



**MARYLAND PAIN INITIATIVE  
MINUTES MARCH 9, 2010**

**PRESENT:** Tim Keay, Carol Billett

**PARTICIPATING BY PHONE:** Will Rowe, Gail Katz, Suzanne Nesbitt, Micke Brown

**MINUTES:** of January 21, 2010 approved as corrected.

**CLARIFICATION:** about the discussion at the last meeting of the "Cancer Plan". The State of Maryland has a Comprehensive Cancer Plan which is being updated. Gail Katz is working on the chapter on pain.

**LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING:** Will Rowe suggests that we not have the briefing this year because of the issues the Legislature is dealing with, e.g. major deficits and cuts. Instead, he proposes that we involve a couple of legislators in a summer study group which would meet 4 times between July and October. They would be charged with coming up with pro-active strategies for the future. Will is willing to help plan this activity. Perhaps they could focus on a 2 – 3 year project on how well the Insurance Companies do in serving those people with pain and come up with a Report Card, similar to PPSG. They could devise criteria for good coverage and rate the insurance companies. We could be a template for other states to do the same thing. We could involve the faculty at the Hopkins School of Public Health. Will will connect with them as well as Jayme and Suzanne. Anyone interested in participating should let Will know.

**ASPI CONFERENCE CALL:** will be held on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. June Winkler will participate.

**PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PLAN:** A hearing was held in Annapolis on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Gail does not know what happened at the hearing. However, the Rogers grant is being written for the implementation of the program.

**NEW BOARD MEMBERS:** Three people have expressed interest in serving on the Board. They are: Michelle Gillespie, Mary French and Ron Lievendag. June will contact each of them and invite them to be part of the Board.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** We have no candidates for the position of Vice President or Secretary. Please consider offering your service prior to the next meeting.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Carol has been in touch with the accountant. Things are almost done. He needs to know when our last 990 was filed and she will check on that and go through old files which are in storage.

**FUTURE MEETINGS:** Next meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup> will be a conference call at 5pm. After that we will also meet on May 11<sup>th</sup>. Those details to be determined.