

**Mississippi Dietetic Association  
Board of Director's Meeting Minutes  
Conference Call  
September 26, 2008**

Meeting called to order by Brent Fountain, MDA President

Quorum Established:

18 Attendees; 13 voting members --See attached Attendance and Report Code Spreadsheet

Opening comments: Brent Fountain made motion to accept agenda.

Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Laurel Lambert

Motion carried

Minutes from March 26, 2008: **Code: 9260800104**

Motion to accept minutes as presented by Gina Wack,

Motioned 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rebecca Kelly

Motion carried.

**President's report presented by Brent Fountain, Code: 9260800201**

B. Fountain reported on the results of the strategic planning meeting on July 11, 2008 and also that the Principles of Affiliation was submitted to ADA on time. He also reported on the conference call for affiliate presidents with Julianna Moore on September 25, 2008. The new responsibilities for president and president-elect include more involvement in public policy. There will be events at FNCE for president and president-elect related to public policy and any others interested may attend. Interested persons should notify B. Fountain. The public policy workshop is scheduled in Washington, D.C. for February 8-10, 2009. The State public policy representative (Kathy Warwick) will be involved in a webinar on Monday September 29, 2008 at 12 Noon. ADA is asking the state public policy representative to be more involved as well in order to get grassroots involvement at the state level. There are two approved training opportunities for public policy in 2009, the sites have not yet been determined.

**President elect's report presented by Gina Wack, Code: 9260800401**

G. Wack reported the date set for MDA FNCE is April 2-3, 2009 at the Medical Mall in Jackson, MS. A session for student poster presentations has been added for an additional 1 hr CPE credit. She is investigating the potential for a Viking "cook off" on Wednesday prior to the meeting and a wine tasting/pairing with foods presentation on Thursday evening. Also a research session is being planned and there was discussion of putting a request for abstracts and research on the MDA website and the Fall "Take Five." The theme is to center on the diverse talents of MDA members and she would like to showcase those RDs who are artists/artisans. B. Fountain suggested contacting General Mills for a speaker scholarship of \$750.00.

**Treasurer's report presented by Heather Crawford, Code: 9260801101**

Current balance: \$98,470.82

**ADA Delegate's Report (Elise Smith), Code: 9260801201**

**CPI report presented by Shelia Triggs, Code: 9260801001**

There was some discussion of the CPI position responsibility being shifted to chairing a committee to plan the state FNCE meeting since there is no longer a fall meeting (which was the primary responsibility of CPI chair in the past). B. Fountain stated the change in responsibility would need to be reflected in the By-laws. See "Business" section for continuation of this discussion.

**COER chair-elect report presented by Laurel Lambert, Code: 9260800502**

**COER chair report presented by Rebecca Kelly, Code: 9260800701**

R. Kelly reported on participation in a survey related to fees being charged for approving CEUs. Mississippi is the only one of seven states that currently does not charge for this service. Dietetics profession is the only health profession in MS that does not charge for approving CEUs. There was discussion that MDA could charge other health professions for approval of CEUs for RDs. Charges would require that the requesting provider of the CEU program apply for CEUs 4-6 weeks in advance. The Board decided to table the discussion of this to the next meeting.

**Public Policy Coordinator report presented by Karen Lewis, Code: 9260800601**

K. Lewis reported that she has set a goal of getting 25 letters sent to legislators when action alerts are sent out from ADA.

**Nominating Committee report presented by Christy Chain, Code: 9260801301**

C. Chain reported that nominations for Outstanding Dietitian, Recognized Young Dietitian, Emerging Leader, and Magnolia Award are also needed and can be solicited from the membership by being placed in "Take Five" and on the website. B. Fountain noted that there is a need to follow the timeline to allow time for nominations to be checked to make sure they meet qualifications (ADA membership etc). K. Lewis suggested one last mailing to inform members of the conversion to electronic communication and how voting will be done. Further discussion of this was moved to "Business" section.

**Business:**

**Principles of Affiliation:**

B. Fountain reported that the Gulf Coast district had a question regarding dietitians participating in the district meetings who were not ADA members. According to the Principles of Affiliation agreement with ADA, members of a district must be members of ADA and then MDA (as an affiliate of ADA). The agreement does not allow non-members to participate in the district unless they pay extra fees for CEUs.

There was discussion of how districts get names of dietitians living in their districts to contact for membership. Currently ADA sends affiliate list to MDA and the district presidents sends a list of current members to MDA for comparison. There needs to be some way for the district presidents to get the larger list for contacting dietitians to become members. Suggestion: put a district contact person on the MDA website and ask people who are interested in meetings to contact that person.

