



# North Pacific Surgical Association

## Executive Council Meeting

January 31, 2020  
16:00 PST

*By Teleconference*

Councilors attending: (\*indicated)

- \*John Waldhausen, MD, President (Seattle)
- \*Nathalie Johnson, MD, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (Portland)
- Vance Sohn, MD, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Tacoma)
- Sam Wiseman, MD, Senior Councilor (Vancouver)
- \*Tim Bax, MD, Junior Councilor (Spokane/Idaho)
- Allen Hayashi, MD, President Ex-Officio (Victoria/Alberta)
- \*Kenneth Gow, MD, Secretary-Treasurer (Seattle)
- \*Martin Schreiber, MD, Delegate to ACS Board of Governors (Portland)
- \*Matt Martin, MD, Recorder (Tacoma)
- \*Nis Schmidt, MD, Historian (Vancouver)

Others attending:

- Chad Ball, MD (Victoria Alberta Junior Councilor (2021)
- Laszlo Kiraly, MD (new NPSA Recorder)
- Harvey Gail, NPSA Executive Director

### **1. Welcome – Dr. Waldhausen**

Dr. John Waldhausen called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm. He noted after the agenda items the bylaws committee report will be discussed which is under old business.

### **2. Secretary/Treasurer's Report – Dr. Gow**

*A. Approval of Minutes, Executive Council Meeting, Nov. 7, 2019*

Dr. Waldhausen asked for comments on the minutes of the November 7, 2019 council meeting.

#### **PASSED**

***Motion to accept the minutes of the Council Meeting on Nov. 7, 2019. MM Dr. Schmidt; MS Dr. Martin, Motion Carried.***

*B. Financial Report*

Dr. Kenneth Gow reviewed the numbers and referred to his written report which was emailed with the meeting reminder. He said we have two bank accounts, one in Canada and one in the US. He read the balances as of December 31, 2019 as follows:

US Bank:	\$18,891.67
Royal Bank of Canada:	<u>\$1,146.63</u>
Total	\$20,038.30

He noted we had to withdraw from the Merrill Lynch investment account a couple times last year. The year-end balance on the account is \$107,961.45.

Dr. Gow noted the Victoria meeting numbers. He said while income was higher than budget, so were expenses. He said dues collection is improving and approaching our budgeted numbers. He asked if a list of members could be circulated that shows current and lapsed members. Harvey Gail will send the list to the caucus leads for them to follow up on unpaid members.

Dr. Gow said that while finances are stable, member dues are not being fully paid. Dr. Gow called for a review of the dues income over the last few years to determine if our funds are stable or whether an adjust membership dues is necessary. Gail noted that the increase to \$200 in dues a few years ago (up from \$150) was an estimated number. Gail said in his observation, member dues need to cover administrative costs and the costs for the subscription to the *American Journal of Surgery*. Gail did not think NPSA was quite reaching that number which puts pressure on the annual meeting committee to have a positive financial result. Gail noted that as it is now, the annual meeting must have a positive net income to cover some of the administrative costs.

The group talked about a dues increase; whether it should be \$225 or \$250. Dr. Nathalie Johnson said member dues should remain the same and more emphasis should be placed on industry support as a revenue source. She said increasing member numbers would also help. Gail said he could run a report over the past 4 or five years. Gail was not confident in the financial numbers from before his firm started keeping the books in Quickbooks. Dr. Gow recalled when dues were raised the last time, a report was presented to the members at the member meeting and vote taken to allow the dues increase.

### **3. Annual Meeting Programs**

#### *A. Seattle meeting 2020 – Dr. Waldhausen*

Dr. Waldhausen talked about the speakers for the meeting. John Cassidy, who spoke in Victoria on the Cascadia megaquake, has been asked to come back and give an expanded speech during the lunch session. Historian lecture is outside of lunch. We already have several sponsors lined up with interest. Martin said we usually have over 30 papers, so 24 is fewer. The group discussed whether the e-poster could be submitted with a manuscript for publication. Dr. Waldhausen said we will have a video session and we have two people able to offer review articles. He said a wine and cheese session with e-posters will be held on Friday that will run 1 hour 15 minutes, so possibly up to 12 presentations.

