**NJABBP Board of Directors Meeting**

**Date: 04/21/2017**

**Time: 10:00AM**

**Participants:** Pascal George, Susan Kusic, David Moolten M.D., Sally Wells, Dennis Todd Ph.D,

Vicki Wille, Joanne Basket, Jerry Kaplan, Brian Sauers, Jeffrey Miripol, Joanne Toscano, Pilar Brahim, Grace Tenorio M.D., Jerry Grossman, Manimala Roy M.D.

Charles Wilson, Julie Clothier and Colleen Hinrichsen by phone.

**• The meeting was opened by Pascal George.**

* **Meeting Minutes**: The January 6th, 2017 meeting minutes were discussed. A motion was made by Manimala Roy M.D. to approve the minutes and seconded by Vicki Wille.
* **Summary of Task Force Meeting** – presented by Dennis Todd
* Robert Rees (NJ State Dept. of Health) was in attendance at the Task force Meeting. The following was discussed:

Babesia: Testing and handling of reports. CBER recommends testing all units with permanent deferral of those testing positive.

Bacterial risk control strategies: This was the major discussion point at the BPAC meeting. Verax testing was discussed.

Ferritin testing of blood donors: 16 year olds tested for ferritin are falling below normal levels. The female deferral is 1 year and the male deferral is 6 months. Half of all blood donors would have been deferred from one center due to unacceptable ferritin levels.

Zika Testing: There have been two ZIKA positive donor units in NJ; one has been confirmed as positive. The State is looking at documentation and counseling letters to the donors.

Annual Statistics: The annual statistics are complete. Collections are down; utilization of red cells is up. Nationally, both collections and utilization are down. The decrease in

utilization is running at 2% annually. The State report may be delayed.

FDA – BPAC Meeting: Emerging tick borne diseases and MSM deferrals were discussed.

Dennis Todd will distribute a summary of Robert Reese’s comments from the Task Force Committee meeting.

* **Treasurer’s Report:** Susan Kusic reported balances as of 4/18/2017.

January: $85,779.33

February: $88,457.62

March $104,342.15

Current balance as of 4/18/2017: $112,039.80

• **Announcement of 2017 – 2018 New Jersey Association of Blood Bank Professionals (NJABBP)**

**Officers, Board Members and Chairmen**

Officers (new \*)

President – Vicki Wille \*

1st Vice President: Greg Francis \* Secretary: Joanne Toscano \*

2nd Vice President: Joanne Basket Treasurer: Susan Kusic

Immediate Past President: Pascal George\*

Board of Directors (new \*)

Jerrold Grossman, Ph.D. Brian Sauers

Laurett Gannon – CJBC \* Charles Wilson

John Johann – CBCNJ Pilar Brahim

David Moolten M.D. Manimala Roy M.D.

Pat Kennedy Hatem Sabaawy M.D., Ph.D. \*

Eric Pluckhorn \* Kip Kuttner, D.O.

Susan Kusic made the motion to approve the slate; seconded by Pilar Brahim. All were in favor, none opposed. The 2017 – 2018 slate was approved. It was noted that the Board is now comprised of 4 blood center, 4 industry and 4 hospital representatives.

The following Chairman and Members were also announced:

Legislative Taskforce Dennis Todd, Ph.D.

Blood Bank Supervisors Joanne Basket

Vicki Wille

Pat Kennedy

Industry Council/Funding Opportunities Pascal George \*

Sally Wells, Gerald Kaplan

Website/Membership/Outreach Colleen Hinrichsen \*

& Development Kathryn Owens, David Moolten, M.D.

Scholarship (Technical Only) Pilar Brahim

Susan Kusic, Vicki Wille, Cecilia Wong, Grace Tenorio, M.D.

2018 Annual Meeting Co-chair Track I – David Moolten, M.D. \*

Co chair Track I – Manimala Roy, M.D., FCAP \*

Co chair Track II – Brian Sauers \*

Co chair Track II – Laurett Gannon \*

Paid Secretarial Support Kathryn Owens

Sally Wells suggested that Greg Francis remain as Chairman of the Website Committee since he has an IT background and a desire to stay on. Pascal was in agreement. Greg will be reinstated as Chairman of the Website Committee.

• **Spring Conference Readiness:**

Speakers, Hotel and Dinner - Vicki Wille

Vicki has a block of12 rooms set up at the Hyatt (May 15 -16) for speakers and any others interested in a room. Dinner is planned for the 15th from 6-8 pm at the Hyatt. Vicki will send invitations for dinner to the board members and speakers.

Sally provided a list of speakers that have not returned their speaker packets and/or presentations. She asked that the members who arranged the speakers to please follow-up

by getting the paperwork to Kathryn as soon as possible. She also needs financial disclosures signed by the people involved with getting the speakers.

Vicki stressed that the Chair’s and Co chairs of both tracks for 2017 – 2018 must understand that their main responsibility is to recruit speakers. She thanked everyone who recruited speakers for this year. Sally suggested having a conference call with board members in early August to discuss progress.

Logistics, Raffle, Annual Meeting, Booklet – Sally Wells

Raffle Prizes: Sally asked if anyone else was interested in donating prizes for the raffle. A few people volunteered to do this.

Sally has been in touch with the people that are renovating the RWJ courtyard. The square footage should remain the same, but she will know by September.

ARC Credits – Sally Wells

Sally recommended that Dr. Grace Tenorio take over the CEU paperwork next year. Dr. Tenorio

has accepted.

Registrations – Colleen Hinrichsen

Kathryn will be contacted for the total number of registrants to date and will be requested to send out another registration blast email on Monday. The Final Program is already on the website under “Events”.

Susan has a team ready to check people in at the meeting. Everyone will be asked to verify that their personal information is correct; including email at check in.

Blood Centers have been asked to print the Program and Registration and send it out with blood deliveries.

Sponsorships – Jerry Kaplan

Sally reported $38,600 from vendors; the highest year ever. We have fewer companies but more money. There are 4 new vendors. She reported 1 Diamond (Octapharma), 3 Platinum,

6 Gold, 9 Silver, 9 Bronze, 3 Friends of and Quotient Technology for the Name Badges.

Joanne Basket mentioned that the N.J. Sharing Network is interested. She will call them.

• **Website/Membership Committee report** – Colleen Hinrichsen

Colleen recently sent emails to all members announcing the Annual Meeting. There are currently over 100 people on the member list.

Content Subcommittee – David Moolten M.D.

The subcommittee members received training by Julie regarding access to the site and making changes. The blog is being worked on. An email will be sent out to members asking for contributions such as interesting cases.

• **Supervisors’ Committee** – Joanne Basket

The meeting on April 14th went well. It was a great turnout. Supervisors from Pennsylvania joined the call and provided much input. Robert Reese dialed in and was very helpful. He discussed electronic documentation for transfusion monitoring. It was an open forum and

many questions were geared to the State DOH. A question was asked if the CE credits are documented at the AABB Annual Meeting. Pascal will check with the AABB regarding this.

• **Scholarship Committee** – Pilar Brahim

Three applications have been received. One of the three applicants is no t from the Blood Bank field but is in a Laboratory field. The Committee will meet after this meeting to review the

applications.

• **Other Issues** - None

• The meeting was adjourned at 11:15am. The Annual Meeting is May 16, 2017.

Respectively submitted by: Joanne Toscano, MT (ASCP) SBB on May 14, 2017.