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## **OCMS Board of Directors' Meeting Notes Tuesday, July 14, 2020, Zoom virtual**

In attendance:

Barry Auster, MD  
Anna DiLorenzo, MD  
Vashali Bhargava, MD  
Paul Bozyk, MD  
Sharon Geimer, MD  
Sherwin Imlay, MD  
Rahul Mehta, MD  
Christopher Milback, MD  
Donald Peven, MD  
Manveen Saluja, MD  
Gary Sarafa, MD  
Joseph Skoney, MD  
Joann Smith, MD

Also, in attendance:

Cindy Dady

Meeting called to order by Sharon Geimer, MD, President at 6:05 p.m.

### **Consent Agenda**

Under the consent agenda, the May Board of Director minutes and the June Executive Board minutes were approved by the Board with no changes.

### **COVID-19/Implicit Bias Training**

Doctor Bozyk said that both the AMA and MSMS have been cognitive of implicit bias training. He said Governor Whitmer requiring the training was not well received at the time she implemented it. He said while talking to leadership at MSMS and taking comments from OCMS members and Beaumont physicians, he feels it was probably well intentioned but poorly messaged. MSMS was going to try to work with the Governor's office to align the intent with what they wanted to accomplish.

Doctor Skoney said that his group of 22 physicians thought it was demeaning to physicians. He said they train at Wayne State, so they know what is going on in Detroit, but they still have to take classes to be sensitive to other people. He said it should not be for front line physicians working hard and trying to do everything they can. He commented that one of his physicians said they had way more testing at Henry Ford in Detroit than they had at Beaumont. He feels as a group we

should send a letter saying the training is ridiculous, do any lawyers, teachers, etc. have to go through this?

Doctor Smith said that she cannot imagine any physicians she knows that would run from trouble and not care adequately for every patient. Doctor Saluja feels we need to put the focus back on the social determinates of health. Doctor Bozyk said he told MSMS that we should be very mindful of anymore mandatory CME.

Doctor Geimer said she is unsure how to get the right, effective words to the Governor. Doctor Milback said he is fine with working through our colleagues and leadership. Doctor Bozyk agreed with Doctor Milback and said it is probably better that the state society take the lead and work on our behalf. Doctor Geimer said then the letter should be focused on telling the Governor and MSMS that we are not in support of not adding one more burden, that we respect diversity for its goals and ask our government to do the same. Board agreed.

COVID-19 update – Doctor Geimer said she has seen an uptake in cases and more panic from her patients and colleagues. She sees a lot more testing and a lot more explaining of what positive and negative tests mean. Doctor Bozyk said that Beaumont had the largest number of positive patients yesterday since May 2<sup>nd</sup>. He said the patients admitted now are not nearly as sick as the ones in March. He commented that some are coming in with other ailments and are positive for COVID when tested. Doctor Mehta says that people need to look at the trends, he says he feels the viral load is down and we are managing the patients differently now than the beginning when we were dealing with a lot of unknown. Doctor Geimer said that we just need to make sure we are ready for the future and the unknown. Several Board members mentioned issues with the dissemination of information on COVID.

### **OCMS Board of Directors Composition/President-Elect Candidate**

Cindy said that we currently have one open Board position. Since Doctor Peven was no longer on the MSMS Board she asked if he would like to rejoin the OCMS Board. Doctor Peven agreed to rejoin the Board temporarily. Cindy also mentioned that we are still seeking a President-Elect. Doctor Smith asked if Doctor Geimer would consider doing a second year. She said she feels honored but thinks we need someone who has more progressive, young ideas. Doctor Bozyk said that Doctor Geimer has done an amazing job this past year and he will take on the president-elect role for another year if the Board felt that was the right thing to do. Doctor Geimer said she has some family commitments she needs to focus on which is why she signed up for a one-year term. Doctor Bhargava had joined the meeting at this point. Doctor Geimer asked if she would have interest in the President-Elect position. She said she would think about it and would let Cindy know of her decision. Cindy said she needed to know by the middle of August as we would need to send out a ballot.

