

D.C. Society of Anesthesiologists
Annual Meeting October 5, 2005
Kenwood Country Club, Bethesda, MD
6:30 p.m.

Current Officers: President and Director: John Dombrowski, M.D.
Vice-President/Secretary: Eileen Begin, M.D.
Treasurer: Susan Verghese, M.D.
Delegates: Carl Sylvester, M.D., Raafat Hannallah, M.D.
Alternate Delegates: Eileen Begin, M.D., Daniel Perlin, M.D.

M I N U T E S

1. Welcome remarks were made by John Dombrowski, M.D., President and Director. Current officers were introduced. A special welcome was extended to our guests from the Washington, D.C. ASA office, Ronald Szabat, J.D., LL.M, Director of Governmental Affairs and General Counsel, Karin Bierstein, J.D., MPH, Assistant Director for Governmental Affairs (Regulatory), and Lisa Percy, J.D., Manager, State Affairs.

2. Old Business. ASAPAC contributions were encouraged. We have historically had a very low percentage of MDs contributing to the ASAPAC from D.C.; percentage contributions for each state are reported at the ASA House of Delegates meeting annually.

3. New Business. Our next meetings are scheduled for January 20 and May 2 with the ASA President.

A. By-Laws Change. Announcement was made that it is the belief of the Executive Committee that two-year terms would serve the Society better due to the time needed to learn the role of the respective offices. It was proposed that the Bylaws be changed to reflect two-year terms. Motion was made and carried to change Section 3.04 of the Bylaws to read: "The terms of office of the officers of this Society are from November 1 to October 31 for two consecutive years." (The current officers will remain in office for one more year to fulfill the two-year term.)

B. Elections. A motion was made for election of officers to available offices to become effective November 1. Discussion was encouraged, no further nominations were made. The following officers were elected: President-Elect: Susan Verghese, M.D.; Vice-President, Carl Sylvester; Alternate Delegates: Eileen Begin, M.D. and Daniel Perlin, M.D.

4. Speakers. Brief updates were given by each of our special guests from the Legislative Affairs office of the ASA. Ron Szabat joins the ASA this year after serving 10 years with the AMA legislative office. Ron stated that the AANA PAC is extremely active lobbying against full Medicare reimbursements for cases involving residents. He

noted that AANA PAC contributions are on par with ASA PAC contributions, and encouraged ASAPAC contributions by all members of the ASA. Medicare SGR formula physician payment cuts are still being fought and set to take effect Jan. 1 if not resisted forcefully by us. Ron noted that with so many other pressures on the federal budget currently (Katrina and Iraq) the budget cuts could easily fall to physicians (go to asahq.org to let your voice be heard!); Karin Bierstein spoke briefly about "Pay for Performance". Lisa Percy thanked and applauded the D.C. Society for its assistance with the passage of the Anesthesiologist Assistant Licensure Act this year in just one session.

Col. Paul Mongan, M.D. gave an excellent, informative speech on the "Role of the Anesthesiologist in the Battle on Terrorism"

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.