



Board of Trustees Meeting, September 11, 2019

The Board took the following actions at its September 11, 2019 meeting:

1. The Board approved the following items:
 - A. Board of Trustees Minutes of June 2, 2019
 - B. Executive Session Minutes of June 2, 2019
 - C. September 11, 2019 Reports of the President, CEO, and Media
 - D. Executive Committee Minutes of May 30, July 3, and August 7, 2019
 - E. Policy & Strategy Panel Minutes of July 24, 2019
 - F. Legislative Update and Legal & Regulatory Reports

2. Affiliation Agreement:

Action: The Board unanimously approved the [Affiliation Agreement](#) with recommended amendments from the Task force. MSNJ will send the agreements to the County Societies for signature.

3. Revolving Reference Committee:

Action: The Board adopted the following resolutions, as amended by the Revolving Reference Committee.

 - **Conditions at our Southern Border**

Resolved, that the physicians of New Jersey represented by MSNJ endorses the AMA letter of July 10, 2019 to the Chairman & Ranking Member of the Congressional Oversight & Reform Committee regarding appropriate physical and mental health care of detainees and asylum seekers; and further be it;

Resolved, that MSNJ contact NJ Congressional Delegates to provide emergency funding specifically for the humane housing and medical treatment of detainees and asylum seekers. All due consideration should be given to maintaining the health and well-being of the children and their families.

 - **Improving Medicaid Reimbursement in New Jersey**

Resolved, that MSNJ request that the NJ Department of Health and the Department of Human Services to evaluate the differences between reimbursement for Medicare and Medicaid services in NJ; and be it further

Resolved, that MSNJ works towards advocating for better Medicaid reimbursement for physicians in NJ; and be it further

Resolved, that MSNJ study and define the problem related to the declining healthcare access due to poor reimbursement for Medicaid services in NJ;

- **Addressing the Obesity Crisis**

Resolved, that MSNJ create a policy statement and action plan to address the obesity crisis, through educating practitioners to recognize, counsel and refer patients for obesity management; and be it further;

Resolved, that MSNJ supports and advocates for universal BMI measurement, counseling and treatment of patients to become a separate and distinct benefit under health insurance.

4. AMA Formica-Riggs Honor Fund:

Action: The Board approved a request for the Finance & Budget Committee to consider a donation of \$2,000 over the next five years, totaling \$10,000, to the Formica-Riggs Honor Fund.

5. MSNJ Website Launch: Everyone should have received an introductory email for the new website, www.msnj.org.

6. AMA Delegation Update: Dr. Poole provided an overview of the delegation activities. The AMA Interim Meeting is November 16 – 19 in San Diego.

7. Advocacy Fund Update: Dr. Blumenthal asked the Board for leads on new medical staff opportunities.

8. Medical Students: Mr. Tyler Pease, shared the activities and recruitment efforts of Medical Students Section.

9. CEO Report: Mr. Downs advised that MSNJ is participating in the Practice Transformation Initiative grant, designed to improve the professional fulfillment and well-being of physicians.

10. President Report: Dr. Levine announced MSNJ's upcoming Specialty Society workshop on November 9 and his work with Mr. Downs on building bridges with state employers and the physician community.

11. Other Business:

Action: Union County asked MSNJ to review a resolution on the definition of Human Rights. The Board referred the resolution to the Revolving Reference Committee for consideration. The next Revolving Reference Committee meeting is November 13, 2019.