



MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, June 23, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

A Zoom meeting of the Council of the Medical Society of the State of New York was held on Thursday, June 23, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Parag H. Mehta, MD, President of the Society presided:

OFFICERS

Parag Mehta, MD
Paul Pipia, MD
Jerome Cohen, MD
Joseph Sellers, MD
Howard Huang, MD
Mark Adams, MD
Maria Basile, MD

COUNCILORS

Daniel Choi, MD
Jose David, MD
Daniel Gold, MD
Mark Jajkowski, MD
David Jakubowicz, MD
Celeste Johns, MD
Adolph Meyer, MD
Gregory Pinto, MD
David Podwall, MD
Barry Rabin, MD
Penny Stern, MD
Jocelyn Young, DO
Luis Carlos Zapata, MD

TRUSTEES

Arthur Fougner, MD
Bonnie Litvack, MD
Charles Rothberg, MD

MSSNY STAFF

Morris Auster, Esq.
Terrence Bedient
Valerie Cammisso
Zina Cary
Patricia Clancy
Miriam Hardin
Cayla Lauder
Heather Lopez
Laurel Mayer
Michele Nuzzi
Suzanne Reilly
Michael Reyes
Brenda Van Nest
Julie Vecchione

Executive Vice President

Troy Oechsner

LEGAL COUNSEL

David Voza, Esq.

EXCUSED

Joshua Cohen, MD
Frank Dowling, MD
Janine Fogarty, MD
Leanna Knight
William Latreille, MD
Randall Porter, MD
Malcolm Reid, MD

**COUNTY FEDERATION
REPRESENTATIVE**

Stavroula Savelidis

COUNTY EXECUTIVES

Lucia Acosta-Castillejo
Shirley Cosgriff
Aimana ElBahtity
Aaron Kumar, MD
Cheryl Malone
Janine Miller
Amelia Soto

GUESTS

Arthur Cooper, MD
Jagdish Gupta, MD
Lori Hertz
Craig Katz, MD
Jennifer Lee
John Lombardo, MD
Leah McCormack, MD
Helena Mirza

Call to Order and Roll Call

APPROVED, the HOD Minutes of May 22, 2022

New Business:

President's Report

APPROVED, the at-large-members appointed to the Executive Committee of the Council:

Adolph Meyer, MD

Luis Carlos Zapata, MD

APPROVED, the 2022 HOD Resolutions referred to Council

Dr. Arthur Cooper presented Dr. Craig Katz with the Dr. David Meza Award

MSSNY Peer To Peer (P2P) Program - Presented by Ms. Patricia Clancy & Cayla Lauder
Physician Burnout is defined as a long-term stress reaction characterized by depersonalization. This can include cynical or negative attitudes toward patients. Emotional exhaustion. A feeling of decreased personal achievement and a lack of empathy for patients. In July 2020, MSSNY's Physician Wellness & Resiliency Committee launched a Peer to Peer (P2P) program to assist their colleagues who need help in dealing with work and family stressors. To become a peer supporter, a physician, resident, or student must be a MSSNY member. The MSSNY P2P is available to physicians, residents, and students in New York State. This program is confidential & anonymous.

Dr. Mehta shared the following Implicit Bias Training Link:

(https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWG_vsmMJ2clEeGKVyrOIKlOYrjFnVKqa)

Board of Trustees Report – On behalf of Dr. Malcolm Reid, Chair of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Oechsner presented the following report:

A meeting of the MSSNY Board of Trustees was held on Monday evening, June 20, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

The actions taken by the Board at that meeting were as follows:

The Board approved the Minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting held on May 4, 2022.

The Board approved the Minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting held on May 22, 2022, after the close of the MSSNY House of Delegates as amended with one deletion.

The Board approved the adoption of the 2023 ACCME Tier System for the State Medical Society accredited CME Providers.

