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Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
December 8, 2014 Cork N Hearth Restaurant, Lee, MA

Chair's Report: Dr. Lisa Gamache

Dr. Lisa Gamache welcomed all the members in attendance to this evenings meeting.

Dr. Charlie St. John and Dr. Alan Metzger were presented with Life Membership Pins from the American Dental Association. Congratulations to these long standing members of BDDS!

MDS Trustee's Report: Dr. Jay Wise

Issues you need to know about:

1. Attention Shoppers!! Avoid the rush. Only 23 days left to get our great Dental Assistants registered for licensure.
 - a. The drop-dead deadline is Dec 31. We have all found out the application process is not as easy as they said it would be. But you still ***gotta*** do it. I have had many inquiries asking if this is for real....the answer is yup. If they were going to bump the deadline back, they would have done it by now.
 - b. As of the November 5 BORID meeting, a whopping 134 dental assistants out of an expected 16,000 had actually completed and submitted the application. So you can just imagine that the remaining 15,866 applications will hit the BORID mailroom on about December 30. Note to self: do not hold breath for a speedy reply from BORID. They will likely be underwater for a good while, even though the bank deposit of your hard earned money will certainly get same day service.
 - c. BORID confirms that receipt of application + fee (cause it's all about the money) by Dec 31 will be deemed to be in compliance for obtaining a license.
 - d. BORID says: Dental assistant certification (e.g., DANB) is optional, but licensure through BORID is mandatory for all clinical assistants or any front desk staff that may perform (even occasional) overlapping clinical duties.

- e. This is your MDS link (strongly recommended to use the BORID website just to download and print the application, otherwise it is pretty unhelpful)....all info is here: <http://www.massdental.org/daregs.aspx> Attached are the pages if you have trouble logging in.
 - f. Other questions? You can contact Ellen Factor at MDS 1-800-342-8747
2. Dental Assistant CE Requirements:
- a. By October 15, 2015 each assistant will need to complete 4 – 6 CEU's in infection control and BLS/CPR.
 - b. MDS is really trying to step up to the plate for us....so watch for free or low tuition classes to be offered both at YDC and regionally over the coming year. You should have no problem accessing the appropriate and needed credits over the coming year.
3. Many thanks to all of you who registered for Veteran's Smile Day. As you may know, this outreach had great potential but was a bust. MDS was unsuccessful in coordinating with the local Veteran's groups to get us some patients. It worked in Boston, but not in the Berkshires. We will not leave this to chance next year if they do it again. It is for our local community, and the local Vet's groups did not respond to MDS...so next year we will start earlier and keep it local-- with guidance from MDS but not leaving the arrangements totally up to them.
4. Helpful Calendar of Really Important Stuff (excuse yourself right now from your lovely dinner, your engaging discussions with colleagues, go home, and mark your calendar)

January 13, 2014	BDDS Evening Meeting	TBA
January 28 - February 1, 2015	Yankee Dental Congress	BCEC, Boston
February 9, 2015	BDDS Evening Meeting	TBA
March 9, 2015	BDDS Evening Meeting	TBA
April 13, 2015	BDDS Evening Meeting	TBA
April 15, 2015	Beacon Hill Day	Statehouse, Boston
May TBD, 2015	BDDS All Day Meeting	TBA
June 12, 2015	MDS Annual Session	Burlington Marriott Burlington, MA
October 14, 2015	BDDS All Day Meeting	TBA
November 5 - 10, 2015	ADA Annual Session	Washington, DC

Treasurer's Report: Dr. Thomas Sakshaug

Current Balances as of 12/8/2014:

Checking:	\$ 1,961.28	
Money Market:	\$ 9,635.40	0.06% APY
Available for use:	\$11,596.68	
CD 30 Month	\$ 8,066.98	0.60% APY, matures 1-10-16
CD 36 month	\$ 8,089.38	0.80% APY, matures 7-10-16
CD 36 Month	\$17,052.03	0.80% APY, matures 7-14-17
CD 48 Month	\$12,045.87	1.00% APY, matures 7-14-18
Total CDs:	\$45,254.26	
Total funds:	\$56,850.94	

The Fall 2014 All-Day Meeting was cancelled. I have refunded the vendor fees and the tuition checks have been destroyed. No bill has been received from The Williams Inn. There have been expenses for printing and mailing totaling \$1196.15.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE: The BDDS is beginning to get hurt financially at certain restaurants due to dentists' failure to RSVP or to show up. If you plan to come, please inform the person running the dinner. If you do so, please come to the meeting! We sometimes must pay based on RSVPs. Please plan ahead and stick to your plan.

BDDS Representative's to MDS Council's Report:

Dr. Ed Helitzer represents the BDDS by serving on the MDS Council of Dental Care & Benefits. He stated that there recently was a training session involving participants of the MDS Peer Review program. This program is a voluntary avenue for patients to register a complaint against a Dentist without involving BORID and/or attorneys. Complaints are best dealt with on this level. The financial implications are limited to the refund of procedure related fees. A release prohibiting any further action is also obtained at the resolution of the complaint.

Items from the Floor:

Dr. Alice Rudin currently serves on the Board of Directors of Berkshire Area Health Education Center (AHEC). This organization is tasked with advancing access to high quality healthcare & healthy lifestyles through academic and community partnerships. Their bylaws require that a Dentist serve on their Board. Dr. Rudin's term limit has been reached. She is asking for a Dentist to step forward and sit on this Board. The time commitment is attendance at 6 meetings per year. They usually start on a Thursday around 4:30 and last for approximately 90 minutes. Interested Dentists please contact Dr. Alice Rudin at camden1000@yahoo.com .

Dr. Tom Sakshaug received a Thank-You letter from the Dental Clinic at Volunteers in Medicine in Great Barrington. Any personal donations would be great appreciated at this time as a current fund raising effort involves a matching grant.

Dr. Paul Gamache would like to remind everyone that applications for the Dental Allied Health Stipend are due January 31, 2015. The application is available for download at www.berkshiredental.org under the CE tab.

Dental Continuing Education Meeting:

Dr. Fred Hyman hosted tonight's meeting.

Dr. Lisa Nelson and Michele LaRock, MS, RD, LDN gave a talk on Nutrition.

Next General Membership Meeting:

Dr. Louis Yarmosky will host our next Monday Night Meeting on January 12, 2014.

Dr. Louis and Steve Yarmosky will speak on Saliva Cancer Screening.

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