



HEALTH POLICY COUNCIL CALL MINUTES

Date Wednesday, March 3, 2022
Time 12 pm CT

MEMBERS	
Joanna Buscemi, PhD (Chair)	Marian Fitzgibbon, PhD
Melanie Bean, PhD	Carly Goldstein, PhD (CPEC Chair)
Akilah Dulin, PhD (Health Policy Committee Chair)	Brian Gonzalez, PhD
Roger Figueroa, PhD	Amy Janke, PhD (SPLC Representative)
	Rebecca Borzon, Sarah Gilbertson (staff)

REGRETS	
Pamela Behrman, PhD	

Approve minutes from February call

Dr. Buscemi made motion to approve the February call minutes; seconded by Dr. Gonzalez. The motion carried.

Ambassador Update

Child Nutrition Ambassadors: The ambassadors were working to develop new talking points. One ambassador had accepted a new industry role, and was stepping down from her position. She had found a replacement, but Dr. Buscemi wanted to discuss their suggestion with the council. While the potential replacement had child nutrition experience, her specialty was pain and opioid misuse, and she wanted to know if she could be an opioid pain management ambassador. The council discussed whether they thought this would be a confusing transition for the staffer who worked under Sen. Warren, as well as if they would lose progress over switching to a new area. The council agreed that the established relationship was more important, and agreed that the replacement could be an opioid pain management ambassador. The council noted that Sen. Warren worked on many important issues. Dr. Buscemi and Dr. Figueroa would meet with the potential replacement on zoom. Overall, the lead ambassador structure was working well with this group.

Rural Health Ambassadors: The latest round of talking points for the ambassadors had been approved in December, but they had either not yet been delivered or added to the tracking document. Dr. Buscemi inquired about potential barriers in their latest check-in. Dr. Behrman, the council's liaison, had been tending family matters but would be rejoining the council on calls soon.

Opioid Pain Management Ambassadors: Due to other commitments, Dr. Wilton had to rotate off the council, though his term was almost at its end. The council had been rebuilt under Dr. Buscemi, and it would be beneficial to consider selecting new council members whose research



SOCIETY OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

focus overlapped with the work of the ambassadors. Dr. Dulin noted that the role of the council should be clear: is the council asking its members to provide directional oversight and strategic insights, or would they be tasked by the council?

New Chair Transition

This would be the final call with Dr. Buscemi acting as chair. Dr. Figueroa would be assuming the role as chair at the Annual Meeting. Dr. Figueroa was currently participating in the Leadership Institute, and was developing a new strategy for policy framework reviews. Dr. Figueroa asked if the council would like additional tracking data in order to quantify feedback. The council agreed that additional data would not be necessary at this time, but could be revisited in the future.

Meeting in-person at SBM's Annual Meeting

The council agreed to meet at SBM's Annual Meeting with the ambassadors. SBM staff would schedule the meeting and send a calendar invitation to all meeting attendees.

Adjourn

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1 p.m. CT. *Minutes respectfully submitted by R. Borzon on March 3, 2022.*