

Ohio Association of Physician Assistants
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2023

The OAPA Board of Directors convened in a hybrid format (in person and via Zoom). Present were Board members Freado, Hart, Marangoni, Irwin, Fitzgerald, Cubra, Brown, Mathur, and Bixel. Not present were Board members McDiffett, Gavin, Talboo, and Izsak. There was a quorum. Also present were Student Rep-Elect Patel, Committee Chairs Sittek, Roane, Gorzitze-Maxey, Pagel, D'Alessandro, and Fitzgerald, AAPA Delegates Bowlby, Hirkala, Pagel, Pagliaccio, Roxas, Thompson, and Urena, 5 SCSRs, and Executive Director Vanneman.

President Freado called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Secretary-Treasurer Irwin introduced the July 29, 2023 board of directors meeting minutes.

ACTION: Hart moved to approve the minutes. Marangoni seconded. The motion carried.

Irwin reviewed the financial report, noting the deficit budget and underperformance of the conference. Vanneman summarized a recent discussion with a CPA on the state of OAPA's financial management.

ACTION: Fitzgerald moved to approve the financial report. Hart seconded. The motion carried.

Freado gave the president's report, highlighting onboarding activities with Vanneman, facilitation of the operational transition between Adamson and Vanneman, and frequent contact with the board and chairs.

Fitzgerald, Region 1 Director, discussed joint Region 1 & 2 dinners, a speaking engagement, and attending a white coat ceremony.

There was no report from Region 2 due to Gavin not in attendance.

Hart directed the board to read the email update about Region 3 due to Talboo not in attendance.

Cubra, Region 4 Director, reported on upcoming dinners, development of a webinar presented by a PA working in a burn ICU, and collaboration with other Regional Directors on a list of pharmaceutical reps.

Freado highlighted the Region 5 report from the board book due to Izsak not in attendance.

Brown, Region 6 Director, discussed joint Region 6 & 7 events to improve turnout.

Mathur, Region 7 Director, reported plans to attend a white coat ceremony and solicit feedback from members in the region.

Bixel, Student Representative, stated that PA program spotlights are ongoing (Patel handling), the PA OlymPACs will be Oct. 14, web updates are planned, and pre-PA program engagement is needed.

A PAPC report in the board book from Scott Cackler was referenced.

Vanneman reviewed the executive director's report, discussing initial impressions, challenges, and planned activities for the coming quarter. Current membership counts and data were provided.

D'Alessandro, Membership Chair, reported on representing OAPA at an industry event, the dues increase taking effect on October 1, and pausing the group membership discount plan for further review. Ideas for membership recruitment and engagement were broached. A Bylaws update is needed to align with AAPA on voting privileges for Retired members. The tenure of student memberships may be reconsidered. Vanneman shared challenges related to the quality of membership data available in the database.

Sittek, Communications Chair, reviewed recent website improvements and social media campaigns. Freado invited contributions of op-eds, student research, and other content for newsletters, notification of outdated information on the web for correcting, and engagement in social media posts.

Freado highlighted the Public Relations report from the board book due to McDiffett not in attendance.

Fitzgerland, Student Affairs Chair, provided a PA OlymPAcs planning update.

Roane, Diversity Chair, reviewed the success of the DEI-related webinar and seeks to plan another for June 2024. The committee selected the Diversity Scholarship winner.

Pagel, Government Affairs Chair, referenced the report included in the board book, noting that updates were coded in italics. Activity has focused on the proposal for a licensed mental health assistant, the PA title change, PA compact, and supervision. Advocacy updates from AAPA will be reviewed in an annual conference session.

Pagel also noted that 2024 will be the 20th anniversary of the Pharmacology Conference, an event that was impactful in expanding PA practice opportunities related to prescribing.

Freado highlighted the Reimbursement report from the board book due to Rotuno not in attendance.

Gorzitze-Maxey, Education Chair, announced a meeting with Pagel and Bowlby and consideration of ideas for CME and non-CME educational offerings.

Freado noted discussions with McDiffett regarding anticipated Bylaws amendments. There are no nominations and elections updates.

Freado announced that outgoing Executive Director Beth Adamson would be receiving the Hudson Award, and also that the Trimbath Award would be granted this year, along with 5 scholarships.

Under Old Business, there were no updates on the Standard Operating Procedures.

Under New Business, discussion ensued regarding celebrating PA Week, new opportunities to recruit and retain members and demonstrate value, and structural/technical efforts to prepare for member growth.

Pagel, Lead AAPA Delegate, listed off the 2024 delegates for Ohio and future AAPA conference locations.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m. The next meeting is January 2024.