



HAWAI'I PSYCHIATRIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Monthly Membership Meeting

August 4, 2011

Mission: Helping Hawaii's Psychiatrists Provide the Highest Quality Care

Location: Homes of Dr. Akaka on Oahu, and Dr. Sakuda on Maui.

Attendees on Oahu: Jeffrey Akaka, MD (President) Iqbal Ahmed, MD, Helenna Nakama, MD (scribe) , Greg Prier, DO, Steve Kemble, MD, Donald Banik, MD.

Attendees on Maui, via conference call: Amber Rohner Sakuda, MD, Leslie Gise, MD, Richard Senyszyn, MD

Call to order: 6:20pm

Motion was made by Dr. Kemble, and seconded to approve the minutes of the last meeting.
Motion carried.

Announcements: Dr. Kemble has been elected President Elect of the Hawaii Medical Association. He has also been nominated to be on the Governor's task force on Universal Access to Care.

Roll Call: Everyone attending was welcomed to the group, and introduced themselves, and let the group know what they wanted from the HPMA and what they might do to move the HPMA in that direction. Suggested directions included increased collegiality, bringing together residents and community psychiatrists outside of the workplace possibly via lectures, improving the stature of psychiatry in the community, increasing our membership, becoming involved in the advocacy arena, and utilizing the annual meeting here as a springboard for additional involvement of members.

President's Report: The task force to complete the application for a CALF grant to fund advocacy efforts in the 2011-2012 legislative season met on July 30, 2011. The grant request letter has been completed, and the financial form required to accompany the request has been sent to SBIMS for completion.

Treasurer's Report: As of June 24, 2011, we have \$ 4,200. At the end of the year, after paying our monthly obligations for management functions including our website and database, keeping \$ 500 in reserve, we will still have \$ 2,000 in outstanding obligations, which we expect we will be able to cover as the new rounds of dues come in.

Membership Report: We currently have 202 members in total from all categories, an increase from 178 last year. 3 new full dues paying members attended this meeting. Reasons for the

increase are suspected to be the Annual Meeting fee reduction for members, return of former members who sense that the APA has changed for the better, and a greater sense that, through our new communication vehicles like member clicks and the website, one can belong to a vibrant, worthwhile organization that is doing a tremendous amount of good for our members as well as our patients and the community.

Ethics Committee (Dr. Prier): No new complaints. All old ones resolved.

Legislative Committee: All the old bills from last year are still alive, and those killed may be resurrected. The aftermath of the announced retirement of the chief national architect of the crash course prescribing bills remains unclear, but we must remain vigilant. The leadership of the HPMA had a very productive meeting with the Chair of the House Health Committee last week, who we hope will be able to again defeat crash course prescribing efforts in the house.

Nominating Committee: Nominees as put forth by the Nominating Committee for 2011-2012:

President: Jeffrey Akaka, MD
President Elect: Iqbal Ahmed, MD
Secretary: Bill Sheehan, MD
Treasurer: Amber Lea Rohner Sakuda, MD
Chair Ethics Committee: Greg Prier, DO
ECP Rep: Amber Rohner Sakuda, MD
ECP Dep Rep: Lori Murayama-Sung, MD
MIT Rep: Lauren Hodge, MD
MIT Dep Rep: Amy Fuglei, MD
Assembly Rep: Leslie Gise, MD
Assembly Dep Rep: Iqbal Ahmed, MD

The above nominees were unanimously elected as a slate to be our officers for the 2011-2012 year. Congratulations to all!

New Business: Improving access to competent psychiatric care in rural areas of Hawaii.

Dr. Banik, as a National Health Care Scholarship Recipient, kindly agreed to be our point person to begin our efforts to get psychiatrists hired, as was he, into the Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). At our next meeting, he will educate our attendees, which hopefully will include Representative Yamane, on how the opportunities already available to hire psychiatrists into underserved areas, as was Dr. Banik to the Waianae Coast Community Health Center, may be utilized to put a psychiatrist into every FQHC in the State. The current barriers are the labor needed from FQHC staff to complete the federal application process, as well as the federal point system designating how underserved an area is. As an NHSC scholarship recipient, Dr. Banik has particular knowledge of how these barriers can be overcome. Dr. Kemble, as incoming president of the HMA, kindly agreed to investigate the possibility of the HMA soliciting funds from the AMA on parallel efforts to successfully complete applications for FQHCs, possibly by hiring someone via an HMA or AMA grant, specifically to fill out the applications necessary to hire not only psychiatrists, but primary care and specialist physicians, into the FQHCs. Dr. Ahmed suggested to invite another psychiatrist with firsthand experience of having gone through using the federally underserved area designation to obtain a job to meet the J1 waiver requirement as

an International Medical Graduate. Anyone interested in working with Dr. Banik on this project, please contact him at: DMBANIK@HOTMAIL.COM

Next meeting: Second Thursday of the month, specifically September 8, 2011 at home of Dr. Akaka on Oahu; please bring a beverage to share. Welcome Reception 6:00pm, Business meeting 6:30pm. Maui location pending.

We welcome anyone who would like to call in from their home, especially from Kauai, Hawaii, and Molokai. Email the phone number you would like to be called at to Dr. Akaka, and we will have one of the attendees at his home call you on their cell and put you on speakerphone.

Meeting adjourned: 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Nakama (Scribe for this meeting)