

Berkshire District Dental Society

www.berkshiredental.org

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
January 9, 2012 Cork 'N Hearth Restaurant, Lee, MA

Chairman's Report: Dr. Eric Holmgren

Dr. Eric Holmgren welcomed the members to this evenings well attended meeting.

Dr. Louis Yarmosky and Dr. John Moresi were honored with Life Membership pins from the ADA/MDS/BDDS. This pin in awarded to members with 30 consecutive years of service to our profession society.

MDS asked BDDS to review our bylaws and update them where appropriate. Such updating included changing some gender bias language and removal of positions no longer needed by our District. The update was sent to all BDDS member via email prior to this evenings meeting. The MDS legal department did review and accept our updates. The Chair asked for a vote to accept the reviewed BDDS Bylaw changes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by those members in attendance.

www.berkshiredental.org is up and running. Please take some time to log on, bookmark it on your favorite browser and review the site. The web site has a members only section where the current BDDS Bylaws have been posted along with the minutes of our past meetings. A username and password is needed to access this members only section. The username is BDDS and the password is Holmgren. (The password will change when a new BDDS Chair is elected.) Both username and password is case specific. In addition to containing the geographical information of our current members, the web site contains a list of our continuing educational events and invitations to our monthly meetings.

Treasurer's Report: Dr. Thomas Sakshaug

Current Balances as of 1-9-2012:

Checking:	\$	852.37
Money Market:	<u>\$27,860.97</u>	0.40% APY
Available for use:	\$28,713.34	

CD 37 Month	\$ 5,500.17	2.50% APY, matures 7-9-12
CD 37 Month:	<u>\$ 7,242.40</u>	2.20% APY, matures 7-9-13
CD 37 Month	\$10,648.58	1.50% APY, matures 7-9-14
Total CDs:	\$23,391.15	
Total funds:	\$52,104.49	

One check for \$50 written in September has not been cashed. This was a memorial donation to Hospicecare through a funeral home. I will contact the funeral home soon.

A reminder: Any member of an MDS Council, Committee or Task Force who travels to attend a meeting thereof and submits a report to the District at a BDDS meeting or via the minutes will be given a \$50 stipend by the BDDS each time upon request.

The Trustee will receive annual reimbursement for dues in lieu of travel expenses.

District Representative's to MDS Councils Report:

Dr. Pat Carsell represents the Berkshire District on the Council of Public Affairs. The following is a report of a November 16, 2011 meeting in Southborough.

1. The Non-Covered Services Bill is still in committee. The MDS lobbyists are working to get the bill moving. The MDS Board of Trustees have reviewed potential amendments.
2. Boston Bruins Hockey Player Zdeno Chara is involved in a new advertising campaign with MDS. Television advertisements on NESN will feature Chara discussing the importance of mouth guards. There will also be a poster featuring the hockey player showcasing his use of mouth guards. The poster will be distributed to secondary schools throughout Massachusetts. These posters are available to individual MDS dentist through the MDS website. There will be another advertising campaign emphasizing the importance of flossing for overall health. These ads will run statewide in January and February.
3. Olson Research Group has started reaching out to MDS member dentists in an effort to obtain information on Delta fees. This will be an online survey. It is imperative to take the time to respond and complete this survey as it will allow MDS to prepare in future deliberations with Delta Dental concerning reimbursements. Members participating in this online survey will receive an honorarium of \$65.00.

4. Community Health Centers (CHC) will likely play a greater role in the future in providing dental and medical care. Massachusetts funds CHC's out of a different pool than MassHealth which leaves the possibility that there might be funding for CHC's even if there are no funds for MassHealth dental benefits. The Council feels that the expansion of CHC's are positive because they do not compete with private practice dentists. CHC's also take some political pressure of private practices as they allow dentists a resource to refer patients who cannot afford traditional fee for service care. MDS feels it is important to support these centers, because it enables us to show legislators that we have helped out in their districts and are working to help low income patients.

5. Beacon Hill Day will be held on Wednesday, April 11, 2012. Last year BDDS had a great turnout with Drs. Yarmosky, Drs. Ballinger, Dr. Gold and Dr. Wasserman in attendance.

Items from the Floor:

Dr. Paul Gamache reminded members that Scholarship Applications for current students of Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting are due by January 31, 2012. Applications are available by calling Dr. Gamache at 442-8664.

Dental Continuing Education Meeting:

Dr. Craig Fischer and Dr. Stuart Sandrew hosted tonight's meeting. Dr. Erich Schmidt gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Periodontal Consideration and Treatment in the Esthetic Zone.

Next General Membership Meeting:

Dr. Joshua Kleederman will give a presentation on Vertical Dimension at our next Monday Night Meeting on February 6, 2012 at Berkshire Hills Country Club.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting submitted by District Secretary – Dr. Paul Gamache