### **OCMS Lease**

Cindy said our lease expires next June and we need to let them know six months before if we will renew. She said we have a lot of space that is not used, especially the conference room. She wanted discussion on whether we need a smaller space or no space at all and going completely virtual. Most Board members agreed to downsize. They felt we needed a physical presence. Cindy said our current location is nice, but it is just a lot of space that is not getting used. Doctor Geimer suggested contacting the landlord to see if they can find us a smaller space. Board agreed.

### **OCMS Membership Dues Update**

Cindy said we need to approve the discount for dues renewal for 2020 and the flyer showing the county dues being discounted. A motion was made to approve the discount of \$50 off normal membership dues and the flyer to be included with dues invoices. Motion for both was approved. Cindy said that her anticipation is that dues will be down this year. She said she is worried about the anesthesiology group. Doctor Bozyk said that things are still up in the air as contracts are being worked out, etc. Doctor Milback said that we should plan that the anesthesiology group will not rejoin.

Cindy said she also provided everyone with an OCMS Bulletin Readership update. She said we trend higher than the national average for readership. She also provided a membership analysis that was done by Kevin McFtridge at MSMS. Lastly, she wanted to try to figure out as we have gone virtual what our benefits should look like. She said she is trying to offer several programs virtually especially for our practice managers. Doctor Mehta mentioned there is a lot of uncertainty about who is paying for all the COVID testing. He said there is some confusion with coding for testing and reimbursement. Several Board members shared their stories regarding this.

### **OCMS Financials**

Doctor Gupta began discussion on third quarter financials. Cindy said there were not a lot of changes in this quarter. She mentioned we have gained back a lot of the loss from our investments. There was a question from the Board on salaries from last year to this year and Cindy said it was because of Stephanie starting in May 2019.

Doctor Gupta said that membership dues could possibly be 5-10% less this year. Cindy said they took the dues down \$25,000 in case of the loss. She said advertising for the bulletin should still do well we are receiving more calls to advertise. Doctor Geimer mentioned she found the old advertising for OCMS from about 10 years ago where which our organization was compared to having a detective, lawyer, IT consultant and a lobbyist on call for our members every day. She thinks we should not sell ourselves short and should market correctly. She commented we need to be a voice to help medicine move forward in a very challenging time and help define the new norm.

Cindy said her and Doctor Geimer decided to use some of the money for the medical students and transfer to resident education for 2020-2021. Cindy said she would like to give Stephanie a 3% raise for her work with the practice manager including promoting membership. A motion was made to increase the salary for Stephanie for the 2020-2021 budget, motion passed. Doctor Geimer said that a review was needed for Cindy in the future. Motion was made and budget for 2020-2021 was approved.

### **OCMS Fall 2020 Planning**

Cindy said we need to decide on plans for our Annual Meeting, virtual, speaker, etc. Doctor Geimer recommended going virtual based on the exposure to and from healthcare providers. She said to send the Board a questionnaire on what they might want for an annual meeting.

Virtual education for the fall will include a Front Office Program, COVID Human Resource Update, Business of Medicine Two-Part Event, Elizabeth Woodcock – Telemedicine in the New Normal and Practice Success in the New Normal plus our Preserving Dignity Dementia Conference – Part II – Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Open Discussion**

Doctor Bozyk said he was talking with Sarah Waun and discussing the opportunity for in-person meetings with our legislators. He wanted to know if Board felt this would be beneficial. Cindy said that we have been having our legislative meetings in conjunction with Wayne State Medical Society due to low attendance at our own meetings. Doctor Bozyk said we should try to meet one-on-one with legislators to have a more personal approach to discuss advocacy issues. Doctor Bhargava said that they do this at the national level with ACOG. Cindy said she would discuss this with Sarah.

**Meeting ended at 7:45 p.m.**