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Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
December 9, 2013 Flavours Restaurant, Pittsfield, MA

Chair's Report: Dr. Lisa Gamache for Dr. Michael Williams

Dr. Lisa Gamache welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting.

MDS Trustee's Report: Dr. Jay Wise



President Dr. Mike Wasserman receiving President honor award from ADA President Bob Faiella at the ADA Annual Session in New Orleans. The Red Sox had just won the World Series....Massachusetts was very well represented in New Orleans---a home run all around!

ADA Annual Session:

Went smoothly under new ADA Speaker of the House Dr. Glen Hall from Texas. Redistricting passed and this gives Massachusetts three additional delegates to the ADA House. Three states in first

district, therefore, lost a delegate: Vermont, New Hampshire, RI. Unlikely that new delegate seats for Mass will result in more Berkshire representation at MDS and ADA.



ADA American Dental Association® My Indiana University Dental School Classmate (not braggin'.... just sayin') Dr. Jeff Dalin from St. Louis was honored for his untiring efforts with the **Give Kids a Smile** Campaign. Here's the link for this great program that is growing like crazy: <http://www.ada.org/givekidsasmile.aspx>

MDS Board of Trustees News (Condensed Version):

- **Treasurer's Report:** MDS is financially sound thanks to careful oversight and reinvestment of funds for MDS, MDS Foundation, and the MDS Relief Fund.
- **BORID** still undecided about a new Chairperson now that Dr. Mina Paul has resigned. Dr. Milt Glicksman is the Chair Pro Tem.
- **Non-Covered Services Act:** (I know you're sick of hearing about it, but it's important. Really.) Lobbyist for MDS Roger Donahue came before the MDS Board in November and suggested that the non-covered services bill –as written—will likely not pass in the current legislative environment. The sticking point for insurance companies is that it does not follow “NCOIL” (insurance language standards) guidelines.
 - Thus the MDS bill is quite a bit broader and more helpful to the dentist than other states' bills that have been successful at passing legislation to defeat the non-covered service actions by insurance companies.
 - Roger suggests that we reserve our political capital for bigger fights (such as the inevitable and imminent Mid-Level Provider issue) and rewrite the non-covered services bill so that it will be more palatable to legislators and insurance companies. The Board approved, so *MDS is going to rewrite and then resubmit a bill to House that is more likely to pass.*
 - This will hopefully be done in time to get the issue passed and finally over with before the close of the House. If not, we trudge on next year.
- **MDS PAC:** If you don't donate to MDS PAC (Political Action Committee) you should. Period. Amen. If you do make a donation (it's one of those extras on your dues invoice), be aware that you can request to have all or most of your contribution stay with MDS. Unless otherwise requested, about half of your donation goes to ADPAC. We should all be donating to both, but we should all be doing a lot of things. So if you want to make this specification, contact Kevin Monteiro at the MDS and let him know: kmonteiro@massdental.org.
- **Connect the Dots** Initiative is getting great participation. This is a collaboration between MDS (CAPIR Council) and Massachusetts Head Start. It focuses on training and educating members and the community on the importance of age one oral health care. If you are not terrified of little children like I am, check this out and get involved. It's in the Fall 2013 issue of MDS Journal or follow this link http://mydigimag.rrd.com/display_article.php?id=1226273 to learn more.
- **EHR:** A presentation was made to the MDS Board in November about Electronic Health Records. This will be a requirement for us as of 2017. There are a few software companies that are really competing to be ready for this change. My takeaway message from this staggeringly complex issue: if you are thinking of buying new software.....this would be a good time to wait and see. Currently four products are certified for dental: QS1/NextGen HER, Open Dental, Version 7.6 of Dentrix, and Mediadent/SuccessEHS. There's gonna be a shakeout and not all vendors who say they will be compliant will end up being compliant. All we really know is that it won't be easy, straightforward, or cheap. You knew that too.
- **YDC 2014** in good shape for January. Celebrating 150th Anniversary of MDS. Don't forget to volunteer. It's fun and instructive. Drs. Paul and Lisa Gamache are in charge of General Arrangements this year. Show them your support!
- **YDC 2014 Security:** in the wake of the Boston Marathon bombings we are Boston Strong, but the Convention Center Security will likely be ramped up even though, surprisingly, dentists are considered low risk for making trouble. But still good idea to be aware of where the exits are wherever you are. In emergency call BCEC Security First: pick up a black phone in the hallway and press 2222. Or use your cell phone and call 617 954 2222.

Treasurer's Report: Dr. Thomas Sakshaug

Current Balances as of 12/08/2013:

Checking: \$ 6,389.72
Money Market: \$25,550.93 0.20% APY
Available for use: \$31,940.65

CD 37 Month \$10,956.60 1.50% APY, matures 7-9-14
CD 30 Month \$ 8,018.89 0.60% APY, matures 1-10-16
CD 36 month \$ 8,025.19 0.80% APY, matures 7-10-16
Total CDs: \$27,000.68

Total funds: \$58,941.33

Recent dues receipts: 11-20-13: \$59.17

Fall 2013 All Day Meeting, partial:

Income: Tuition \$12,620
 Vendor \$ 500* (I believe we are still owed for one vendor)
Total income: \$13,120

Expenses: Speaker \$ 6,190.00
 Crowne Plaza \$ 5,769.05
 Printing \$ 142.03* (Brochure printing bill pending, ~775)
 Mailing \$ 324.09
Total Expenses: \$12,425.17

Net Income: \$ ~420.00* estimate

Items from the Floor:

Dr. James Whitman introduced Dr. Matt Mandel, MD from the Volunteers In Medicine (VIM) Clinic. Dr. Mandel gave a PowerPoint presentation on the operation and the financial situation of the Clinic. Dr. Mandel stated that there is a need for volunteer Hygienists, Assistants and Dentists. Dr. Sakshaug and Dr. Whitman stated that

volunteering at VIM has been a rewarding experience. Any Dental personal that wishes to donate their time, please contact Dr. Sakshaug at doctom1977@gmail.com .

A motion was made to donate \$2000.00 to VIM Clinic. The motion had a second and voted affirmatively by the members in attendance.

Dr. Paul Gamache stated that scholarship applications for the Dr. Stephan Stone Educational Stipend is available. The completed form is due January 31, 2014. Applications are available from info@berkshiredental.org or at www.massdental.org under the "For the Public – Dental Careers" tab.

Dr. Paul Gamache and Dr. Lisa Gamache requested that any member available to volunteer at the Yankee information booths in Boston this year please contact him at info@paulgamachedmd.com .

Dental Continuing Education Meeting:

Dr. Thomas Sakshaug hosted tonight's meeting. Jerry Kaizer, C.D.T. from Murray Kaizer Dental Lab gave a talk on Removable Prosthetics.

Next General Membership Meeting:

Dr. Jolene Krol will host our next Monday Night Meeting on January 6, 2014.
Dr. Lance Smagalski will speak on Oral Surgery.

*Minutes of Monthly Meeting submitted by District Secretary – Dr. Paul Gamache
www.berkshiredistrict.org, Members Only tab, username=BDDS, password=Williams*