Secretary's Report – Presented by Dr. Howard Huang
APPROVED, unanimously the following:

- Life Membership for ninety-six (96) physicians
- Dues Remissions for two (2) physicians:
 - One New York County physician
 - One Tompkins County physician

MLMIC Update – Presented by Dr. John Lombardo

Dr. Lombardo reported that he is impressed with MSSNY's Peer to Peer program. Dr. Lombardo talked about insurance policies renewals. If anyone is interested in finding out MLMIC discounts, please contact Lori Hertz at lhertz@mlmic.com

AMA Delegation Report – On behalf of Dr. Charles Rothberg, Dr. Joseph Sellers presented the report. Dr. Sellers reported that MSSNY worked as a team advancing resolutions. Dr. Joshua Cohen was elected to the Committee on Science & Public Health

MSSNYPAC Report – Presented by Dr. Thomas Lee.

Dr. Lee reported that the MSSNYPAC Executive Committee met before the Council meeting. At MSSNY's House of Delegates, more than \$84,000 in pledges of support were received. On Friday, June 24, MSSNYPAC is co-hosting a physician-only fundraiser in support of the NYS Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins in Westchester.

County Federation Report – Presented by Ms. Stavroula Savelidis.

Ms. Savelidis reported that the Federation is working very closely with Troy Oechsner, Valerie Cammisio and Brenda Van Nest on new strategies on how the counties and MSSNY can work together to promote membership. The Federation made a donation in Kathy Dyman's name to an organization her family has chosen.

Reports of Officers

Office of the President Parag H. Mehta, MD

Dr. Mehta reported that the MSSNY House of Delegates went very well, and he thanked everyone for participating. He attended several county society meetings and is scheduled to attend several more going forward. Dr. Mehta has been working very closely with Mr. Oechsner and MSSNY staff on improving communications. The MSSNY e-news has been replaced with MSSNY Pulse. Dr. Mehta has had several discussions with the membership committee chair and the commissioner of membership regarding membership recruitment and retention programs. At the AMA meeting, Dr. Mehta met with the Director of Membership who shared ideas and names of vendors that they have engaged to expand their membership benefits program. Dr. Mehta thanked the leadership and MSSNY staff for their hard work and is looking forward to a productive year.

Office of the President-Elect – Paul A. Pipia, MD

Dr. Pipia congratulated Dr. Malcolm Reid as the Board of Trustees Chair. He is looking forward to working with Dr. Mehta, the MSSNY leadership and MSSNY staff moving forward in a positive fashion to best serve our members.

Office of the Vice-President – Jerome C. Cohen, MD

Dr. Cohen reported that he is here to assist the office of the president. He congratulated Dr. Zapata on his election as chair of the YPS section.

Office of the Immediate Past President – Joseph R. Sellers, MD

Dr. Sellers thanked everyone for their warm wishes he received at the House of Delegates.

Dr. Sellers reported that he was interviewed by the Spectrum News Albany on COVID 19 vaccines for kids. [How New York parents can navigate COVID-19 vaccine questions](#)

Office of the Treasurer – Mark J. Adams, MD, Financial Statement

Dr. Adams reported that he and Mr. Oechsner reviewed the financial reports prior to this meeting. In terms of income, he noted that we are on track. Dr. Adams noted that virtual meetings are very inexpensive, and we should consider this expense going forward. MSSNY will not be receiving the \$700,00.00 PPP Grant.

Office of the Speaker – William R. Latreille, Jr., MD (*excused*)

On behalf of Dr. Latreille, Dr. Basile expressed gratitude to MSSNY's leadership and all the delegates at the MSSNY HOD for their incredible amount of work.

Reports of Councilors (Informational)

Kings & Richmond Report – Adolph B. Meyer, MD

Dr. Meyer reported that Dr. Jagdish Gupta is the new president of Kings County Medical Society (KCMS). Also, KCMS has a new executive director, Joselin Lajara.

Manhattan & Bronx Report – David M. Jakubowicz, MD

Dr. Jakubowicz reported that Dr. Erick Eiting is the new president of New York County Medical Society (NYCMS). NYCMS participated in a Membership Telethon to reach out to members who were dropped. The Society presented ten resolutions to the HOD.

