

# APIC

## ASSOCIATION FOR PROFESSIONALS IN INFECTION CONTROL AND EPIDEMIOLOGY

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### Long Island Chapter 38

#### General Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2005

Agenda items denoted as being on consent are approved en masse with a single motion to expedite issues on which all agree. Any Board Member may transfer any item on the consent agenda to the regular agenda for discussion and consideration. Items on the consent agenda are denoted a ©.

V. Josie Padrone, President, called the Meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

**New Members Welcomed:** The membership welcomed Kathy Lynskey, Employee Health Services at South Hampton Hospital. Thank you for joining our membership and please continue to attend our meetings.

**Job Openings:** One position is currently open at Stony Brook University Hospital. Contact the facility's Human Resource Department for details.

### STANDING BUSINESS

**Treasurer's Report:** Joan Lucchetti reported for the first time the single account balance of \$15,842.27 in the General Fund and two \$5000 CDs earning 4%.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Alcohol Gels/Corridor letters to Fire Marshals:** Debbie DeDomenico was notified by Terry Straub of Greater New York Hospital Association that Alison Burke is working to overturn the Nassau County Fire Marshall's hard stand on preventing the instillation of alcohol hand sanitizers in the halls of Nassau County healthcare facilities. Debbie will contact Terry Straub following this meeting for an updated report.

**2005-2007 Strategic Plan:** The Board reviewed the Strategic plan for corrections/clarification. The group was unable to complete this task at this meeting, therefore, they agreed to allow for more time during the December meeting to review the plan.

**Chapter Bylaws:** The Bylaws are currently under review for needed changes relating to the new position of Treasurer-Elect and changing the Treasurer term of office to two years.

**Nomination Committee:** V. Josie Padrone was pleased to announce that Cindy Terruso had reported at the Board Meeting that Donna Caccavale has received a majority of votes for the position of secretary and (Fay) Perlita G. Kabigting also received a majority of votes for treasurer-elect. V.Josie Padrone congratulated both elected officers.

**Website Update:** Andrea Genovese-Candella continues to up-date the website. She encouraged all members to look on the website for "Infectious Awareables" for ideas for their gift giving this holiday season. The company's mission is to generate interest in public health issues, to educate and to provide pertinent information. The contributions are returned to those involved in research and education. APIC will receive 20% commission on all purchases made through our website.

**Membership:** Nancy Barrett reported that we have 97 members as of October 13, 2005. The board members discussed ways to encourage attendance for the meetings. The group agreed that we should have an evening meeting to see if attendance improves; if attendance is improved we will include more evening meetings in the future. The proposed hours are 2:00pm to 4:00pm Board Meeting, 4:00pm to 5:00pm Networking Meetings, 5:00pm to 6:00pm Education Conference and 6:00pm to 7:00pm General Meeting. Anyone with other ideas to increase attendance should contact Nancy Barrett.

**Fall 2006 Conference:** Francina Singh reported that the confirmed date is October 17, 2006 and the title of the conference will be the "Changing Faces of Infection Control". Francina requested assistance in contacting

vendors and she will contact speakers not already reached to solidify the agenda. The location for the conference is still indefinite. A subcommittee meeting is planned for 3pm today.

## NEW BUSINESS

**ICE I and ICE II Course in NYS:** Linda Kopmann reported that she received 13 ACEI candidates and 20 ACE II candidates from her survey. Linda will share this information at the NYSAC meeting.

**Chapter 38 Fact Sheet:** Linda Kopmann reviewed the fact sheet with the board and the editing was completed. Linda will have the final copy for the next meeting.

**Newsletter:** Marylou Soliday told the membership that we still had time for articles to be added to the newsletter. Anyone interested should contact Marylou.

**NYSACC:** Linda Kopmann brought to the board's attention that the price of gasoline has risen considerably but reimbursement rates have remained the same for many years for trips to Albany to attend NYSACC meetings. After discussion, the board members agreed that the reimbursement for gasoline should be increased to 48.5 cents per mile. The Policy and Procedure Manual will be updated to reflect this change.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Acute Care Report:** Barbara Kranz shared with the group her recent experience when her facility had unannounced inspections from both CMS and the Department of Health (Article 28 inspection). The inspections focused on the sanitary conditions of the units including the medication carts; the narcotic count; Infection Control Risk Assessment during construction. They looked for visible PI data when interviewing the staff about their rates. The inspection included open and closed chart reviews and when appropriate utilized the tracer methodology. The dual inspections were for seven days and they attended all shifts. The facility expects JCAHO in January, at which time they were told, any infractions that have not been rectified will be looked at more harshly. Josie Padrone asked the group if they supplied compatible soap and hand lotion to the staff. Many attendees have established programs for providing hand lotions and compatible soap.

**Long Term Care:** The group discussed a recent experience with four PPD conversions. The facility was working with the Department of Health to better understand the origin of the conversions. Also, they discussed inspections citations that included blow driers in the shower room and linen hampers in the hallways.

**Nassau County Department of Health Report:** Andrea Genovese-Candella reported that infected raccoons are moving toward Suffolk County.

**Suffolk County Department of Health Report:** Representative Lauren Barlow shared that the county was acting proactively in their attempts to control rabies by purchasing animal vaccine and distributing it throughout the county.

**Special Thank you to Dr. John Andresen for his outstanding lecture regarding Zoonoses . The membership appreciated his sharing his experience with West Nile Virus, the connection between man and animal broadened the audiences understanding of the disease process. Also, thank you to Mary Beth Andresen for her input and commitment to our program.**

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Next Meeting: December 20, 2005  
Brunswick Hospital Center  
12:00 noon

Education Program:  
Training Exchange Program  
Bring in your BEST education program to share with your colleagues.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Frances Edwards, RN, CIC

