

Minutes
NCUS Board of Directors' Meeting
Friday Center
Chapel Hill, NC
October 28, 2006
4:30 PM

Present: Allison Grant, Rhonda Thomas, Sergio Khomyak, Patrick Washko, Tina Cole, Pam Burgess, Teresa Jones, Ruggie MacKenzie, Alice Bradley, John Cotton, MD, Eric Deigan, MD, Susan Collins, and Kim Watts

- 1- The meeting was called to order by Rhonda Thomas, President.
- 2- The June 10, 2006 minutes were approved as written.
- 3- Dr. Cotton stated that the financial statement distributed did not include the expenses or profit from the 2006 Fall Symposium.

Finance Committee

Dr. Cotton made a motion to increase the registration fee for students attending the Fall Symposium from \$40.00 to \$50.00. This increase would allow the NCUS to break even on each student that attends. The motion carried.

Nominating Committee

Tina will receive the nominations made during the Fall Symposium from Susan and report at the next meeting.

Membership

Teresa stated that the NCUS currently has 527 members of which 373 are active.

Education

Alice distributed a handout regarding a proposed Medical Sonography program at Cleveland Community College in Shelby, NC. Kim explained that the program would be a twelve month diploma program geared toward radiographers and other health professionals. The program would be on-line with no on-campus lectures or labs. Students will be responsible for contracting their clinical sites. Some members voiced concerns about the proposed program.

Alice also mentioned that the current Sonography programs are evaluating program curricula for possible revisions.

Bylaws/Policies & Procedures

There were no comments from this committee.

Communications

Tina has spoken with the NCUS web master concerning the possibility of sonographers obtaining cme credits on the NCUS website. The web master will get back to Tina regarding this topic.

Sonographer Excellence

Susan stated that the society currently had twenty nominations not counting the nominations from the Fall Symposium for the 2007 Sonographer Excellence award.

Legislative Watch

Sergio stated that some of the requirements of the RAD Care bill were:

- 1) Sonographers must be credentialed in the specialty category in which they are performing sonograms. Credentials can be through the ARDMS or CCI.
- 2) CMEs must be in the specialty categories in which credentials have been obtained.
- 3) Employees must be graduates of an accredited program.

Effective January 1, 2007, Medicare plans to reduce reimbursement for vascular procedures performed in an out-patient setting by approximately 35%. ACR is currently lobbying to freeze these cuts for two years.

Web Page

Teresa reminded those present that ultrasound images were needed for the main web page. Please email any images to Susan.

Symposium

Patrick stated that Sharon Wertz has agreed to assist him with the Spring Symposium preparations.
Susan said that she would be getting in touch with Patrick concerning the symposium.

Quiz Bowl

Sergio suggested the possibility of using a Jeopardy game by substituting sonographic categories. Susan is going to research this further.

Fall Meeting

Overall the Fall Symposium was a great success with 130 attendees and 11 vendors present. Sergio mentioned that the vendor rooms were small.

Susan explained that the registration desk was moved to the back hall because of Parents' Day at UNC-Chapel Hill. The Friday Center must make other arrangements for booked conferences when the university requires the use of the Friday Center. Susan had to book the Friday Center on October 30, 2006 for the Fall Symposium in 2007 if the BOD decided to use the Friday Center next year.

Alice stated that South Piedmont Community College in Monroe, NC had a new conference center. There would be no charge for the use of this facility, but food would have to be brought in from the outside.

The BOD decided to have Susan book the Friday Center for next fall, since the time frame to book the Friday Center was so short.

Rhonda suggested that each member of the BOD contact a new vendor for the Spring Symposium. The current vendor fees are \$500.00, \$700.00, \$900.00, and \$1100.00. Suggest to current vendors to move up a step on the vendor fee schedule. The current list of vendors will be emailed to each board member.

Public Awareness

Ruggie stated that October was Sonography Awareness month even though she had not seen much publicity concerning this subject.

Tina attended the SDMS Annual Conference in Colorado.

Old Business

A Speaker Travel Limitations policy has been written. This policy has been distributed to the speakers attending the Annual Symposium in Spring, 2007.

New Business

Dr. Christy Isler has resigned from the BOD. She was a representative from the eastern part of the state. Due to health issues, Allison Mills has declined to replace her. The BOD decided to wait until the election in January, 2007 to replace Dr. Isler.

Future locations for the Annual Symposium are:

2008 Grove Park Inn Asheville, NC
2009/2010 Possibilities include the Marriott at Myrtle Beach, SC, the Sheraton at Research Triangle Park, or the Marriott or Embassy Suites in Winston-Salem, NC.

Susan will further investigate these possible locations for the 2009 and 2010 symposiums.

The next meeting will be in January. Location and exact date will be announced at a later date.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM.