

California Breast Cancer Research Council Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2003
Sacramento, CA

Members Present: Ellen Mahoney, Sandy Walsh, Anna Wu, Elaine Ashby, Vicki Boriack, Debra Oto-Kent, Dorothy Bainton, Georjean Stoodt, Jackie Papkoff, Michael Figueroa

Members Absent: Janet Howard-Espinoza, Diana Chingos, Craig Henderson, Robert Kaplan, Irene Linayao-Putman

Staff Present: Laurence Fitzgerald, Larry Gruder, Marion Kavanaugh-Lynch, Katherine McKenzie, Walter Price, Roslyn Roberts, Areta Luu, Yalda Afshar.

I. Call to Order and Introduction:

Chair Anna Wu called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

II. Priority-Setting Presentation

For the annual priority-setting assessment, Janna Cordeiro presented institutions funded by CBCRP, the success rate for the award types, the funding success rates for the priority areas and the primary/complementary grants along with a look at the award types receiving few or no applications.

For the triannual priority-setting process data presentation, CBCRP Research Administrators described those grants within their portfolios that had a significant translation element and discussed barriers to translation.

III. Approval of January 24, 2003 Minutes (Attachment 3)

Motion: The minutes were approved with the following correction: Page 2, Section IV, second sentence should read "They are now the Collaboration Committee".

IV. Director's Report:

Cycle IX Timelines and Progress

Mhel began by reporting on the status of the Cycle IX Review Committees. The first committee, Pathogenesis, is scheduled to begin on the 21st of March. Once again, Mhel encouraged council members to attend any of the review committee meetings for which they are not scheduled to perform a Programmatic review.

Fundraising Update

Fundraising efforts continue with the tax check off campaign being the focal point. Members of the CBCRP Staff along with volunteers distributed water bottles and tax check off literature to attendees at the Cal Men's and Women's basketball games during the month of February and at the Golden State Warriors Breast Cancer Awareness Night in March. The Warriors halftime presentation featured Marion Kavanaugh-Lynch, CBCRP Program Director, Faith Fancher, KTVU Journalist and breast cancer survivor along with the wife the Warrior's Head Coach, Wendy Musselman and the newly formed partnership in the fight against breast cancer.

On-site rallies promoting the tax check off are scheduled at selected office buildings in San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego and San Jose. The CBCRP will sponsor an electronic newsletter which will reach approximately 15,000 California CPA's requesting them to

encourage their clients to make a donation on their state tax returns and offering information about the program through a link to the CBCRP web site. Effective April 15, 2003, Clear Outdoor Channel will post the tax check off message via outdoor signage intended to reach approximately 960,000 pedestrians and drivers throughout the state.

Council members previewed a 15 second PSA (Public Service Announcement) featuring Paramount Studio actress, Connie Nielsen encouraging viewers to make a voluntary contribution in support of the CBCRP Tax Check off program. Other fundraising projects include media marketing through high profile radio advertisements on KQED, KKVV and KOKO; and letters of intent to various foundations. In addition, CBCRP has partnered with the California Health Collaborative with the intent to reach breast cancer early detection partnerships, their member organizations along with other cancer related programs and registries, via letters, posters and e-mail announcements.

2003 Advances in Breast Cancer (Attachment 6)

Mhel requested council members review the 2003 Advances and contact CBCRP staff with any comments or changes.

Breast Cancer Course for Researchers

Council members were encouraged to attend “The Breast Cancer Course for Researchers” conference, March 26-27, 2003 and the 3rd International Santa Barbara Symposium, “The Intraductal Approach to Breast Cancer, March 27-30, 2003.

V. Programmatic Review Instructions/ Distribution of Packets (Attachment 7)

Mhel presented a summary of the Programmatic Review Process and reviewed the required materials which included abstract books, score sheets and instructions. She reiterated the guiding principles of the process: (1) The evaluation of applications for funding is a two-tiered process consisting of separate scientific and programmatic tiers of review. Both reviews are necessary to the funding decision. (2) The two tiers are fundamentally different in the nature of their review. (3) All applications are evaluated in as objective and thorough a manner as possible, without preference to any applicant

VI. New Business

Discussion of Joining Forces Conference Award (Attachment 7)

The CBCRP Advisory council discussed funding the JFCA.

MOTION: Ellen Mahoney moved that the council recommend for funding the JFCA under stipulations to be addressed by CBCRP staff. The motion was seconded by Michael Figueroa and was passed unanimously.

VII. Committee Reports

Collaboration Committee (Attachment 10)

The Collaboration Committee provided an update on their planning in three of the 2003 symposium venues: the poster session, a break out session, and exhibits. The committee also discussed their intention to enhance their involvement in monthly newsletters published by the partnerships by offering articles highlighting research funded by the CBCRP with a link to its web site.

Outreach Committee (Attachment 11)

Committee Chair, Ellen Mahoney discussed the overall plan for the 2003 symposium plenary sessions which include the research conclusions drawn from breast cancer and the environment, the next steps and the ultimate outcome of breast cancer in California. To

date, panel members include Peggy Reynolds, John Peterson Myers and Sandra Steingraber. She outlined the concept of the "Breakfast with the Experts" and the poster sessions.

Priority Setting Committee (Attachment 12)

Janna outlined the Committee's plan to present the priority-setting data to the council. Annual assessment data will be presented at the June Council meeting and the Council will discuss outreach strategies and changes to the Call for Applications. The second half of the June meeting will consist of data presentations from staff at the California Cancer Registry. They will present the latest epidemiological data on the burden of breast cancer in California. Additionally, the committee has requested that CBCRP commission white papers from 3-5 people who will comment on the research opportunities revealed from the California Cancer Registry's report.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 PM.