**Delaware Cancer Consortium**

**Advisory Council**

**MinutesAPPROVED**

**July 21, 2014**

**DTCC, Terry Campus**

**Dover, DE**

**Attendees**



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| **Members** |  |
| Did Not Attend | Andria Bennett – DE House of Representatives |
| Did Not Attend | Ruth Briggs-King – DE House of Representatives |
| Attended | William Bowser, Esq, - Young, Conaway, Stargatt & Taylor, LLP |
| Did Not Attend | Albert Shields for John C. Carney, Jr. – U.S. Congress |
| Did Not Attend | Matt Denn – Lt. Governor |
| Attended | Christopher Frantz, MD – AI DuPont Hospital for Children |
| Attended | Stephen Grubbs, MD – Medical Oncology Hematology Consultants, PA |
| Attended | Bethany Hall-Long, RNC, PhD – University of Delaware/Delaware Senate |
| Attended | Patricia Hoge, PhD – American Cancer Society |
| Did Not Attend | Rita Landgraf, Department of Health and Social Services |
| Attended via phone | Meg Maley, RN, BSN – Welldoc, Inc. |
| Did Not Attend | David McBride – Delaware Senate |
| Did Not Attend | Collin O’Mara – Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control |
| Did Not Attend | Nicholas Petrelli, MD –Christiana Care - Helen F. Graham Cancer Center |
| Attended | Rishi Sawhney, MD – Bayhealth Medical Center |
| Attended via phone | Liane Sorenson – Delaware Senate retired |
| Attended | James Spellman, MD, FACS, FSSO – Beebe Medical Center - Tunnell Cancer Center |
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| **Staff** |  |
| Attended | Karyl Rattay – Delaware Division of Public Health |
| Attended | Lisa Henry – Delaware Division of Public Health |
| Did Not Attend | Rich Killingsworth – Delaware Division of Public Health |
| Attended | Rosemary Doughten – Delaware Division of Public Health |
| Attended | Heather Brown - Delaware Division of Public Health |
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| **Review of Previous Meeting Minutes** |  |
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Chair, Bill Bowser called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Dr. Patricia Hoge motioned to accept the May 22 minutes and Dr. Chris Frantz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the May 22, 2014 minutes were approved as written. Dr. Hoge requested a formal motion of condolence for the passing of Congressman Carney’s father, Jack Carney. Members remembered him as an educator and great man. Chair, Bill Bowser requested that Albert Shields share the sentiment with the congressman.

**Old & New Business**

**Regulations/Legislation Updates**

Chair, Bill Bowser advised that the Budget Bill was passed at the amount requested, as well as tobacco. Ms. Lisa Henry shared the new Delaware Cancer Treatment Program regulations went into effect July 1. There will be some changes to the treatment program regarding eligibility. Word is getting out to healthcare providers via bulletins and through the Medical Society of Delaware. Ms. Henry also shared that the new Delaware Cancer Registry regulations went into effect July 1 and information about the new reporting methods are being shared through registry staff as well as in an article in the Delaware Medical Journal.

Legislation updates were given by Ms. Henry as follows:

SB94 – Indoor tanning to minors - forwarded to the governor for signature. The ceremony will take place next Monday, July 28th at the American Cancer Society office.

SB193 – Dense breast mammography – bill is dead

HB71 – Unlawful for minors to possess or use tobacco – bill is dead

HB138 – Increase in excise tax on Other Tobacco Products – bill is dead

HB241 – Ban E-cigarettes to minors – bill passed and was signed by the governor

HB309 – CIAA and E-cigarettes – bill is dead

Mr. Bowser stated that he felt the Delaware Cancer Consortium (DCC) was not involved in these bills. Often times their action was after the bill was written. He suggested a more organized approach on future legislation and proposed forming an Ad Hoc Legislative Committee to look at bills during the draft process. He asked Senator Hall-Long to co-chair the ad hoc committee with him. Priorities are e-cigarettes, differential of taxation of tobacco products and the All Payer Claims Database (APCD). Mr. Bowser continued saying if the Consortium can bring focus to some bills, then they can help to improve them. Ms. Liane Sorenson advised that she would also like to be on the committee. Dr. Patricia Hoge added her support for the group to get behind legislation but also said there will be times when the three major health advocacy groups may not be in sync with the administration. Their responsibility is to look far down the road and they have to look at all the possibilities of what may happen. Senator Hall-Long stated it is better to be pro-active and organized.

**Communication & Public Education (CP & E) Committee Update**

Senator Bethany Hall-Long, chair of the CP & E committee provided an update. She began saying the Committee’s main education summit had been tied to the Annual Retreat in 2014. There is still about $2,500 left in the Delaware Community Foundation that is available the next Summit. The plan is to expand CEU’s and CME’s with the money at the next Retreat. They also feel that some communication may have been lost in the combination of the two events; therefore the committee would also like to expand upon that. She asked if any of the sub committees of the consortium had a specific area of focus because the CP & E Committee could help with new campaigns in these areas.