Bronx County had their first in-person CME Accreditation Event on June 9th. Bronx County welcomed their incoming new president, Dr. Chandana Attoti.

Nassau County Report – David Podwall, MD

Dr. Podwall reported that Nassau County Medical Society (NCMS) honored their past-president, Dr. Anthony Battista. On May 26, NCMS had their Spring membership meeting. Adam Birkenstock from LICADD was the speaker. The Nassau Academy of Medicine's "Pride in the Profession" Scholarship has launched. Information was shared with three Nassau County Medical Schools.

Queens County Report – Penny Stern, MD

Dr. Stern announced Queens County's new executive director, Amelia Soto.

Also, welcomed QCMS president, Dr. Joseph Cooke.

Suffolk County Report – Daniel E. Choi, MD

Dr. Choi reported that Dr. Basile presented the value of membership to the L.I. Community Hospital's virtual medical staff meeting. Dr. Choi thanked Ms. Heather Lopez for joining and sharing insurance management and MSSNY's support of local physicians. St. Charles Medical

Staff met and discussed their continued membership with the medical society. Lastly, the SCMS/SAM revised their quarterly newsletter.

Third District Branch Report – Jose David, MD
(*Report as submitted*)

Fourth District Branch Report – Gregory L. Pinto, MD
Dr. Pinto reported that he attended the annual meeting of the Schenectady County Medical Society. There will be a district meeting awarding scholarships to graduating high school seniors from Saratoga County that are pursuing a career in healthcare.

Fifth District Branch Report – Barry Rabin, MD
Dr. Rabin reported the passing of Kathi Dyman, Executive Director of the six counties of Oneida, Herkimer, Madison, Chenango, Oswego & Cayuga, and the Executive Director of the Fifth District. A webinar on “Crisis Communications in Medicine” is scheduled for late summer.

Sixth District Branch Report – Celeste A. Johns, MD
Dr. Johns reported that the medical societies in the district are resuming in-person visits. The six district was present at the House of Delegates with a full delegation and congratulate Dr. Jerome Cohen who was elected as MSSNY’s Vice President.

Seventh District Branch Report – Janine L. Fogarty, MD
On behalf of Dr. Fogarty, Lucia Acosta-Castillejo, CEO of Monroe County thanked Dr. Sellers for his leadership and welcomed Dr. Mehta, MSSNY’s President. Monroe County Medical Society met with Congressman Joe Morelle to discuss topics that impact physician members like physician burnout and post-acute care in New York State and nursing homes. On Friday September 16, Monroe County is having their 201st Anniversary Celebration at the Locust Hill Country Club.

Eighth District Branch Report – Mark R. Jajkowski. MD
Dr. Jajkowski reported that Key Bank Sponsorship of the Erie County Medical Society is entering into a one-year contract to provide mortgage & banking discounts to Erie County members.

Ninth District Branch Report – Daniel Gold, MD
Dr. Gold reported that Westchester County will be holding its in-person Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 29th. Dutchess county had their spring Gala on May 14,

Medical Student Section Report – Leanna Knight (excused, report as submitted)

Organized Medical Staff Section Report – Luis Carlos Zapata, MD
Dr. Zapata reported that at the AMA, several OMSS resolutions successfully passed. He will be attending the American College of Physicians meeting in Lake George and will try to recruit more members for the OMSS and MSSNY.

Resident & Fellow Section Report – Randall Porter, MD (*excused, no written report*)

Young Physician Section Report – Jocelyn Young, DO

Dr. Young reported that the YPS continues to meet on the first Wednesday of the month. Many new members were able to attend the MSSNY HOD.

Commissioners (Informational Items)

Commissioner of Communications, Maria A. Basile, MD, MBA

Report from the Division of Communications

Dr. Basile reported that Communication reviews the social media performance such as Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. The Communications Division is working on a transformation of communication with MSSNY membership as well as with all physicians in New York State.

