

# MARYLAND INITIATIVE

Quarterly Meeting  
Date: January 29, 2007  
3:00 to 5:00 pm

1 **Present:** Karen Kaiser, Kat Herbert, Gail Katz, Micke Brown, Carol Billett, Michelle Lonchar, Crystal Sanniez (Pharmacy  
2 Student), Wendy Toler.

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4 **Participants by Conference Call:** Mary Vargas

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6 **Absent Board Members:** Will Rowe, Dr. Tim Keay, Lynn McPherson

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8 Meeting called to order by Karen Kaiser at 3:30 pm.  
9 Welcome and introductions were made

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11 **Executive Board Report:** Karen Kaiser

12  
13 **Subject:** MPI coordinator position has been filled. June Winkler was former volunteer coordinator for the Palliative Care  
14 Team at the University of Maryland Medical Center. She started in January as a contract employee, IRS form and invoice  
15 filed. She has a computer and should be available by email at home and will be available at the MPI email account.

16  
17 **ACTION:** Orientation will possibly be done by Micke. Shannon has a set of notebooks with MPI documents which Micke  
18 will obtain and turn over to June. Mary Vargas will work with Micke to transfer the MPI laptop over to June. Each of these  
19 items can be stored in the APF office (MPI File Cabinet) as needed.

20  
21 **Subject:** Board Elections. New members needed for new input. Members hold positions for 2 one year terms in a row.

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23 **ACTION:** Membership recruitment should reach out to organizations with similar interests for committee work. Projects  
24 may aid attracting those who wish to contribute in a tangible way.

25  
26 Suggested activities included:

- 27 ○ Invite representatives from health care organizations such as Kaiser or insurers such as UHC.
- 28 ○ Provide "call for volunteer" materials for medical institutions to print in their internal newsletters.
- 29 ○ Utilize student's postings to recruit volunteers.
- 30 ○ Send emails to students in specialty areas, e.g. pharmacy.

31  
32 **ACTION** Each Board Member is responsible to help with membership growth. Key assignments were made in October for  
33 board candidates.

34 Targets of opportunity are:

- 35 ○ inviting MD's who are interested in participating in a Speaker's bureau,
- 36 ○ contacting organizations such as Multiple Sclerosis Society, Lupus (Kat and Gail),
- 37 ○ reach out to Nurse Practitioner groups in MD. [NAPNAP AND NPAM] (Carol),
- 38 ○ invite Christian Johannsen and his mother, Fanny, who teaches at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing and  
39 developed the Pain O Meter. Both/either may be possible Board candidates (Carol)

40  
41 **Subject:** Board of Directors 2007-2009: Carol will continue as secretary. Will, Micke, Kat, Gail will continue as Board  
42 Members. Mary Vargas willing to sign checks, does oversight as treasurer but not, taxes and grants etc. Possibly could be  
43 done by Jeannie Hornsby at American Pain Foundation.

44  
45 **ACTION:** Karen will talk to Will.

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1 **Subject: Power Over Pain:** Shannon had a Public Listening in Washington County in November.  
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3 **ACTION:** Micke will try to get an update regarding Public Listening Activities if she is able to meet with Shannon.  
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5

## 6 **Treasurer's Report:** Mary Vargas

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8 Basic Operating Account \$18,500 Power Over Pain  
9 \$46,820 LAF  
10 \$ 2,400 AACPI  
11

12 **Subject:** Status of letter regarding 501-C3 status.  
13

14 **ACTION:** Mary will check on it.  
15

## 16 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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18 **Grant Reports:** Karen Kaiser  
19

20 AACPI grant.; Anita Tarzian and Karen Kaiser are co-investigators. Why does Power over Pain work in Washington  
21 County?

