

Western Maryland Area Health Education Center
Dietetic Caucus Minutes
November 7, 2013

Theresa Stahl called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. The July 11, 2013 meeting minutes were reviewed and corrected as follows: the weight loss program the hospital is having for pediatrics is called “Smart Moves,” not “Make Healthy Choices.” Also, the community project for National Nutrition Month that will not be done was with the University of Maryland Extension Office rather than the MD Cooperative Extension Office, which is the outdated name. With these changes, the minutes were approved; Brenda moved to accept the minutes and Linda seconded the motion. Present were:

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|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Jennifer Wilson | Marcy Etherson | Linda Sweitzer |
| Hana Smith | Kay Leigh | Theresa Stahl |
| Lisa McCoy | Joni Brode | Jennifer Perrin |
| Brenda Ridgway | Joy Taylor | |

REPORTS

Treasury Report:

The caucus has a balance of \$436.78 in the account as of September 30, 2013.

WMAHEC Board of Directors:

Jennifer Wilson had no report.

Continuing Education:

Linda Atkinson was not in attendance. Brenda reported that there was a good attendance at the Bariatric CE program for professionals but the attendance at the public program was not as good as had been hoped. Dr. Small gave a very informative presentation. It was discussed that we may try to do this again next year and try to get the Bariatric Program’s RD to present along with the MD.

OLD BUSINESS

Listserv & Web Page:

The member listserv was circulated for review and updates.

National Nutrition Month Projects:

Recipe books: Discussion pro and con ensued. The Health System will not allow it to be sold at any of the support group meetings. We would have to sell them at other venues. People (the public) seem to want recipes and we all agreed that it is a worthwhile project. However, the Recipe Book Project Sub-Committee reported that most cookbook development companies want the cookbooks purchased upfront, and the Dietetic Caucus doesn’t have the funds for that at this time. So, Brenda will check with the legal department at the Health System to see if we can move forward with the project and count on financial support, and if so can the book go out with the WMAHEC Dietetic Caucus name on it. Theresa shared with the group what the cookbook committee had decided about the categories and how it would be laid out. Brenda will follow up with the marketing and legal departments and get back to us via email.

Other fund raising ideas were discussed again. A themed gift basket raffle with a theme such as “Dietitian Favorites” was an idea liked by all. Linda Sweitzer offered to put the baskets together, and all RD’s present said they were willing to donate the contents of the baskets. A subcommittee to work on fund raising baskets was formed consisting of Linda Sweitzer, Lisa McCoy and Joni Brode.

NEW BUSINESS & OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Nutrition Month 2014

No conference rooms are available on Wednesday, March 12, 2014, which is RD Day. An option of doing it at the Culinary Café was suggested. Jenn Wilson will check with Allegany College of Maryland to see if they are on break or if we may be able to have our celebration there. There will be no massages offered this time, as there had been for several years in the past due to a severe lack of funds. One possibility discussed was to have a cooking demo; Jenn Wilson is to speak with Debbie Frank about it.

Highlights of RD Activities

No update.

Drawing for the CE Winner

Theresa won the drawing for the free CE and donated it back to the caucus due to our dire financial condition. Discussion followed about whether having a drawing for a free CE helped increase participation in the caucus meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 9, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. at the WMHS.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcy Etherson, RD