

Maine Stroke Alliance (MSA) Minutes

October 26, 2021

Zoom

9:30 am-11:30 am

1. Attendance

Sam Hurley (MEMS), Jane Morris (MMC), Norm Dinerman (EMMC/LFOM), Lori Allen (Mid Coast), Kate Zimmerman (MMC/MEMS), Rick Petrie (NEMH), Brian Chipman (MMC), Deborah Gregoire (MMC), Angela Wheelden (NL-EMMC), Matthew Sholl (MMC/MEMS), Matthew Leavitt (Bridgton), Jordan Maresh (York), Dottie Carroll, Pete Tilney (CMMC), Sally Taylor (APEMS), Lisa Bemben (AHA), Allyson Perron (AHA), Eileen Hawkins (Pen Bay), Erika Roy (The Memorial Hospital), Aiden Koplovsky (MEMS), Darren Davis (MEMS), Phil MacCallum (Auburn Fire), Zach Tillett (MMC)

2. Deliverables

| Task | Responsible Party(ies) | Due Date |
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| Submit Nominations for Vacant Positions on Board | All Members | November 9, 2021 |
| Confirmation with Dr. Stein that they Accept Nomination | Dr. Jane Morris | November 9, 2021 |
| Reach out to York Neuro Group to Assess Interest | Dr. Maresh | November 9, 2021 |
| Reach out to CMMC Neuro Group | Dr. Peter Tilney | November 9, 2021 |
| EMMC Thrombectomy Capabilities Blog Post | Angela Wheelden | November 16, 2021 |
| Moving Stroke Care Forward in Maine Through Legislation Blog Post | Dr. Jane Morris | November 16, 2021 |
| Posterior Stroke Circulation Blog Post | Deborah Gregoire, Brian Chipman, Dr. Tillett | November 16, 2021 |
| Seeking Neurology and EM Resident Interest in Blog Posts | Dr. Matthew Sholl and Dr. Jane Morris | December 1, 2021 |
| Maine EMS and AHA Meeting on Legislative Options | Dir. Hurley and Allyson Perron | December 1, 2021 |

3. Notes

| Agenda Item | Discussion | Follow-up/ Recommendations |
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| Welcome/Introductions | Introductions were made. | |
| Approval of Minutes | The July 2021 minutes were reviewed and accepted as written with one edit made by Deborah Gregoire | Approved minutes to be posted to website when available and sent out to the group via email with a draft of today's minutes |
| MSA Bylaws Update | The MSA Bylaws were adopted on September 29, 2021 via electronic voting. | If you have not received a copy of the bylaws, please reach out to Dr. Zimmerman |
| MSA Board Nominations & Voting | <p>Nominations for the following Board Positions were requested and the following nominations have occurred:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maine Hospital Administrator (1): MHA is working on this, they have submitted one of the 3 positions thus far 2. Neurologists (2) – we have 2 nominations thus far 3. Stroke Program Coordinators (2) – 3 nominations thus far 4. EM Physician (1) – 2 nominations 5. Critical Care Provider (1) – no nominations 6. Member of the Public (1) – no nominations <p>Please refer to the bylaws for position descriptions.</p> | <p>Dr. Zimmerman will send out another request for nominations. Please make sure nominees accept their nomination and ask that they submit a statement re: why they would like to be on the MSA Board (a paragraph will suffice). These nominations are due by November 9th and voting will open on November 16th. Dr. Morris will check with Dr. Stein to see if he accepts her nomination. Dr. Maresh will reach out to the York neuro group and Dr Tilney can approach CMMC. Please consider smaller hospitals as well, that your hospital receives from/does outreach to.</p> |
| Northern New England Stroke Coordinators Meeting update | Deborah Gregoire updated the group on the last 2 meetings. Of note, Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center is applying for Comprehensive Stroke Center status and EMMC has been recertified as a Primary Stroke Center. AHA/ASA guidelines and their implementations were discussed and MMC | |

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| | shared their work around TNK implementation and MyChart stroke education. There was discussion around MRI processes in basilar stroke patients as well as technology re: stroke assessment and communication. EMMC notes that they now have 2 endovascular providers available 24h/d M-F. Weekends are difficult right now due to staffing, but they are working on this. Goal is to be a Thrombectomy Ready center. | |
| Northeast Cerebrovascular Consortium | This was held remotely on October 21 st . There was some difficulty with the platform, but overall excellent information. Dr. Morris presented her work with transitioning to TNK. There was also an excellent presentation on Posterior Circulation Strokes. | Deborah Gregoire, Brian Chipman and Dr. Tillett will prepare a blog post for the MSA website on Posterior Circulation Strokes. |
| Subgroup meeting updates | Some of the groups have future meetings scheduled. Many did not meet since the last quarterly MSA meeting, nothing further to report. | |
| MSA Website | The website will not go live until we have Board Members identified and at least 2-3 blog posts available. We have set a deadline of prior to Thanksgiving to have the website live. Blog posts should be approximately 3 pages, if possible and we can include CEH credits for EMS providers with a quiz. It may be difficult to get CEH credit for higher level providers, but this can be explored. Videos could also be made, but would be placed on YouTube due to storage. | Board elections will open November 16 th and close on the 19 th . Blog posts due November 16th: 1. EMMC thrombectomy capability – Angela Wheelden 2. Legislation – Dr. Morris 3. Posterior Stroke Circulation – Deborah Gregoire, Brian Chipman, Dr. Tillett Dr. Morris can also discuss with her neurology residents re: participation in creating blog posts. |
| Open | Dr. Morris Presented “Advocacy for Legislative Support for a System of Stroke Care in Maine”. Discussion ensued. Points brought up during discussion surrounded how to obtain data and perform metrics, statewide designation of hospitals, need of a centralized transfer center/improved collaboration between the existing centers. There needs to be discussion re: keeping some patients at the smaller hospitals (maybe with telemedicine support) and better distribution of patients within the system. Many hospitals need to be brought up to speed with imaging capabilities, telemedicine, etc. and funding is needed for this. Hospitals also lean heavily | 1. Angela Wheelden/Dr. Dinerman to talk with Dr. Morris offline with how to move this forward at NL 2. Dr. Zimmerman will send the slides out 3. Director Hurley and Allyson Perron to discuss further offline. |

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| | <p>on EMS for interfacility transfers. Hospitals need to take responsibility for this as well as the 911 system cannot support this, particularly with limited resources/funding in EMS. Director Hurley notes that there is bill that has been approved by the legislative council to make EMS an essential service throughout Maine; however, it may have a large fiscal note attached and may require support of this alliance. Director Hurley also notes that he had proposed legislation re: designating stroke facilities in the state and it fell through as there was debate re: whose purview it was to designate. Thus, support for something like this would have to come from the hospitals. Right now, the best route would be to use a national standard like the Joint Commission. It was reiterated that we want this to be a system that encourages centers to optimize their care and we want to support them to get there by providing outreach re: what they need to do to be an acute stroke ready hospital; raise the hospital to that level. As Dr. Dinerman commented, "Tether total talent together."</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Need to build what MSA vision is for the future – to make these legislative initiatives easier. 5. Dr. Tilney/CMMC to work on this as well. Dr. Zimmerman will reach out to Anh Juntra. |
| <p>Next Meeting</p> | <p>Next meeting date is 9:30am-11:30 am on January 25, 2022 via Zoom.</p> <p>Please contact Kate Zimmerman at zimmek1@gmail.com or 207-310-0744 with any questions regarding the group meetings.</p> | |

Minutes submitted October 26, 2021 by KDZ

Approved on January 25, 2022