

BREAST CANCER RESEARCH COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes – Part A (Open Session)
May 8-9, 1998
Waterfront Hotel
Oakland, CA

ATTENDEES

Members Present: Shelley Adler, Floretta Chisom, Arlyne Draper, Jacquolyn Duerr, Bob Erwin, Marco Gottardis, Bobby Head, Susan Love, Judith Luce, Maria Pellegrini, Carol Pulskamp, Kevin Scanlon, Carol Voelker, Anne Wallace, Suzette Wright,

Staff Present: Mhel Kavanaugh-Lynch, Larry Gruder, Walter Price, Larry Fitzgerald, Katherine McKenzie, Garland Giles, Brenda Dixon-Coby, Mary Kreger

Members Absent: Beverly Rhine

I. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM. Kevin Scanlon (new Council member) was introduced and Council members and staff each introduced themselves. Marco Gottardis announced that this is his last meeting with the Council as he has accepted a position with Bristol Myers Squibb in New Jersey.

II. Approval of 02/07/98 Minutes

The minutes should be corrected to note that Beverly Rhine was absent. With this correction, the minutes were approved.

III. Director's Report

Bill AB2717 has been introduced by Assemblywoman Alquist, co-sponsored by a number of legislators. It encompasses the same language as the initiative introduced earlier this year that was subsequently withdrawn. It would add 20 cents per pack to the cigarette tax and provide 10 cents per pack for breast cancer programs and 10 cents per pack for prostate cancer programs. The bill is being delayed in committees right now.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Dissemination of Research Results – Los Angeles Meeting

Maria Pellegrini discussed the mini-symposium planned at USC. She has spoken with two USC faculty members (one former Council member – Debbie Johnson and one BCRP funded investigator – Michael Stallcup) who have agreed to serve as organizers for the symposium in September. The purpose of the symposium is outreach and research dissemination to the lay audience. USC will provide a 200-seat auditorium and audio-visual facilities. The space also has a lobby and patio areas that can serve for poster sessions and lunch. A time of 9 or 9:30 – 1:30 or 2:00 on Saturday, Sept 19 or 26 was suggested. Other costs include parking and box lunches. Maria Pellegrini will pursue having lunches and parking (or a part thereof) donated.

V. Old Business

A. Council Operations

Discussion was held concerning a recent vote/poll by fax sent out by the Chair, Bob Erwin. Some members felt this was an effective way to communicate and make decisions between meetings, while others felt that it eliminated the opportunity for discussion and should not be used. The Council agreed that a mechanism to make decisions and provide feedback in between meetings was necessary. Bob Erwin volunteered to draft a Council procedure for voting that allows for votes via fax between meetings.

MOTION: Suzette Wright moved that Bob Erwin draft a policy on how the Council votes between and during meetings. Marco Gottardis seconded. The motion passed with one nay and one abstention.

B. Funder's Network Meeting

Bob Erwin discussed the purpose of the proposed Funders' Meeting in the context of the Program's goals. The objective is to get a closer interaction with other funding organizations to more clearly define what BCRP's function is and where Programs can work together to make progress in breast cancer. The proposal is a collaboration with Colonel Irene Rich of the DOD Breast Cancer Research Program.

MOTION: Arlyne Draper moved that the Council ask staff to continue planning the Funders' Meeting and keep the Council abreast of how things are progressing so that Council members can have input. Carol Pulskamp seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The role of the CA BCRP Council in the Funders' Meeting was discussed. It was agreed that having all council members attend would be overwhelming to other participants. It was decided that volunteers from the Council will be solicited and the entire Council will host an evening event.

The list of invitees to the meeting was discussed. It was noted that there are funding organizations that are not on the list. Many of these are very small and/or just starting out. Criteria for inclusion were discussed.

MOTION: Marco Gottardis moved that invitees be limited to: (1) programs funding close to or over \$1 million per year; (2) state-sponsored or tax-supported programs; and (3) programs already invited. Shelley Adler seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

It was suggested that only the larger programs be asked to make presentations and that materials from all programs be distributed before the meeting. It was also suggested that a summary of the meeting be prepared afterwards.

C. Cycle V Call for Applications

The Council discussed the Cycle V Call for Applications in Closed Session.

VI. New Business

A. Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair (Attachment 3)

Shelley Adler nominated Bob Erwin for Chair. He accepted.
Arlyne Draper nominated Suzette Wright for Vice Chair. She accepted.
There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

As there is only one nominee for each office, the Council agreed to waive the requirement for written statements from nominees. Election will be held at the next meeting.

B. Discussion of Council Activities between Meetings

1. Expenses

Carol Voelker raised the issue of out-of-pocket expenditures by Council members. She asked if the Council needed an operating budget for such expenditures. Staff clarified that Council members may submit receipts for expenditures related to their work on the Council. It was agreed that no further action was necessary.

2. Travel Budget

Carol Voelker also proposed that the Council have a budget to allow members to attend scientific conferences. She also requested that staff inform the Council of upcoming conferences. Several other Council members offered to provide this information and mentioned the major conferences (AACR, San Antonio, ASCO) and their yearly schedule. Other members reported on their success at having registration fees waived upon request. The issue was discussed at length.

MOTION Carol Voelker moved that the Council endorse recommending reimbursement travel expenses for council members to attend scientific conferences if approved in advance by the Council. Marco Gottardis seconded the motion. Votes were 6 in favor, 6 opposed and one abstention and so the motion failed to pass.

C. Cycle IV Funding

The Council discussed Cycle IV grant applications in Closed Session.

VII. Announcements

The next meeting will be on June 6 in Oakland.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 P.M.