

VBMA Board Meeting 5/4/09 –Revised (with amendments by Nancy Scanlan;
next meeting scheduled for 6/1/09)

Attendees: Nancy Scanlan, Joyce Harmon, Cynthia Lankenau, Beth Lambert, Jasmine Lyon (joining late)

Absent: Barbara Fourgere

Nancy Scanlan, President and Chair, called the meeting to order.

- 1) RACE UPDATE (A-G resubmitted by Nancy Scanlan; H additional meeting discussion)
 - a. In December, Narda Robinson, DVM, Ph D and other stuff, professor at Colorado state U vet school, was appointed to the RACE committee to review all CAVM CE. Narda teaches "medical acupuncture" which ignores Chinese Medical theory and herbs. She is known for her anti-holistic stance.
 - b. Richard Pitcairn's homeopathy meeting was submitted. They asked for complete notes. He submitted notes with references. Whole meeting was denied CEUs. He asked why, no answer. (They don't have to give an answer.)
 - c. IVAS (acupuncture) applied, was asked for complete notes, which she gave, then asked for research supporting the notes, which she gave. Awarded complete CEUs. Speakers: Marsden and Fougere.
 - d. HOWC (chiropractic school) applied. They are licensed by their state and nationally to administer CE. They were asked for notes. He refused, sent detailed outline instead. They got complete CEUs.
 - e. Letter composed and lawyer hired before HOWC awarded CEUs. After some discussion, IVAS and HOWC did not sign letter. HOWC wants some kind of meeting and further discussion but would not answer me when I asked what kind of meeting he had in mind (phone, web, face to face?). Initially Chi institute also declined to sign, but after several pointed out that we should stick together, decided to sign also.
 - f. AAVA (acupuncture) applied for their annual meeting. They were contacted after the meeting was over. Talks by Jake Fratkin (long-time OMD with extra training in China and Japan (<http://www.drjakefratkin.com/>), specializes in Japanese acupuncture and Chinese herbs, long-time supporter of IVAS) denied CEUs. Asked for letters from 3 vet school faculty members verifying that the items covered in their meeting were also covered in their vet school courses.
 - g. IVAS is pushing through new by-laws which no longer recognize Narda Robinson's course as acceptable for IVAS CEUs. AAVA is protesting both the speed of the action, and the action itself. (I didn't bring this up at the meeting, but I think it fits the whole picture.)
 - h. AHVMA trying to get delegates seated on American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) RACE Committee; board members' events have not been challenged. Alternative path is to work with state associations, which are much more open to CAM content. For example, a recent CAM course offering California CE credits was not challenged for course content. Another way to put pressure on state

boards is to have clients to write in. There is an upcoming Homotoxicology course which will afford another view of RACE response. How they will treat homeopathy courses will also bear watching. Recommend waiting to see how this develops and letting the process work its way through before choosing any presenters who are not vets and have not taught at university level for events.

- 2) AHVMA hired a consultant to look at association and recommend ways to increase membership. Nancy to give us some of the ideas; site on 501c3's, ideas for increasing volunteerism. Defining benefits for members.
- 3) Paypal Account – Jasmine needs to set up Paypal; select option that gets from our website to theirs for funds processing and collection. This way we will be able to set up our shopping cart for on-line sign ups and credit card processing.
- 4) Accounting – Fully integrated system with all members loaded up to be our central database, is a goal.
- 5) Taxes
 - a. No 990 necessary if VBMA does not make more than \$5000 per year.
>From Form 1023: small organizations can be considered 501(c)3 organizations without filing form 1023 if they gross not more than \$5000.
 - b. Nancy to confirm that no other filings necessary. Following are results from her research finding that we must file an electronic 990-N by May 15, 2009.**
 - i. From Publication 557 – Small exempt organizations whose gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less are not required to file an information return. However, these organizations are now required to file an electronic Form 990-N with the IRS annually. The form will re- Form 990-N is due by the **15th day of the fifth month after the close of the tax year** (bold added). An organization that fails to meet its annual reporting requirement for 3 consecutive years will automatically lose its tax-exempt status. To regain its exempt status an organization will have to reapply for recognition as a tax-exempt organization
 - ii. Note: this started in 2008. Publication 4220 – Beginning in 2008, however, these organizations must submit an annual electronic notice using Form 990N, Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations not Required To File Form 990 or 990-EZ, also known as the e-Postcard. The e-Postcard can only be filed electronically; there is no paper version
- 6) Teleseminar Program-Looked at vet practice schedules and other competing seminar events. Beginning of November '09; End of March '10. Discussed having 2 per year Late Winter and Late Fall ongoing.
- 7) Spring symposium in D.C. in 2010? – Delay until RACE settled.
- 8) President's Quarterly messages schedule: End of May, August, November
- 9) Journal - need update. With difficulty in getting content, suggestion to move more toward newsletter and Journal combo to get content.
 - a. Single herb
 - i. Use
 - ii. Abstracts

- b. Executive Board Report
 - c. Case Study Idea-Student to interview practicing vet and then edit together.
- 10) Strategic Plan - review next meeting
 - 11) Budget - review next meeting
 - 12) Next meeting June 1; proposed future monthly meetings first Monday of each month.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Lambert
Secretary