The “Save Yourself” campaign will be launched shortly and Senator Hall-Long provided samples of materials that would be used during the campaign as well as brochures that will be available. She also advised that the committee would be launching a quarterly newsletter and the initial topic would be breast cancer. The committee wants to get out to communities and continue to educate the public. A goal is to develop partnerships with Delaware employers to promote cancer education and prevention message. Outreach will be done via e-mail blasts to employers, postings to websites, articles in employee newsletters and posters. Future activities include an HPV campaign to bring back awareness, lung cancer screening campaign, expand employer partnerships, disseminate the quarterly newsletter, disseminate the DCC accomplishments to get some positive press. She ended her presentation by thanking Division of Public Health, Ms. Henry, Ms. Heather Brown and other staff for their contributions as education is constant.

Some discussion followed and included the following:

* Suggestion to contact the Delaware Employer Council
* Was it beneficial to combine the Education Summit & Annual Retreat

(Sen. Hall-Long responded absolutely but they want to expand)

* Annual Retreat Date is set for April 14, 2015
* Is it time to make HPV a mandatory vaccine?
* When is right time to suggest?

**Quality Cancer Care Committee Update**

Chair, Dr. Chris Frantz provided the update on the Quality Cancer Care Committee. He advised that Goal 1 of the committee is to establish best practices for the transition of care from cancer doctor back to primary care physicians. The reasons are that cancer is on the rise, transition is critical and it involves long term health care. In order to establish the needs a study was conducted. Phase one of the study included focus groups with cancer survivors. Phase two was an internet survey of Delaware primary care physicians (Done via internet because they were too busy to attend in person however with the help of Medical Society of Delaware, good cooperation was received with the internet survey.) Phase three was a focus group session with oncologists. The study asked for suggestions on how to improve communication on care. Key findings included patient perception on who they should call. Primary care physicians feel they don’t receive information from oncologists. Oncologists feel their notes don’t get read. Dr. Jim Spellman commented that many times there are five separate EMR reports and they don’t interface and it is also difficult to get clinical information. Dr. Frantz continued by saying the next step is to develop a pilot plan of best practices to promote a statewide transition of cancer care program. A suggestion from Dr. Hoge was to include the Communication & Public Education Committee and to involve patient and support teams to take some responsibility. Patient and family responsibility must be built in as well. Dr. Grubbs informed the group that the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) is coming out with a form for patients to take back to the primary care physician. Dr. Rishi Sawhney added that transition care can be up to four or five years after cancer care.

Future activities for the Quality Cancer Care Committee are to further the goals of the Delaware Cancer Registry Advisory Committee (DCRAC), provide and support educator efforts for health care progress in survivorship, palliative and end of life care. Dr. Grubbs stated that the DCRAC has done an excellent job.

**Delaware Cancer Consortium (DCC) Survey**

Ms. Brown advised that all members of the DCC had been e-mailed a survey with a request for it to be completed and returned by July 30th.

**2015 DCC Retreat Date and Topics**

Ms. Brown announced that the 2015 Annual Retreat would be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2015. She asked for suggestions for topics. Senator Hall-Long suggested survivor transition. Other suggestions included tobacco and indoor air as well as care and responsibility for survivor transition.

**Press opportunities**

Ms. Henry asked if anyone on the Advisory Council has an interest in fielding inquiries when Division of Public Health (DPH) receives calls from newspapers or TV for interviews regarding cancer. It would be a way to get the Delaware Cancer Consortium name out in the public. Dr. Hoge volunteered.

**Sharing Time**

Chair, Mr. Bowser commented that he liked having the committee reports.

Dr. Karyl Rattay advised that the Governor’s Council on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (CHPDP) will now be focusing on areas to decrease sugary beverage consumption, increasing biking and walking in the state, youth tobacco prevention and resource development.

Dr. Grubbs informed the group that he and Dr. Petrelli attended the ASCO convention where Congressman Carney received the prestigious Public Service Award. He advised that the Congressman was overwhelmed by the experience.

Mr. Albert Shields from Congressman Carney’s office provided an update on a letter that was circulated last month to congress regarding low dose CT scans not being covered by Medicare even though it is a “B” rated recommended service by the United Stated Preventive Task Force (USPSTF). He advised the letter was signed by over 100 people and that he can send a copy of the letter out to the members of the AC. The letter describes how private insurance companies are required to pay for the CT scans but Medicare is not. Dr. Frantz advised that Medicare Advisory Group for Medicare had recommended against it for Medicare and he added that it will be hard to get it through.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 am.

Meeting documentation is available on the DCC website (www.delawarecancerconsortium.org) or by contacting Rosemary Doughten (Rosemary.Doughten@state.de.us or 302-744-1000).

**Future Meeting(s)**

Next Meeting: September 15, 2014 at DTCC, Terry Campus, Dover, DE 8:30 am -10:00 am.