

**Montana Association of Naturopathic Physicians
General Membership Meeting – Boulder Hot Springs
October 1, 2011**

Members Present

- Nancy Aagenes
- Michael Bergkamp
- Timothy Binder
- Katie Carter
- Joanna Dove
- Amy Haynes
- Victoria Homer
- Melody Keller
- Kate Kennedy
- Sarah Lane
- Thor Liebert
- Ian Nesbit
- Deb Oleynik
- Nancy Patterson
- Laura Repola
- Matthew Schlechten
- Christine White

Others Present

- Gail Brockbank, Executive Director

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Sarah Lane at 4:55 pm.

President Sarah Lane noted the written reports from president, treasurer, Board of Alternative Healthcare and executive director had been provided in advance.

A balance sheet through the end of August was requested. This will be provided by Gail at a later date.

It was announced that Dr. Nancy Patterson has been appointed to the Board of Alternative Healthcare.

2012 Proposed Budget (on file)

Dr. Dove presented the proposed 2012 budget and provided reasoning of line items on both the income and expense side.

Motion: A motion was made to approve the 2012 budget as presented by Treasurer Joanna Dove. Motion was seconded and carried.

Continuing Medical Education

Sarah Lane spoke of her interest in a seminar relating to dental origins of systemic diseases for the 2012 spring CME. She recommends that it be held in Missoula and advertised nationally for greater participation. At this time the preferred dates are April 5 & 6, 2012. This seminar would be 1½ days with a panel at the closing.

Motion: It was moved and seconded to offer this CME for the MANP spring meeting. Motion approved. Sarah Lane agreed to manage the details.

The CME topic and location for the fall meeting has not been established at this time.

Income Sources

Sarah Lane spoke of the need to begin to find new income resources, permanent money making programs. Ideas include webinars, larger reach for continuing education, etc.

Amy Haynes suggested a variety of ideas – events, sponsored bike ride or fun run, publications with coupons, work with companies that have white labels, quarterly CME of three hours with

time donated by presenters, talks to the public with the public paying to attend and the presenting NDs give income to MANP, cards in offices to donate to the MANP.

A committee to work with Amy on income generating ideas was established. Members are Amy Haynes, Katie Carter, Matthew Schlechten, Laura Repola, and Timothy Binder. Others are welcome to join in. Ideas will be presented at the spring meeting.

Election of Officers

The offices of president and secretary are open for election to a two year term.

Motion: It was moved and seconded to elect Sarah Lane as president and Thor Liebert as secretary by acclamation. Motion approved.

Legislative Committee

Laura Repola reported that she, Jeff Roush, and Jeff Green meet by Skype and address issues as they arise, including the letter from Lorilee Schoenbeck, ND of Vermont.

The context of the letter from Dr. Schoenbeck (on file) was discussed. There is a desire and interest to get naturopathic doctors on board with the healthcare reforms that will come down from the federal government.

It was suggested that a Skype meeting of the membership about this issue should be scheduled and led by the Legislative Committee. The purpose of this meeting would be to set direction for Montana as identified by the MANP. The task of scheduling a meeting was not assigned to an individual.

The idea of requesting an exemption from city business licensing was presented. This idea was presented since MDs are exempt from purchasing a city business license. General consensus of the group was that the process to make the change was not of value to the membership.

Revised Bylaws for the MANP

The membership was informed that new and updated bylaws have been received at the association office from the tax attorney. These are current with Montana law for a nonprofit to operate in Montana. These will be reviewed by the Executive Committee prior to the end of the year and presented to the membership for approval at the next business meeting.

Other

Dry Needling – Medical professionals in Montana who are not trained in acupuncture are practicing dry needling in Montana. The dry needling process involves puncturing the skin. A committee of the Board of Medical Examiners is researching this issue. The MANP supports the stand of the licensed acupuncturists that dry needling is indeed acupuncture and that it is illegal for anyone not licensed as an acupuncturist in Montana to do dry needling.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that Joanna Dove, NC, LAc prepare a letter to the Board of Medical Examiners for the signature of the MANP president. This letter will document why the process of dry needling is illegal in Montana. Motion approved.

- **Emily Kane** – Emily Kane, ND of Alaska was challenged two years ago for writing a hormone prescription. Her efforts to work for the establishment of a Board to oversee licensing and to correct this issue require the assistance of an attorney. There was discussion about providing financial assistance.

A Spokane, Washington ND has been ordered to cease and desist her practice due to a charge that she is offering procedures that are allowed only by MDs.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that Dr. Sarah Lane gather additional information on both situations and prepare an email to the membership. This will allow the membership to support financially or by letter as each feels is appropriate. Motion approved.

- **Montana Health Cooperative** – Every state must have a Health Insurance Cooperative as mandated by federal health care reform. Because a state agency was not authorized by the 2011 Montana Legislature to develop this, private groups can now apply to the federal government for funding to develop a health cooperative.

The group that is preparing the proposal for funding has requested a letter of support from the MANP.

Nancy Aagenes agreed to draft a letter of support that will also include the statement that the MANP supports this effort providing a ND is invited to sit on the Board. Michael Bergkamp agreed to serve as the Board member.

Meeting Adjourned – 6:00 pm.