



www.berkshiredental.org

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
February 6, 2018 Mazzeos Ristorante, Pittsfield

Chair's Report: Dr. Erich Schmidt

The 2018-2019 BDDS Nominations Ballot was emailed to the membership at large prior to this evening's meeting. Dr. Tom Sakshaug informed the membership that there was a change to the Nominations Committee. Upon hearing of the amended Ballot, a motion was made to accept. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The Ballot still has need of a member to act as District Secretary and represent BDDS on the Council of Public Affairs.

A proposal for a new BDDS website was emailed to the membership at large prior to this evening's meeting. A call for discussion was made. A motion was made to proceed with a new website. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MDS Trustee's Report: Dr. Jay Wise

There was a small glitch in the online renewal process for Dental Licensure. Two essential questions were not present in the application when initially available to Dentists when renewing their Dental License in January. These questions have to do with a Dentist being a billing or non-billing MassHealth provider. Answers to these questions are required by a new Massachusetts law and have to be submitted for re-licensure.

The Delta Insurance Company is converting from a non-profit entity to a for-profit entity. It is believed they will ultimately eliminate their Delta Premier Insurance

coverage. Delta PPO will not reimburse Dental services at the same level as Delta Premier.

MDS has been engaged in a three-pronged approach to respond to this action by Delta Dental. The first has been to approach the Massachusetts Commissioner of Insurance, the second has been to approach the Massachusetts Attorney General and the third has been to propose new Massachusetts Legislation.

Dr. David Lustbader is the current MDS President and an Oral Surgeon in the South Shore District. He had been a valiant champion is presenting the needs and concerns of Massachusetts Dentists.

The Massachusetts Legislation is currently considering two Bills with regard to the Mid-level care provider. One is supported financially by the PEW Grant and the other by MDS.

There is Governance Reform coming to MDS. The proposal will decrease the amount of MDS Officers' and District Trustees & Delegates. This should make it easier for younger Dentists to get involved and increase mobility of the leadership.

IMPORTANT DATES

- April 25, 2018 Beacon Hill Day
- June 8, 2018 House of Delegates

BDDS Representative's to MDS Council's Report:

Dr. Ed Helitzer represents BDDS by serving on The Constitution and Bylaws Committee. This committee is actively engaged in exploring how MDS is governed by its leadership and how changes might occur in the future. Currently there are 14 District Trustees, 8 MDS Executive Officers and 11 MDS Councils and Committees. A Regovernance is being proposed to decrease these numbers of representation. It is being proposed that the Berkshire District share MDS representation at the Trustee level with the Valley District.

Dr. Ed Helitzer is also being placed on an MDS Committee to interact with Delta Dental Insurance company.

Dr. Ed Helitzer stated that he will attempt to initiate a financial program in cooperation with the Greylock Federal Credit union. Modeled after a similar program being

proposed in the Cape Cod District, lower financing rates can be obtained for an Associate Dentist or purchasing Dentist when the senior Dentist is an MDS member.

Items from the Floor:

Dr. Tom Sakshaug stated that the Volunteers In Medicine Clinic in Great Barrington gave BDDS a Thank you note for our recent donation of \$2500.

Whitney Smith, RDH and Michelle Shalaby are volunteers at the Volunteers In Medicine Clinic in Great Barrington. They both gave a presentation of the health and dental care that the VIM Clinic provides to the working poor in the Berkshires. In FY 2017, the VIM clinic treated 550 patients in 1300 patient visits using 900 volunteer hours. Their dental clinic features the Dentrrix practice management software incorporated with digital radiography.

They asked the membership if there are any dental care providers willing to donate four hours a month to aid in their efforts. There is a great need for Dental Hygienists. The Clinic also has a program for Dentists to treat VIM patients either in the Great Barrington office or the volunteering Dentists' office. Those interested members can contact Dr. Tom Sakshaug at doctom1977@gmail.com for more information.

Treasurer's Report: Dr. Jolene Krol

Current Balances as of 2/12/2018

Checking: \$ 7,426.91
Money Market: \$ 5,430.64 0.05% APY

Available for use: \$ 12,857.55

CD 36 month	\$17,488.17	0.797% APY, matures 7-14-20
CD 37 Month	\$ 5,192.30	1.834% APY, matures 2-10-19
CD 36 Month	\$10,170.32	1.144% APY, matures 8-10-19
CD 48 Month	\$12,431.69	0.995% APY, matures 7-14-18
Total CDs:	\$45,282.48	
Total funds:	\$58,140.03	

Dental Continuing Education Meeting:

Dr. Louis Yarmosky hosted tonight's meeting.

Dr. Lauren Ballinger gave a talk on Myofacial Appliances.

Next General Membership Meeting:

Dr. Charlie St. John will host our next Tuesday Night Meeting on March 6, 2018.

Dr. Sara Martinelli will speak on Dental Resorption.

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