

Southern Tier Veterinary Medical Society Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2011

Leni Kaplan opened the meeting at 1:45 pm.

Bridget Barry made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 3, 2010 meeting. This was seconded by Kathy Hughes.

Gretchen Schoeffler and Dan Fletcher (co-treasurers) were not present. Leni Kaplan gave the brief report that we are solvent and that the Executive Board made decision about purchasing projector and screen system.

Leni Kaplan introduced Ann Shakespeare as the new social chair. Ann said that the April meeting, which will be April 14th at the Holiday Inn Express in Horseheads, will feature a lecture by Ned Dykes who will be speaking on CT and MRI scans and guidelines for referral.

The July meeting is currently being planned. It will be held on July 28 and Ann Shakespeare is making the arrangements and asked for some input. Ann has looked into the possibility of a meeting at the Corning Museum of Glass but that will not be possible due to scheduling and funding issues. Several members suggested a winery visit. Several members mentioned their wish that this meeting include a CE lecture. Some other suggestions included Watkins Glen State Park or a dinner cruise but it would be more difficult to coordinate a speaker at those locations. Historically, the summer meeting was more social, but Leni Kaplan explained that with the new mandatory CE requirements as of the Executive Board has made a commitment to have CE at all meetings.

The November 3, 2011 lunch meeting in Ithaca is still being planned.

Leni Kaplan announced that the STVMA will begin sending out monthly e-mails which will include reminders about STVMA meetings and updates. She suggested that members mark calendars when these announcements are received. She also reminded members that the STVMA.org website has meeting dates as well as CE opportunities locally posted on that site.

Leni Kaplan told the membership that if your license needs to be renewed in 2012, 2011 CE qualifies. Keep records that are given at the meetings and sign in at the meetings. STVMA meetings qualify for tech CE also. To make CE official the speaker needs to provide handouts with notes. Leni Kaplan asked if the members would prefer to have a copy of the notes in advance of the meeting or hard copy available at the meeting. CNY sends out PDF. Dr. Ryer said he preferred a PDF version and many other members agreed this would be efficient and cost-effective. Sharon Sickles suggested having a few copies on hand.

Chris Armao told us that Dr. Moise has approached us about collaboration. She was thinking about having veterinarians or technicians shadowing on cardiology. This opportunity would be free to members. Several members were interested. Chris is going to talk to Dr. Moise about the interest.

Chris asked for the CE requirements from Bridget. Bridget said there is no official version of requirements. Dr. Nytch said there is still some question about practice management CE being acceptable as well as on-line classes. Traditionally practice management has not been a source of credit. Some courses may be eligible but it is not known at this time.

Dr. Nytch said the State Education Department has ultimate authority over rules regarding CE and not the NYSVMS. The cost of registering CE is up in the air (CE programs must be registered). The next board meeting where further discussions regarding the CE requirements is set for February in NYC but it may not be funded.

Bridget asked if anyone has received a license renewal. Sharon said she has but it did not ask about CE.

Leni Kaplan reminded members that we are having an all day CE March 12. Vivian Surman is organizing it. Dr. Bowman has agreed to present and Dr. Dewey may be presenting. The venue is being arranged. Leni said that Vivian hopes to have the final details in the next week or two and members will receive an e-mail announcement when those details are known. The general schedule will include four hours of lecture in the morning, an hour lunch break, and then 4 hours of lectures after lunch.

Bridget Barry gave a report on the last NYSVMS Board meeting which took place December 10, 2010. She reported that there is not much going in the legislature related to veterinary medicine at this time. The Republican are in control currently and the budget will be occupying most members. John D. Young, AVMA Executive Board member reported that the AVMA has 81000 members (83% of veterinarians belong) and a \$30,000,000 budget. 2011 is "World Veterinary" year. Bridget also informed members that there are now two editions of veterinary oath. These and more information can be found at the AVMA website. That site also contains a link where you can subscribe to their newsletter. Doug Aspros from Westchester County is running for AVMA president. He was very involved in NYSVMS and started the L2K program.

Dr. Barry reported that the State Society has hired another staff member to increase efficiency in their office. The management relations committee would like input. If you experience problems with the office, contact Bridget Barry. Faith White gave positive feedback regarding her experience recently. One of the members asked if Julie Lawton was still working at the office and Bridget explained that we employ Julie Lawton's management firm and she is still involved, working mostly from home.

The NYSVMS also revised the website so that it is easier to use. It contains information about the CE law and information about the red flag rules – veterinarians are now exempt from the red flag rules.

The NYS conference was successful, attendance up 30%, 75 techs, \$8000 raised at silent auction. Banquet is moving to Celebrations – less formal, less expensive.

Frank Capella is the director for the NYS exhibit at the Fair. Southern Tier will be asked for volunteers. Members can sign up for a time that is convenient.

Dr. Barry let members know that there is an investigation of CareCredit. Members are cautioned to disclose interest rates to clients.

Dr. Nytech brought up that there is a huge discussion going on at the State Education Department regarding supervision. State Ed Dept lawyers you need on your side to change statute. He mentioned the challenge: if you define supervision there is less room for interpretation on a case by case basis. Different rules may be appropriate for remote consultants, for example, versus primary treating veterinarians.

Bridget asked if members like to read the synopsis of the NYSVMS Executive Board meetings. The December synopsis is not ready. Bridget can e-mail it (or ask Dan to e-mail it) but we can't put it on our website. Bridget will bring a few copies to meetings.

NYS Fair was fun per Leni. Had people giving demonstrations last year which drew crowds. Leni suggested members may want to split the day.

Leni suggested NYSVMS hook up pay pal to pay for membership. Faith suggested December v. January for when dues are actually due..

Old Business – Leni reminded members that we are always recruiting to NYSVMS. Members are allowed to invite a guest to a meeting.

New Business – Denise Ross was unanimously voted in as a new member. Chris Armao asked Leni Kaplan to give Denise's information to Dan Fletcher so he can get her on the e-mail list.

Gary Wildenstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:21 and this was seconded by Chris Armao.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Ross, Secretary