for January through November, 2014. Mr. Stein reminded the Committee that the income includes the OMH grant money so that the 2014 results will yield a deficit and it is still unclear how much of a dues increase is needed for 2016 dues.
2. PAC Financial Report. The Committee reviewed the PAC financial for January through November, 2014.
3. Albany Report. Mr. Gallo reported on a number of items from the full legislative report that was distributed to the Committee. Mr. Gallo reported on the election results and stated that the legislature will return on January 7, 2015. Mr. Gallo reported that Assemblywoman Deborah Glick, currently the head of the Higher Education Committee, may be promoted to Chair the Environmental Conservation Committee. Mr. Gallo reported on the electronic prescribing mandate. Mr. Gallo reported that he participated in a phone conference with the hospital organizations, specialty societies and some large group practices and there will be a push by this coalition to postpone implementation of electronic prescribing for a year.

Dr. Perlman reported that there was a lot of interest at the Westchester Legislative Brunch in regard to Mr. Stein's suggestion of a Parity Cabinet. The Committee discussed a number of current parity issues that need to be addressed including incorrect payment of combo codes and requests for prior authorization for visits based on diagnosis codes. Dr. Martin reported that the

APA has developed a poster that outlines the federal parity law and suggested that NYSPA make a copy of this poster available on our website.

Mr. Gallo reported on prescriber prevails. Mr. Gallo stated that he is working with other groups that will lobby jointly to have language protecting prescriber prevails included in the Executive Budget.

4. Veterans Mental Health-Primary Care Training Initiative. Mr. Gallo reported that approximately 80 people attended the training that was held at Albany Medical Center. Mr. Stein reported that NYSPA will be providing a Train-the-Trainer webinar for members who are interested in presenting trainings around the state. Matthew Friedman, M.D. will provide the training for the potential presenters. Dr. Vivek suggested that we set a fee for speakers that provide trainings through the grant. Fee will be set at \$1,000, plus travel expenses, approved in advance.

Dr. Vivek reported that he has two groups interested in the training. The first group, Jamaica Hospital, would host a combined grand rounds for internal medicine, family medicine, ob-gyn, and psychiatry. Attendance is estimated at 200 and the program would have to be held on a Thursday at 12:30 pm. They have dates available in February and March. The cost of the program would consist of the speaker's fee and lunch. The second program would be the American Association of Physicians from India. That group usually has about 175 in attendance. The group generally meets in a restaurant in Garden City. Historically, the cost of the meeting is approximately \$7,000-\$8,000. The meeting is held once a month on a Wednesday evening. Mr. Gallo will consult with someone at OMH to see whether the cost of the meeting seems reasonable.

5. Endorsement of Electronic Prescribing Vendor. Mr. Stein reported that we have been approached by software vendors that are interested in an endorsement from NYSPA. We will request proposals from RxNT, MD Toolbox, and Dr. First for consideration by the Executive Committee.

6. Assembly Restructuring – The Committee discussed possible options for restructuring of the Assembly. Mr. Stein reported that Area 6 is interested in developing a joint position on this issue. Area 2 will try to schedule a conference call with Area 6 prior to the January AEC meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.