New Mexico Society of Otolaryngology – Minutes 4/21/2017

**1) Dr. Karen Hawley - President - General Society Updates**

* **Current officers:** Dr.Karen Hawley; Present and Secretary Treasurer. Dr. Tara Brennan; Program Chair. Will be voting on a new Program chair in Oct, Dr. Brennan will become Secretary-Treasurer and Dr. Hawley will remain president for one last year.
* **Finances:** We are about $8,000 in the black. Ideas for use of funds? Working on taxes, possible 501(c)3. Will vote on sponsoring a resident +/- society member to attend Leadership meeting next year.
* **Reminder about Oct 6 –** Balloon Fiesta Otolaryngology Symposium Karl Horn Lectureship, followed by Society dinner that evening. Possible non-physician speaker for society meeting; legislator or malpractice lawyer.

**2) Dr. Karen Hawley – Legislative Affairs Representative**

* **Recent completion of legislative session in NM** 
  + HB 215: Physician and Assistant Collaboration
  + Key points – changing “supervision” to “collaboration.” – very little discussion and even some discouraging of PAs having to provide their own malpractice insurance. No discussion about time frame to “collaboration” or specifics for subspecialty providers.
  + Worked with AAO-HNS and NMMS to addend the bills and improve wording. This included “collaboration or supervision,” assuring that PAs will have individual responsibility for own acts/omissions in care. Must have supervision for 3 years before “collaboration,” and “collaboration” is only okay in primary care settings – NOT for subspecialists.
* **Federal legislative updates**
  + Monitoring regulatory/legislative efforts to establish a framework for a category of Over-the-Counter (OTC) hearing aids for mild-to-moderate hearing loss. ▪ Reauthorization of the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program. ▪ Opposition to legislation that would inappropriately expand audiology’s scope of practice or re-classify audiologists as “physicians.” ▪ Support for FDA’s authority to regulate ALL tobacco products. ▪ Protecting access to allergy immunotherapy and other drugs/medications via in-office compounding. ▪ Preservation and/or expansion of graduate medical education (GME) funding.
* **Advocacy**
  + ENT PAC – Non-partisan funding in line with AAO-HNS Goals; completely separate funding
  + State Trackers – we currently have 43/50 states covered; I am the only one for NM right now. Once monthly meetings while states are in session. Emails about QOD to every third day ONLY during legislative sessions.
  + Project 535 – 435 House of Reps and 100 senators; coordinating phone/email campaigns. Currently 295 (55%) are covered. I cover Michelle Grisham (D) – House of Reps and Senators Udall (D) and Heinrich (D).

**3) Dr. Duncan Meiklejohn – Socioeconomic Grassroots Representative**

* **Attended the 2017 BOG Leadership Meeting**
  + Sat in as Governor for the first Governor’s Round Table
  + HighlightedSEGR discussion topics; PDF posted on the website. Highlights resources available through the Academy and steps to take for insurance issues/denials.
  + Members expressed concerns about denials “after the fact.” Recommend recording these issues for a few months and we can collaborate/organize a file to send to our regional reps – possible pattern and ways we can work together to avoid this issue

**4) Dr. Elizabeth Hobbs – Section for Residents and Fellows Representative**

* **Attended the 2017 BOG Leadership Meeting**
  + Highlighted benefits of resident attendance; ie mentorship, collaboration with residents, fellowship assistance, education re billing/coding, etc
  + Would love to have society sponsorship in the future

**5) Dr. Miriam Redleaf**

* **Presented on Cued Speech and expanding residency education in Ethiopia**

**Attendees:**

**Members –** Erica Bennett, Tara Brennan, Ron Escudero, Roland Gerencer, Karen Hawley, Belinda Mantle, Duncan Meiklejohn, Jason Mudd, Michael Spafford, Garth Olson, Lee Shama, Gene Wasylenki, Dean Yannias

**Residents –** Nizhoni Denipah, Elizabeth Hobbs, Brian Husen, Randy Loch, Robbie Nicholas

**Advanced Practice Providers –** Whitney Brennan, Adam Newman

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