Suffolk County Medical Society
Councilor’s Report
May 10th, 2018
Maria A. Basile, MD, MBA, Councilor

- On April 10th, SCMS President, Bruce Berlin, MD and our Executive Director, Aaron Kumar, MD, MBA attended the Peconic Bay Medical Staff meeting. The Medical Staff welcomed the interaction with the Medical Society. The need for a physician network, was appreciated, especially as the medical staff adjusts and develops under the support of the Northwell umbrella. We hope to cultivate an ongoing relationship with our colleagues at Peconic.

- On April 11th, the SCMS Finance committee met and discussed the Asset Management sub-committee’s mission statement, investments, and asset protection.

- On April 13th, SCMS held its Bi-Annual Legislative Breakfast. It was a well-attended event, with 14 Legislators and representatives discussing key issues. As guided by our Legislative Committee Chairs William Spencer, MD and Maria Basile, MD, we addressed the topics of gun safety, collective bargaining, and proper due process in health insurers network adjustments. Additional meetings are being scheduled to follow the progress that was made at this meeting. There was positive views and support shared for physician’s collective bargaining as the healthcare environment has shifted over the years.

- On April 16th, SCMS was invited to the Medical Board meeting at South Side Hospital. Charles Rothberg, MD and Aaron Kumar, MD, MBA spoke to the board on the issues facing physicians that demand a united network in the profession and the necessary role of the Medical Society.

- On April 16th, SCMS was invited to join and sit on the Opioid Advisory Committee, that stemmed from the Medical Professionals Conference on Opioid Medication-Assisted Treatment, held the previous month. With the community organization, LI -CAN, and physician directed leadership from Leslie Marino, MD and Frank Dowling, MD we are making strategic connections with key partners to effectively approach this problem.

- On April 18th SCMS held its Board of Directors meeting. We were joined by Thomas MacGinley, Senior Account Manager at Healthix, who briefly shared the goals, progress, and involvement the organization has in coordinating patient information. During the meeting our Directors also discussed alternate revenue resources, membership, strengthening our unified legislative voice, and Bylaws.

- On April 28th, SCMS was able to attend the NY Health Information Technology Expo, held at Brooklyn Brough Hall. The event was exceptional. Kings County’s brought together selected speakers that addressed the different aspects of information technology that every physician should hear. Notable attention was directed towards the legal pitfalls and support of EHRs, government policies in place and in development, the effects of HIT in physician “burnout”, the vulnerabilities of these advancements, the benefits of these advancements and the future roles physicians will have with the data and its management.