**Charging for Continuing Education Activities:** tables to next meeting.

**Reduction of Student Registration Fees for MDA FNCE:**

B. Fountain reported the current fee is \$55.00 with an increase in fee for late registration. This fee covers the meals for students only. There were approximately 100 students who

attended MDA this spring. If fees were waived this year MDA would have taken in about 3000 dollars less in revenue. Discussion that and ADA student member gets a reduced rate to encourage him/her to join ADA. Several suggestions were made: (1) reducing the fee this year because the meals are projected to cost less this year (however, the cost of meals fluctuates from year to year depending on cost of food and location of meeting, (2) waiving fees for students who are involved in the session they are helping to plan, (3) scholarship for students who have financial need. B. Fountain asked that either L. Lambert or R. Kelly contact programs and see how many students the fees would affect. K. Yadrick noted that fees are supposed to be spelled out in program description for dietetic internships. There is a need to check on the impact on undergraduates. L. Lambert will survey the program directors.

**Creative Committee Report: presented by Jacinda Roach, Code: 9260800302**

J. Roach reported the creative committee met on the 19<sup>th</sup> and had some suggestions related to other changes that could make the website even more user-friendly. Changes and advertisements can now be done at the MDA office.

**MDA Officer Candidate Nominating Procedure:**

Current By-laws required candidates for president-elect to have served on the Board of Directors (BOD) 2 years and to have been a district president. The nominating committee reports this has severely limited the pool of candidates for this office. It is possible that a qualified person has been elected to a position on the BOD and served for 2 years without having been a district president. See motion to change By-laws in "Motions" section.

**Council on Professional Issues (CPI) Description:**

B. Fountain reported that there is still a need for someone to fill the publication chair role. C. Chain suggested that some of those duties might possibly be moved to the CPI duties. B. Fountain suggest that CPI chair might oversee the publication chair position. K. Lewis stated the BOD needed to consider whether CPI should actually be a "member services" position. B. Fountain asked the CPI chair-elect, CPI chair, and the nominating committee meet to discuss changes in CPI position before the next meeting so that the BOD can discuss it further.

**Nominations to Serve on Advisory Council:**

See Nominating Committee Report on discussion and nomination of two persons to serve on the Mississippi Council of Advisors. See motion to accept these nominees in "Motions" section.

**Public Policy Workshop Dietetic Intern Scholarship:**

The BOD discussed providing a scholarship to a dietetic intern to attend the Public Policy Workshop in Washington, D.C. in February, 2009. B. Fountain stated ADA wanted the scholarship to go to an RD who would be a first time attendee to the workshop rather than a student. See motion below.

**Motions**

**1. Subject: Nomination procedure change for President-Elect**

Change the qualifications for president-elect to having served on the Executive Board of Directors for 2 years. Strike "and served as district president" from the by-laws.

**Motion Type: Main Motion**

**Motion made by: Brent Fountain**

**Motion seconded by: Christy Chain**

**Action taken: Adopted**

**Implementation:** B. Fountain will see that the change is made in the by-laws.

**2. Subject: Mississippi Council of Advisors**

The nominating committee submits the following candidates to the BOD for approval: Anne Westbrook, RD to serve a second term as the Clinical Dietetics representative Melinda Rush, DSN, FNP to serve as the Public Member.

**Motion Type: Main Motion**

**Motion made by: Nominating Committee** (Christy Chain, Chair)

**Motion seconded by:** Brent Fountain

**Action taken: Adopted**

**Implementation:** These candidates will be submitted to the Mississippi Council of Advisors.

**3. Subject: RD applicant to attend Public Policy Workshop**

A selection committee will review applications for a first-time RD to attend the ADA Public Policy Workshop.

**Motion Type: Main Motion**

**Motion made by:** Brent Fountain

**Motion seconded by:** G. Wack

**Action taken: Adopted**

**Implementation:** The selection committee will consist of MDA president, B. Fountain, Public Policy Coordinator, K. Lewis, and Gina Wack as ad hoc member).

**4. Subject: Public Policy Dietetic Intern Scholarship**

MDA will provide a scholarship only for registration fee (\$300.00) for an RD to attend the ADA Public Policy Workshop as a first time attendee.

**Motion Type: Main Motion**

**Motion made by:** Brent Fountain

**Motion seconded by:** E. Parks

**Action taken: Adopted**

**Implementation:** MDA will provide the 300 dollar registration fee.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Submitted by: Carol Connell, Secretary