

**.Montana Association of Naturopathic Physicians
General Membership Meeting – Boulder Hot Springs
March 27, 2010**

Members Present

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| • Jacqueline Arnold | • Sarah Lane | • Jeff Roush |
| • Roberta Bourgon | • Michael Lang | • Karen Stenseth |
| • Noelle Butler | • Thor Liebert | • Seth Stenseth |
| • Paloma Defuentes | • Breanna McElgunn | • Robin Thomson |
| • Joanna Dove | • Ian Nesbit | • Ann Waltz |
| • Nancy Dunne | • Deb Oleynik | • Chris White |
| • Kate Kennedy | • Nancy Patterson | |

Others Present

- Gail Brockbank, Executive Director

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Sarah Lane at 5:15 pm.

Review of Agenda

President Lane noted that the following reports were provided in writing in advance of the meeting to the entire membership. Reports attached.

- President's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Board of Alternative Health Care Report
- AANP Report
- Executive Director's Report

Interest was expressed in setting up a Yahoo chat group. This idea was first raised during the Coding Class as a means to have an ongoing question and answer forum.

Motion: It was moved and seconded to have a Yahoo group for charting, coding purposes. Motion approved. Robin Thomson and Joanna Dove were appointed to work on this issue and inform the membership by email of progress.

Legislative Issues

Breanna McElgunn noted that she is currently the only member on the committee. She stated that the issues from SB 287 will be renewed by the Health Freedom Coalition in the 2011 Legislative session. She has called lobbyists to inquire about services provided by them.

McElgunn noted that the results of the 2009 fall member survey indicate that insurance equity seems to be of greatest interest. Other issues of importance identified were maintaining licensure and extending formulary.

In accordance with the consensus of the group, President Lane charged the Legislative Committee to write a statement regarding the Health Freedom Act (SB 287) from the 2009 session and to research issues regarding insurance equity.

Nan Dunne and Jeff Roush were appointed to serve with Breanna McElgunn on the Legislative Committee.

Formulary

There was considerable discussion about the formulary, conflicting interpretations of the law and situations of pharmacies not allowing naturopaths to prescribe according to the formulary. Following discussion, and in accordance with consensus of the members present, President Lane appointed Nan Dunne to communicate with Cheryl Brandt (Director of the Board of Alternative Health

Care), Margaret Beeson, ND (Chair of Board of AHC) and Nancy Aagenes, ND (Member of Board of AHC) about the situations described and develop a plan of action that will be timely to obtain answers when questions arise.

Loan Forgiveness

Sarah Lane reported that naturopaths were not included in the legislation for loan relief if working on an Indian reservation but that Senator Tester is supportive of such action. Karen Howard, executive director of the AANP, expressed optimism that we may be able to include this during the amendment process. Howard will keep the MANP informed on further actions.

CME

President Lane noted that Satya Ambrose, ND, LAc will be the speaker at the 2010 fall meeting, September 25 & 26. She asked for suggestions for topics and speakers for 2011 spring and fall.

There was considerable support to invite Mona Morstein, ND to present on diabetes in 2011. Several other ideas presented included Steve Austin, ND on nutrition updates, Molly Linton, ND of Bastyr on any naturopathic topic, pediatrics being one option. Members were encouraged to provide topics and possible speakers on the evaluation form. The Executive Committee will finalize details for the 2011 sessions since no members were interested in serving on a CME committee.

Tax Exempt Status

Gail Brockbank stated that while the MANP is current with its corporation filing with the Montana Secretary of State it was discovered this year that the EIN in use was assigned to another individual and in talking with the attorney who worked on articles of incorporation there is not record that tax exempt status with the IRS was ever applied for.

Joanna Dove stated that it will cost about \$1500 plus some additional government fees from the government to file the papers for tax-exempt status.

Motion: It was moved and seconded to direct Joanna Dove and Gail Brockbank to engage an attorney to do so. Motion approved.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the anticipated costs of \$2000 be used from the Legislative Budget and not increase the 2010 budget. Motion approved.

Website and Brochure

Heron Botanicals

Motion: It was moved and seconded to enter into an agreement with Heron Botanicals to return 10% of sales by MANP members to the MANP. This will be a quarterly payment. Motion was approved. It was noted during discussion this was not to be an exclusive agreement.

Google Group

Further discussion indicated a desire for the Yahoo chat group to include more issues than just coding and charting and be for general discussion. It was restated that Joanna Dove and Robin Thomson will pursue this option and keep the members informed.

Website and Brochure

There was discussion about the current website and desire to enhance it to include more information about the naturopathic profession. Sarah Lane and Jeff Green will explore costs and ideas. It was suggested that input be sought from the entire membership on what the purpose and content of the site should be. Joanna Dove is seeking input for the content of the brochure and will update.

2011 – 20 years of Licensing

A celebration to honor 20 years of licensing for the naturopathic profession will be discussed and planned in greater detail at the fall meeting. The idea of a legislative reception was presented. It was noted this should be included in the 2011 budget.

Meeting adjourned – 7:00 pm