

## NCUS BOARD MEETING 9/26/2009

Call to order 4:30 pm.

Present: Brian Kilpatrick, Alice Bradley, Jill Millard, Dr. Cotton, Rhonda Thomas, Allison Grant, Steven Penny, Wendy Barnhart, Laura Currie, Cathy Godwin, Teresa Jones, Bobbie Creech, Tonya Howell, and Susan Collins

**Secretary's report:** Approved as they are.

**Treasurer's report:** Last year came in better than budget – with \$4000 loss – due to vendor issues at spring meeting and expenses/honorariums. New budget will put us in profit for new year. We have \$20000 in the bank and need to start building reserves. Prices are being raised for meetings. Wendy stated we need more ways to bring in revenue. Proposed budget will be emailed and we will vote electronically to pass/not pass budget. Honorariums were discussed. It was suggested that Dr. Kremkau's honorarium be changed from \$1500 down to \$1000 for the day. Teresa will discuss with him and get his feelings on this.

**Nominating:** 16 people were nominated at the Spring meeting for board positions. We have 8 board positions falling off this year.

**Membership:** 425 members: 121 students, 6 honorary, 3 affiliates.

**Education:** Alice is talking to Susan about offering something for educators at the end of the board meeting on Friday at the Spring meeting for CME. Laura stated that Durham Community College is in the planning stages for starting an ultrasound program. They have received a large health education grant. They first need to file a feasibility study with the state. They have clinical sites: Duke, UNC, WakeMed. Clinical sites are overlapping. Will be about two years – wait and see. Craven Community College had a 1 year non-accredited program.

**Bylaws:** No recommended changes. We need to update honorariums in policies and procedures.

**Communications:** Nothing to report. Susan will send out a newsletter in about a month. We need to announce that we are going paperless for the Spring and Fall meetings in order to help with budget expenses. We will try to make as much available as possible on website for NCUS members only.

**Sonographer Excellence:** We currently have 20 names, not including today's nominations. Will have more info in January.

**Legislative:** Tonya stated that two states have implemented licensure for sonographers – NM and OR. Pushed by incident in OR where sonographer lost licensure and continued to practice. Proposal made by Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Reimbursements to reduce

cardiac reimbursement. 54 House members have cosigned letter to prevent the reimbursement cut. Will cut by 42%. SAAVE Act, reference screening abdominal aortic aneurysms. Try to get correction to existing act from one-time screening to make it more flexible time-wise. Connecticut has banned boutique ultrasounds. Must have doctor's order to get ultrasound in Connecticut. Babies R Us has 5 hour symposium and then certifies people to do entertainment scans. Astra Zeneca has money that could possibly be used to write a position statement and pursue action to get licensure in NC.

**Web page:** We have a new one. All agree it looks good. Dr. Cotton offered to put his lecture on there. Dr. Joy also offered his lecture. Student papers could be published. Laura suggested an educators page. We need to start looking into journal articles and CME's. Encourage sonographers who are part of membership to write articles and questions. We can justify raising membership dues if we do this – benefit to membership. (CME's free for membership). Check in with Cori for fee to write test and answer key. \$150 per article and \$5 per credit for SDMS credit for one year. We need to rotate specialties to keep interest of entire membership. Wendy suggested a discussion board.

Steve suggested we could have one meeting during the year where we could have volunteer speakers – no honorarium. A few gave theirs back today. This will help to bring money back into our account.

**Fall meeting:** We need a dedicated echo room, dedicated vascular room, abd/ob/gyn room. Alice will chair meeting. Jill will help. Rhonda will also help. Last Sat in Oct 2010 (10/30/10). Cost will be \$1000 to add another room. We need at least 30 more attendees to justify third room.

**Symposium:** We will ask for moderator signup at January meeting. This worked well last year. Susan needs help Sun evening. We are still going to use critique sheets to calculate CME's.

**Quiz bowl:** No new items.

**Old business:** We have already discussed honorariums and Dr. Kremkau's honorarium. Jill will take pictures for website.

**New business:** Allison still has a few speakers left to get for Spring meeting. Most coming from Duke and UNC. Need two abdominal and vascular speakers yet. Laura brought up Spring meeting for students. Some have already passed SPI prior to meeting. We don't have a Sat/Sun only option. Laura proposed \$150 for Sat/Sun. Not all students need the Kremkau lecture on Friday. We need to look at this further. Need to encourage more scanning with the vendors. Rhonda is checking into Pegasus coming as a vendor. We may ask radiology groups to help sponsor snacks for our meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted. Brian Kilpatrick, RDMS, secretary