

**MICHIGAN RHEUMATISM SOCIETY
MINUTES
May 15, 2008
Kensington Court, Ann Arbor**

Members Present:

Carol Beals, MD, President
Timothy Brennan, MD
David Fox, MD
Michele Gerber-Jaffee, MD
David Hamm, MD
Jolene R. Key, MD, Secretary/Treasurer
Fazle Mahmood, MD – Fellow member
Vladmir Ognenovski, MD
Jerome Rosenthal, MD
Joseph Skender, MD
Farhan Tahin, MD – Fellow member
J. Howard Uhl, MD
Joseph Weiss, MD
Than Win, MD

Doctor Carol Beals, thanked Lilly, Amgen and Genentech for their financial sponsorship of this meeting.

Doctor Beals then introduced the evenings speaker, Doctor Susan Broy from the Illinois Bone and Joint Institute. Doctor Broy then gave a 1 hour CME presentation on Osteoporosis including Absolute Fracture Risk Assessment. She explained the many risk factors and who is at risk for this disease. Many individuals at the meeting were intrigued by the amount of men that are now suffering for this disease as many thought this was just a disease of women. Doctor Broy explained in great detail that this is a disease of age and gender mostly, but some individuals who are not in the right “age group” do get the disease. This lecture was very informative and eye opening. There was a 30 question and answer session after the presentation.

President Carol Beals, MD, called the board meeting to order at 8:42 p.m. The minutes from the October 2007 meeting were presented and a motion was made and seconded and the minutes were approved as presented.

Doctor Jolene Key gave the board an overview of the February 29, 2008 financial statement and stated that as long as the income projected stays the same we will be have a profit of about \$920 this year. There were no questions on the financial statement

Doctor David Fox gave a presentation on the American College of Rheumatology, Affiliate Society Council. This is in replacement of the Regional Area Council that used to be in effect at the College. Doctor Fox explained that every state would be represented on this Council and encouraged the society to join. There was discussion about whether the state should join and what would be the benefits. Doctor Beals asked for a motion whether we should join or not and the motion was made and seconded for the Michigan Rheumatism Society to join the council.

Doctor Joseph Weiss gave an update on the MSMS House of Delegates that was held in late April at the Ritz Carlton in Dearborn. Doctor Weiss felt that this was one of the best meetings that MSMS has held in a long time. He made the members aware of a meeting that took place with the leaders of BCBSM to discuss the error non-payment issue. This is where BCBSM would refuse to pay the physician if there was a negligent error on the part of the physician (ie., removing the wrong limb). The problem that many physicians had with this issue is that BCBS does not, as of yet have a list of what the errors would be, this will be determined at a later date.

Doctor Beals also asked the members of the board if they would have an issue of have exhibits at the fall meeting, as long as they were not in the room of the CME presentation. She disclosed the fact that the pharmaceutical representatives have more funds available for exhibiting than the process of applying for a grant. Members of the society expressed no problem with the exhibits at the fall meeting. Doctor Beals asked Gina Gibson, MRHS Executive Director to pursue the pharmaceutical companies for exhibits at the fall meeting in Novi.

Doctor Beals also asked members if they would be interested in exploring the option of having a half day seminar/meeting sometime in the future. The dinner meeting attendance seems to be falling and so maybe if we could schedule something on a Saturday morning or an afternoon versus having people try to get to a meeting after having been in practice all day we might see better attendance. All members at the meeting were in favor of this idea.

There were three fellow members that were introduced by David Fox, MD – Farhan Tahin, MD; Than Win, MD; Fazle Mahmood, MD.

Doctor Beals asked if anyone had any other business. Hearing none, she adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.