Commissioner of Continuing Medical Education, Daniel Choi, MD

Report from the Division of CME

Dr. Choi reported that the CME Committee developed a recommendation submitted to the MSSNY Board of Trustees in relation to the new 2023 ACCME & MSSNY annual fees charged to MSSNY-accredited CME providers. ACCME is raising its annual fees charged to MSSNY-accredited CME providers. The Board approved to keep the fees the same as they were in 2020-2022.

Commissioner of Governmental Relations, Gregory L. Pinto, MD

Long Term Care Minutes, May 5, 2022

Quality Improvement & Patient Safety Minutes, May 11, 2022

Report from the Division of Governmental Affairs

Dr. Pinto reported that various mandates were reviewed. The biggest challenges going forward are going to be to identify allies, work with them both within and outside of government. We need to remain engaged, both personally and through MSSNYPAC. We need to engage in advocacy.

Commissioner of Membership, David M. Jakubowicz, MD

Report from the Division of Membership

Dr. Jakubowicz reported that the membership committee is focusing on formalizing the procedures for membership arrangements with groups and institutions. A survey is being sent to other state societies to gauge their organizational memberships. Also, a survey to MSSNY members highly involved in MSSNY activities and one survey to others less involved to gather opinions on membership principles. Membership Committee will be reviewing its life membership. Lastly, the two member benefits that were discussed will be the ability to practice and contract review proposed by Dr. Thomas Lee and Mr. David Vozza.

Commissioner of Science & Public Health, Joshua M. Cohen, MD

Dr. Cohen was excused. The following reports were submitted for information

Addiction & Psychiatric Medicine Minutes, May 6, 2022

Bioethics Minutes, May 13, 2022

Committee on Health Equity Minutes, March 25, 2022

Heart Lung & Cancer Minutes, May 4, 2022

Infectious Diseases Minutes, April 28, 2022

Preventive Medicine & Family Health Minutes, May 12, 2022

Public Health & Education Report

Commission of Physician Payment & Practice, Inderpal Chhabra, MD

Report from the Division of Physician Payment & Practice

Dr. Chhabra thanked Ms. Heather Lopez, MSSNY's Director of Physician Payment Practice for successfully recouping almost six million dollars insurance takeback for a MSSNY member. She is working with the North Shore Medical Staff Leadership regarding excessive medical record request project after meeting with the DFS. Ms. Lopez facilitates monthly meetings for physicians to answer Medicare questions. Recruited numerous new and former physician members to join/rejoin MSSNY.

Report of the Executive Vice President, Troy J. Oechsner

Membership Dues Revenue Schedule

Group Institutional Dues Report

Update on Goals and Measures

Mr. Oechsner reported that the group institutional dues continue to remain stable. The key priorities are increasing membership, growing non-dues revenue and reducing expenses. He acknowledged the work of Valerie Cammisio, Vice President of Membership, Heather Lopez, Director of Physician Payment and Practice and Matt Brown, MSSNY's new Digital Marketing Project Specialist. The Membership Committee continues to work with the counties to improve their involvement, engagement and retention. MSSNY continues its virtual meetings which is cost efficient. Mr. Oechsner projected a power point presentation on MSSNY Goals & Measures.

Report of the General Counsel, David Voza, Esq.

Mr. Voza reported his goal is to provide many benefits to MSSNY members. He has reached out to department heads in his law firm asking them to identify specific benefits they can provide to MSSNY members. Some of the services he plans to incorporate outside of healthcare will include asset protection, immigration, labor and employment, patents, trademarks, trusts and estates, and real estate. These services can be marketed as an added benefit for MSSNY membership.

Alliance, Helena Mirza, Alliance Co-President

(no report submitted)

Other Information/Announcements

The following activities were submitted for information:

Recent MSSNY Litigation Activities

Adjournment - There being no further business, a Motion was made, seconded, and accepted. The virtual meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.