- 22 • Challenges:  
23 ○ not able to get focus groups coordinated,  
24 ○ focus group members to select an advocacy project of their own choosing.  
25

26 MHCCF grant; survey of community pharmacists (chronic pain, abuse and diversion).

- 27 • Phase 1: Focus group to work test survey questions re: role delineation.  
28 • Phase 2: Develop web based educational program.  
29

30 **Subject:** Alliance of State Pain Initiatives (ASPI) suggests that MPI Board members should be donating to MPI.  
31

32 **ACTION:** Karen will investigate how/if other groups/SPI's get Board members to donate and how donation is defined.  
33

## 34 **Public Policy/Advocacy: Micke for Will Rowe**

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36 **Subject:** National Pain Care Policy Act for 2007  
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38 This has been revised from HR1020 through the work of the Pain Care Forum. Problem areas have been rewritten and  
39 now the bill needs new sponsors in both Houses. Congressman Rogers will continue to sponsor in House of  
40 Representatives but now in minority—need for ranking Democrat to sponsor as partner. Also, looking for Senate  
41 sponsors, like Kennedy, Hatch, Mikulski and others. Bipartisan approach will be more successful. Rewrites of the bill are  
42 now available.  
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44 **ACTION:** Micke will send out online  
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46 **Subject:** Methadone issue.  
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Continued discussion from October meeting: Karen has not been able to reach out to Jack Schwartz AAG for a continued dialogue about the concerns of MPI. She will discuss this when she invites him on our board (if he is allowed to serve while in his role).

**Subject:** Med Chi. Opioid Task Force (Marcia Wolf MD-Chair)

Educational Sessions have been proposed by the TR. Lynn McPherson and a Physician will reach out and volunteer to serve. It would be helpful for MPI to have a liaison with Med Chi via our physician board or general membership. Med Chi was instrumental in opposing the Prescription Monitoring Bill (PMP) and worked through the Governor, who exercised his veto powers. Current studies from PPSG have demonstrated that there are negative ramifications within PMP states. Most of those with PMP's have demonstrated a decrease in opioid use, therefore, another barrier to access in pain care.

**ACTION:** Gail will check with Carolyn Quattrocki at the Attorney General's office to see what the atmosphere is there about renewed activity to re-introduce a PMP in Maryland. Lynn will invite Marcia Wolf MD to join MPI board and volunteer to serve in educational venues for Med Chi around opioids.

**Subject:** Legislation & Miscellaneous Policy Items.

Nothing is currently pending. Usually occurs in April after Boards have gotten together (nursing, medical, pharmacy etc.) to give statement.

**PPSG Report:** Pain and Policy Studies Group (PPSG) from the University of Wisconsin. State Report card shows Maryland with a "B". States receiving an "A" were Virginia and Michigan. Concern expressed about Virginia results as access to care is significant especially in SW Virginia. Comments made that positive policy does not necessarily interpret to equal quality in practice.

**ACTION:** Micke will contact Michael Gloth re: state pain report and any action to operationalize recommendations in the 2004 Governor's report on pain in Maryland.

**Unintentional Abandonment Issue:** MPI's concern and work on this area was shared with the Pain Care Forum during Mark Caverly's visit (DEA). With his recommendation, a letter to the Department of Justice was drafted regarding what to do when the DEA shuts down a physician's practice and medical records are confiscated?

Additionally, Donetta Spears from the DEA (DC diversion program) has expressed interest in attending an MPI meeting. It is assumed that the final ruling by the DEA will be presented.

**ACTION:** Micke will keep MPI updated.

**Subject: Public Awareness/Professional Education**

- Pain Resource Directory: no progress
- State Cancer Plan: Gail will call and check on plans for revision
- POP campaign; APF POP Action Network: Maryland state leader, Gwen Herman, LCSW, also chronic pain patient; Montgomery County monthly support groups run by HCP is a successful model; Conference June 8<sup>th</sup>, Social Workers and Mental Health Care Workers focus, Board Members encouraged to attend.

**Coordinator's Updates: None**

**MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES:**

APF New Publication: Treatment Options has been released

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1 APF Spotlight on Shingles Campaign: Teresa Flynn is project leader for APF

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## Adjournment

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5 Recognizing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:15pm.

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7 Recorded by: Name/Date: Carol Billet, June Winkler, Micke Brown

8 Reviewed by: June Winkler & Karen Kaiser April 5, 2007

9 Approved by MPI Board:

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11 Supporting documents: none

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