

APIC

ASSOCIATION FOR PROFESSIONALS IN INFECTION CONTROL AND EPIDEMIOLOGY

Long Island Chapter 38

General Meeting Minutes

October 18, 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 1:00 pm. Prior to the meeting Debbie DeDomenico e-mailed proposed corrections to the September minutes, these corrections will be made as she suggested and the September minutes will be distributed. Thank you Debbie.

Josie wished everyone a happy Infection Control Week.

New Members Welcomed: The membership welcomed Roxanne Eberhardt, Nesconsett Nursing Center, Anne Nilsen, Bershire Nursing Center and Rehabilitation Center, and Dr. Sal Scarpita, Suffolk County Department of Health. Thank you for joining our membership and please continue to attend our meetings.

Job Openings: Two positions are currently open at Stony Brook University Hospital. Contact the facility's Human Resource Department for details.

STANDING BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report: Joan Lucchetti reported a balance of \$15,872.88 in the General Fund.

OLD BUSINESS

Alcohol Gels/Corridor letters to Fire Marshals: Debbie DeDomenico notified Terry Straub from Greater New York Hospital Association and discussed APIC's concerns regarding Nassau County facilities. Terry Straub agreed that this was an issue that she was also concerned about and would contact the appropriate parties. Also, recently Andrea Genovese-Canadella had an opportunity to briefly discuss this same issue with Dr. Ackerman, Nassau County Department of Health, and he also agreed to assist APIC with this proposal. The Board agreed that we should send Dr. Ackerman our position statement regarding the risks and benefits of the alcohol hand gels in the corridors of healthcare facilities. The Board reviewed the letter and Josie agreed to finalize the copy.

2005-2007 Strategic Plan: Josie Padrone reminded the group that the Strategic Plan is a Board of Directors Plan and time is to be dedicated during each Board Meeting, with Cely Wilfinger as Chairperson, reviewing The Plan. Again, thank you Cely.

Chapter Bylaws : The Bylaws are being revised to include the position of Treasurer-Elect and changing the Treasurer term of office to two years.

Nomination Committee: Cindy Terruso reported that Donna Caccavale has accepted the nomination for the position of secretary and (Fay) Perlita G. Kabigting accepted the nomination for treasurer-elect. Additional nominations to be sought at today's business meeting and two additional nominees Margaret (Ita) Hanson and Catherine Shannon will be asked to accept nominations for these offices.. The Board reviewed the procedure for mailing the ballots to the membership and the procedure for the tellers to count the vote. The group was reminded that the President is the only office with the authority to announce the election results to the individual winners.

Chapter Achievement Award/CBIC Chapter Certification: Jayne Abbenda and Mary Lou Soliday continue to work on applying for a Chapter Achievement Award. They are currently trying to identify how many of our members are certified in Infection Control. .

Website Update: Andrea Genovese-Candella plans to attach the monthly minutes, the completed By-laws and the Strategic Plan to the website. Please be sure to tell your colleagues and the vendors about the website, it is a great marketing tool for our Chapter.

Membership: Nancy Barrett reported that we have 97 members. Nancy continues to consider ways to encourage attendance and membership. Nancy distributed pamphlets from APIC National: "Building the future of infection prevention one member at a time" to the membership. This pamphlet has the membership application enclosed.

Fall 2006 Conference: Francina Singh was unable to attend this meeting but she spoke to Josie and reported that the confirmed date will be October 17, 2006 and the title of the conference will be the "Changing Phases of Infection Control". Francina is contacting vendors and speakers to solidify the agenda. More to come...

NEW BUSINESS

ICE I and ICE II Course in NYS: Linda Koppman was not present to report the results of the survey but she did speak to Josie and wanted the membership to know that the response was great and that she will follow up with more detail at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Acute Care Report: The group discussed their programs to increase influenza vaccine. Kathy DeBenedetto proudly shared how she more than doubled her patient immunizations. MaryBeth Andresen discussed her plans to culture her staffs' hands for Infection Control week. Josie Padrone asked the group about their experiences with chlorhexidine hand washes. She also asked the group about their policies regarding hand held nebulizers. Also, briefly discussed was surge capacity. The group agreed that the policies need to reflect increments of populations that needed healthcare, i.e., policy for 1-5 cases, 5-15, >15, >50, >100, etc. The group will discuss this again at the next meeting. Anyone who has a draft policy is encouraged to bring it in for the group's edification.

Long Term Care: The group discussed their experience with Department of Health surveys. Also, they discussed whether it would be prudent to have their hands on caregivers sign declinations if they refuse the influenza vaccine. The policies regarding grooming of healthcare worker fingernails' was brought to the table and group discussed who should the policy apply to. It was the experience of an ICP where the employee brought the policy to the union and to file a grievance.

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, the connection between man and animal broadened the audiences understanding of 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: November 15, 2005
Brunswick Hospital Center
12:00 pm

Education: Enhancing Computer Skills (Word)

Bring your lap top computer and an extension cord if you can.

Respectfully submitted by,
Frances Edwards, RN, CIC