

**MINUTES OF THE
MARYLAND STEM CELL RESEARCH COMMISSION**

Friday, August 28, 2015
University of Maryland BioPark
Baltimore, MD

Action Items from August 28, 2015

- 1. A motion was made, seconded and passed to retain the existing RFAs, funding amounts, and the term durations, and to approve the date and mailing address modifications for all of the MSCRF funding programs. The motion passed unanimously.**
 - 2. New officer nominations and elections was deferred until the pending Commission appointments/re-appointments are confirmed.**
 - 3. The Sub-Committee will review the final report of the MSCRF Program Evaluation and will recommend an effective approach to utilize and present the resulting information. The final results will be shared with the Commission for discussion during the December 2015 meeting.**
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Members in attendance:

Rachel Brewster
Diane Hoffmann
Debra Mathews
David Mosser, Vice Chair
Linda Powers
Avram Reisner, Chair
Ira Schwartz
Curt Van Tassell
Bo Weisheit

Staff in Attendance:

Dan Gincel, TEDCO
Robert Rosenbaum, TEDCO
Sabrina Spinner, TEDCO

The Commission meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

I. Approval of Minutes

The Commission reviewed the minutes from the February 18, 2015 and May 4, 2015 meetings. A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Executive Director Report

Dr. Dan Gincel presented the Administrative Report, which focused on the following items:

A. Commission Appointment Terms

Noel Rose, an appointed representative from Johns Hopkins University, has resigned from the Commission. Mr. Rose accepted a position at the Harvard Medical School in Boston, MA. The Commission expressed sincere appreciation for Noel Rose's dedicated and invaluable service to the Commission. Johns Hopkins University will provide a new appointee to serve on the Commission in the near future.

As a reminder, Dr. Gincel indicated that all Commission members who have reached the end of their terms are expected to continue to serve until replaced. Due to the number of Commission members who have reached the end of their terms, there was a consensus to defer new officer nominations and elections until the pending appointments/re-appointments are confirmed.

B. Eighth Annual MSCRF Symposium-Update

Dr. Gincel is currently negotiating a contract with Morgan State University to host the 8th Annual Maryland Stem Cell Symposium in May 2016. Alternative venues are being reviewed in Prince George's County.

C. Future Meetings

The World Stem Cell Summit 2015 will be held in Atlanta, GA on December 10-12, 2015. Dr. Gincel accepted an invitation to participate as a speaker on behalf of the Fund and the Commission.

D. TEDCO Relocation

TEDCO is relocating to a larger office located at 7021 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, MD 21046. The space is currently being configured to accommodate a staff of 30, several large and small conference rooms, common areas and more. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

E. 2016 Scientific Peer Review Meeting- Update

The conference space to host the annual Scientific Peer Review meetings is secured. The meetings are scheduled to convene on March 20-24, 2016.

F. Future Commission Meeting Dates

Dec. 7, 2015 9 am – 12 noon (TBD)

Feb. 1, 2016 2 pm – 5 pm (TEDCO Office, Columbia, MD)

May 2, 2016 9 am – 5 pm (TEDCO Office, Columbia, MD)

III. Discussion of the RFAs for FY2016

The Commission briefly discussed the FY2016 MSCRF RFAs. A motion was made and seconded to retain the existing RFAs, funding amounts, and the term durations, and to approve the date and mailing address modifications for all of the MSCRF Funding programs. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Overview of the 2015 MSCRF Program Evaluation

During a brief overview, Dr. Gincel indicated that over the years, TEDCO management contracted several economic analysts/consultants and expert economists to analyze the economic impact the MSCRF program has within the State of Maryland. The final report of the study identified the overall economic benefits and the value of the Fund.

The Commission emphasized the importance of continual self-evaluation, and made a decision to conduct a new and broader analysis of all MSCRF programs and activities. Executive management hired a graduate student who served as a part-time, paid intern, charged with the task of interviewing targeted audiences, collecting, compiling, and analyzing the data for Commission review. The Sub-Committee will review the final report of the MSCRF Program evaluation and will recommend an effective approach to utilize and present the resulting information. The final results will be shared with the Commission for discussion during the December 2015 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m.