



**MARYLAND PAIN INITIATIVE
MINUTES JANUARY 21, 2010**

PRESENT: Kathryn Walker, Karen Kaiser, Gail Katz and Carol Billett

PARTICIPATING BY PHONE: Jayme Halko, Suzanne Nesbitt, June Winkler, Beth Murinson

POLICY COMMITTEE: is considering having a Legislative Briefing to discuss the insurance barriers to medications for persons with pain and discuss the Summit issues. Pfizer has given unrestricted funding of \$2500. Jayme will set up a call with Larissa and Will to discuss further.

PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM: The committee presented a report today at a hearing in Annapolis. Gail doesn't know how that went because she couldn't find the meeting. A grant of \$400,000 for implementation has been awarded but the cost will be millions for the state. It is recommended that the process of implementation be started. The State has another project in the works for 2014 on medical records systems which would probably include some part of the Prescription Monitoring Program.

FUTURE MEETINGS: The next meeting will be on February 9, 2010 from 4:30 – 5:30, either in T1R14 at UMMS or at the Pharmacy School. Karen and Kat will check for the place. After that we will also meet on March 9, 2010 and then again in May or June.

CANCER PLAN: Gail Katz is co-chair with Amjad Rijar, of a committee to work on the Pain Chapter of this publication. They would like a physician to chair the committee. Perhaps the Maryland Pain Initiative could be involved. If you are interested, let Gail know. Several years ago Suzanne Nesbitt and Felicia Plummer worked on it.

MED-CHI RESOLUTION: was passed regarding the Health Insurer Code of Conduct.

LANCE ARMSTRONG FOUNDATION GRANT: Last report was submitted in November. They are no longer accepting Pediatric Patients in the Program in hospitals (UMMS, Sinai, Hopkins) but the Community Hospice Pediatric Patients are still in the program. The program will continue without the funding. Reduction in pain was accomplished. Gilchrist may open a Pediatric Hospice. The grant money has all been spent but the books are not closed yet.

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MPI NON PROFIT CHARTER AND FINANCES: Because our personal property taxes and 990 forms were not filed on time, and we were not granted an extension, we are no longer chartered as a 501C3 organization. As of October 2009. In order to correct this, we need to file papers as soon as possible. We need to re apply immediately. We will talk to the CPA who is working on our finances and give him a deadline of February 9, 2010 and ask him to tell us if this is not feasible, so that we can get someone else.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:	President	Dr.Tim Keay
	Treasurer	Carol Billett

At the next meeting we are to select someone to serve as Vice President and Secretary.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS: 3 people have expressed interest in serving on the Board: Mary French, Michelle Gillespie and Ron Lievendag.

BY-LAWS: need to be reviewed especially about the role of officers.

TO DO LIST:

1. Check with Texas State Pain Initiative to see what they did with the results of their Summit - June Winkler
2. Check status of Larissa Scruggs on this Board – Jayme Halko
3. Check list of vendors for conference calling – Karen Kaiser
4. January financial figures sent to June Winkler – Carol Billett
5. Check with Ramsey _____ to see if MPI can be involved with SAMSHA programs. – Gail Katz

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Gail Katz is available for consulting.

Beth Murinson’s book “Take Back Your Back” will be published in February.

Revised 4/10/10