

PPAC MEETING MINUTES, 3-8-07  
The Tower Building, Lower Level Conference Room  
1101 Wootton Parkway  
Rockville, MD 20852

### CALL TO ORDER

CAPT Jeffrey Kopp called the meeting to order at 1300.

### **ATTENDEES (MEMBERS)**

See attached Attendance Roster

### **GUESTS & EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**

See attached Attendance Roster.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the January 11, 2007 meeting were approved with correction (2008 promotion guidelines have not been released)

### **CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER REPORT (CAPT DAVID RUTSTEIN)**

- In late April Secretary Leavitt will roll out a new campaign using media to recruit for the 4 PHS categories (medical, dental, nurse, and pharmacist officers) that have large needs; CAPT Rutstein will take information from officers who may know of interested physicians
- The Commissioned Corps now has a "brigade commander" (company commander) to supervise students at USUHS and act as a liason back to the Surgeon General
- The President's health diplomacy issues for the Western Hemisphere with the USMS Comfort and other military missions are anticipated to actively involve PHS officers. There are 12 missions planned for the Comfort and 62 missions planned to the Caribbean and South America summer '07 through '08. There is no funding for the '07 missions (agency support would be required) however the '08 missions to Latin America/Western Hemisphere will be funded by the HHS budget. Presently, PHS officers have been aboard some Navy flight missions.
- 347 Field Medical Readiness Badges were awarded recently, many to medical officers.

### **PPAC CHAIR REPORT (CAPT JEFFREY KOPP)**

- Communication within the category is very important. Of 1050 medical officers on the LIST-SERVE used by CAPT Rutstein and CAPT Kopp about 10-15 emails "bounce back" when the list is used. CAPT Kopp uses the PPAC LIST-SERVE

which has 270 officers listed but may be problematic, for example some agencies do not allow attachments so the email is "bounced back." The PPAC Web Portal which is under development is presently being used for document posting and discussion.

- Civil Service representation in the PPAC was discussed. It has been difficult to recruit a Civil Service member. Most issues under discussion are PHS issues. Some categories (engineering and dental) have been successful at recruiting a Civil Service member but most have not. Present wording of the charter is compatible with making an effort to include a Civil Service representative.

## **NATIONAL HEALTH PRIORITIES (CDR NARAYAN NAIR)**

- ADM Moritsugu has asked the PACs to consider health priorities with a domestic focus that we should address in the next five years. Global issues may be considered given the world situation and the reality that our Nation deals with global issues. The deadline for this submission is March 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- The following topics were mentioned:
  - Access to care
  - Pediatric issues (ties in with above noted)
  - Medication use in this country (misuse), intentional or not, herbal remedies, dietary supplements
  - Medical errors
  - Health literacy, may already be ongoing

## **SUBCOMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP UPDATES**

### ***Awards (CAPT Calman Prussin)***

- No report at this meeting.

### ***Career Development and Training (CDR Tejashri Purohit-Sheth)***

- No committee report (See Transformation Work Group).

### ***COA Report (CAPT Barbara Stinson)***

- The speakers and budget are finalized and the conference is almost set to go.
- The meeting will be held June 4-7, 2007 in Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Nominations for the PPAC Physician awards are being solicited (clinical, executive, and researcher physician awards) to be sent to CAPT Barbara Stinson.

### ***Compensation Committee (CAPT Jeffrey Kopp)***

- No report at this meeting.

### ***Membership (CDR Matt Clark)***

- No report at this meeting.