Dr. Waldhausen asked if the councilors felt we would need to add more papers. Dr. Matt Martin suggested we consider sending some in to *AJS* as “research letters.” He noted this is done with the Pacific Coast Surgical Association. He noted NPSA has not gotten any pressure from the *AJS* on our page count.

#### *B. Portland meeting 2021 – Dr. Johnson*

Dr. Johnson said the Portland caucus has chosen The Nines Hotel. She does not have the program determined yet. She said she has some connections in the National Basketball Association. She thought we might be able to get the Trail Blazer’s coach to speak.

### **4. Recorder’s Report – Dr. Martin**

Dr. Martin commented that this year was great, and all the manuscripts and two videos were submitted to the AJS. He noted the review is complete on all of them and we had one review article placed. Dr Martin said the only challenge has been that Elsevier has been slow to respond. He said it looks like most of them will be published. Dr. Martin said Dr. Kiraly is ready to take over as recorder.

## **5. Historian's Report – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt noted next November his presentation will be on Saturday. He noted an issue with the timing of the speech last year. Dr. Schmidt reviewed some of the topic ideas for the speech next year. His speech will focus on change: comparing the past with the present. He noted he has a many NPSA program booklets, so the presentation will be based on a review of the invited speakers NPSA has had over the years.

## **6. Governor's Report ACS – Dr. Schreiber**

Dr. Martin Schreiber noted the ACS Leadership and Advocacy meeting is coming up March 27- April 1 in Washington, DC at the Renaissance Inn. He said it's an outstanding meeting and he described the content. He noted the big topics are gun violence and surprise billing. He described one solution for surprise billing the amount would be decided by arbitration between the insurance company and the surgeons.

Dr. Martin described the Mission Zero program and also noted ACS is looking into pediatric cancer funding proposals.

Dr. Schreiber said his term ends after the ACS Clinical Congress meeting in October. He noted NPSA has two candidates for governor: Ken Gow, MD and Matt Martin, MD. So, with two candidates, there will need to be some kind of vote.

## **7. Administrator's Report – Harvey Gail, NPSA Executive Director**

Gail said the website has been updated with the meeting information for 2020. He said there are a few changes to make to the schedule, but otherwise the information is up. He noted the call for abstracts will be going out in April with a due date of June 30.

Gail noted a letter was sent to all lapsed members and as a result NPSA received about \$2,400 in dues in January. He also noted a letter was sent to new members who were recently voted in. The letter included a place for them to sign indicating their acceptance of the terms of membership for NPSA. Gail said by having people sign the acceptance they are also agreeing to our expectations. He noted we have received a few back already along with their dues for 2020.

Gail said we have about a half dozen exhibitors who have expressed interest in the Seattle meeting. He noted the letter of invitation, a form and a link to the online form went out in the last week to all sponsors.

## **8. Old Business**

### *A. NPSA Bylaws Committee Recommendations*

Dr. Waldhausen asked if the bylaws committee was prepared to give a report. It was noted Dr. Johnson, Dr. Martin and Dr. Gow are on the committee. Dr. Gow said they had not met to discuss the bylaws proposals. Gail clarified that the discussion was concerning, which new dues categories should be added to the NPSA and how the bylaws would need to be changed to accommodate the new categories.

Dr. Waldhausen noted that organizational health is one of the objectives that came out of our strategic planning session, so this is an important topic. Dr. Johnson asked Harvey Gail to coordinate a meeting of the committee so a report can be given at the next council meeting in February. Gail will organize a committee meeting to include Drs Johnson, Gow and Martin.

#### **9. New Business**

None presented.

#### **10. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:48 pm.

#### **PASSED**

*Motion to adjourn. MM Dr. Schmidt, MS Dr. Gow. Motion carried.*

#### **11. Next Meeting Date**

The next Council meeting will be scheduled after the bylaws committee has had a chance to meet.

*Minutes taken by Harvey Gail, NPSA Executive Director and Dr. Ken Gow, Secretary/Treasurer.*