



The
Mastocytosis
Society

The Mastocytosis Society Board Meeting Minutes May 5, 2006

Meeting Called to order at 8:30 pm by Rita Barlow, Chair.

ATTENDEES:

Rita Barlow, Chair
Valerie Slee, Vice Chair
Regina Rentz, Treasurer
Wanda Hermann, Editor of the Mastocytosis Chronicles
Cindra Carey, Support Group Chair
Len Levenda, Special Projects Chair.

ABSENT:

Susan Manchester (partial medical leave)

ACTIONS:

Motion made to approve April minutes submitted by Len. A correction was made as to who attended, and the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Motion was made to reassign duties to Valerie Slee as MAB Liaison, and to Rita Barlow as Interim Research Chair, with the Research Committee now reporting to Rita on an interim basis to improve communications and team efficiency after discussion. Motion seconded and passed unanimously.

▶ OLD BUSINESS:

- The AAAAI contact list from the card reader was handled by Len, who contacted the doctors that showed an interest in receiving more info
- 2006 Conference details
 - We were awarded \$5,000 in response to the grant submitted by Valerie, (with the assistance from Jim Boyle of Dey Pharmaceuticals). This grant specifically outlines how the money is to be allocated.



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- 2006 Conference details (continued)
 - Valerie also submitted a proposal to a bottled water company for free bottled water for conference participants. Results are pending, but we were told it was very late to apply for this year.
 - Children's activities for the conference will be handled by a volunteer teacher.
 - It was decided that the majority of articles for the conference will be copied to a CD to cut printing and shipping costs.
 - Many doctors have offered to speak at the conference in response to our invitation, and so far, we have the following speakers: Dr. Norton Greenberger, Dr. Melody Carter, Dr. Srdan Verstovsek, Dr. Cem Akin, Dr. Mariana Castells, and Dr. Luis Escribano. We are still waiting for replies from the rest of the MAB—Dr. Valent, Dr. Austen, Dr. Miner, and Dr. Oh. Dr. Butterfield has a full speaking schedule already for the fall, so she prefers to attend the conference and participate in the panel discussions.
 - We discussed the pros and cons of the positions of board chair versus committee chair positions.
- The 2007 Conference will be held in Houston, Texas, and Wanda is collecting information about area hotels for us to peruse.
- The name expansion discussion was tabled after discussion with the MAB, and after noting that the membership was in favor of the name change by a significant majority. However, the MAB brought up issues that caused us to postpone the action of formally changing the name for the present time. One of those issues was defining what the disorders of mast cell activation were.



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- Bylaw discussion—revisions were completed, and sent to Jim Boyle, a volunteer advisor, and to Maryland Association of Non-profit Organization for review.
- Ballot dates: submission for candidacy is no later than June 1, 2006. Ballots will be mailed in late July/early August, and are due back in early September.
- Discussion was held on how to best solicit member input on geographical locations for the 2008 conference.
- Valerie introduced the idea of teleconferencing for board meetings to improve speed and ease of communication. Initial inquiries yielded that costs were reasonable for up to ten meeting participants, so Valerie will proceed with further pricing and set-up of this service through Premier Global Services.
- Old bylaws, proposed bylaw revisions, and the new, confirmed bylaws will be made available to members by email, website, or be available by postal mail, by written request.

. Meeting was adjourned at 10:55 EST pm.