

**Montana Association of Naturopathic Physicians  
General Membership Meeting – Boulder Hot Springs  
March 28, 2009**

**Members Present**

- |                    |                   |                      |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| • Nancy Aagenes    | • Kate Kennedy    | • Nancy Patterson    |
| • Jacqui Arnold    | • Sarah Lane      | • Jeff Roush         |
| • Roberta Bourgon  | • Amy Leonard     | • Matthew Schlechten |
| • Paloma Defuentes | • Breanna McElgun | • Ann Waltz          |
| • Joanna Dove      | • Jeff Moore      | • Christine White    |
| • Vicki Homer      | • Ian Nesbit      |                      |

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Roberta Bourgon.

**Review of Agenda**

President Bourgon noted that the following reports were provided in writing. Reports attached.

- President's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- AANP Report
- Executive Director's Report

**Board of Alternative Health Care – Nancy Aagenes**

Nancy Aagenes stated that the complaint process and detail work for midwifery takes the most time of the board work. She reminded the membership that if you are late with your license renewal the fees double and therefore she encouraged everyone to renew on time. She voiced how impressed she was with the Board process and encouraged feedback on the process from the membership. She stated that the board may, in the future, look at charting requirements. No action has been taken on this to date.

**New Business – Insurance Issue and Healthcare Reform**

Nancy Aagenes thanked the Executive for being proactive and bringing the issue before the membership. She provided the following background and overview.

- **H. CON. RES. 58** (attached) – The AANP has been one of seven groups that have worked on this resolution. Aagenes has made contact on several occasions with the offices of Senator Max Baucus. To date, Senator Baucus has not agreed to introduce a resolution in the Senate. Aagenes encouraged all present to contact the Senators office in their region of Montana (contact info provided) and express the sentiments of the opening statement in this document.

Additionally President Bourgon will craft a letter to the senator and gain consensus from the membership on the content then sign with notation of all members who support the message.

Additionally a summary of information will be provided to the membership that can be placed in offices so that patients are aware and can contact the Senator's office.

- **How can we be more effective?** – Aagenes encouraged members to ask this question of the Senator's staff and funnel responses to Karen Howard, executive director of AANP, or herself.

- **Health Plan by NDs** – Naturopathic doctors cannot propose a plan by themselves but should pursue every avenue to have a seat at the decision-making table.
- **SB 287** – “An act exempting providers of certain health care services from regulation in order to allow for consumer freedom and access to the services; prohibiting certain acts by individuals providing unlicensed health care services; providing penalties and sanctions; and requiring disclosure.”

Many entities signed on to oppose this legislation and the MANP Executive Committee officially opposed the legislation but due to the time constraints of gathering input and reaching consensus from the full membership did not sign the opposition letter. Agenes assured the membership that this particular bill is dead for this session.

It is expected that similar legislation will be introduced in 2011.

- **AANP in Montana** – Chris White stated that Karen Howard of the AANP should visit Montana and provide direction to the MANP on legislative issues and building support and consensus on issues. This will supported by those in attendance.

Roberta Bourgon will invite Karen Howard and coordinate the details of her time in Montana with the membership.

- **Motion:** It was moved and seconded to create a Legislative Committee. Motion approved.

Individuals who are interested in serving on the committee should contact President Bourgon. A committee will be formed by the end of April.

### **Leadership Montana**

- **Motion:** It was moved and seconded that the MANP will cover tuition for one ND to attend the 2009 / 2010 class of Leadership Montana. Motion approved.

Members must apply by March 31 and if more than one ND is selected to attend the Executive Committee will make a final selection. Recipient is expected to share the learning by taking a leadership role in MANP.

### **Meeting adjourned.**