

**MINUTES OF THE  
MARYLAND STEM CELL RESEARCH COMMISSION  
Monday, May 13, 2013  
TEDCO Offices, 9:30 AM**

---

**No Action Items**

---

**Members in Attendance:**

Brenda Crabbs  
Margaret Conn Himelfarb, Chair  
Diane Hoffmann  
Marye Kellermann  
Sharon Krag  
Debra Mathews  
David Mosser  
Linda Powers  
Avram Reisner  
Noel Rose  
Ira Schwartz  
Curt Van Tassell

**Participating Staff:**

Dan Gincel, TEDCO  
Rob Rosenbaum, TEDCO

**The Commission meeting was called to order at 9:36 am**

**I. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2013 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**II. Administrative Report**

Executive Director Dan Gincel presented the Administrative Report, which focused on the following items:

**A. Sixth Annual Maryland Stem Cell Symposium-Update**

- The 2013 Stem Cell Symposium will be held on Tuesday, Dec 3, 2013 at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore Maryland.
- Dan is currently recruiting and soliciting sponsorships for the event.
- The symposium will include an opening reception, keynote speakers, scientific talks, workshops, exhibits, and poster sessions.

**B. 2013 Legislative Session**

The 2013 General Assembly ended its session in April 2013. The Governor's proposed FY2014 MSCRF budget for \$10.4M was fully supported and approved by the legislatives.

**C. Economic Impact Study**

The Subcommittee held a meeting to discuss and develop the criteria for the economic impact study and to determine an effective approach to utilize and present the resulting information. After discussion, TEDCO management agreed to conduct a broader analysis on all TEDCO programs, including the MSCRF program. Management is currently drafting a RFP to solicit proposals from economic analyst consultants or expert economists to assist with this task.

**D. Governor's Delegation to Israel**

Dan Gincel did not join the delegation. Representing the TEDCO Board and the MSCR Commission, Mr. Rosenbaum, president and executive director of TEDCO, gave a brief report on his trip to Israel for Governor O'Malley's nine-day Economic Delegation/Trade Mission in April 20, 2013.

**E. Future Meeting Date**

The next Commission meeting will be held at the UMB BioPark on Thursday, July 18, 2013 from 2pm to 5pm.

**IV. Statement for Closing the Meeting**

A motion was made and seconded that the Commission go into closed session. The motion stated the following:

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION**

**State Government Article Sec.10-503(a)(1)(i):**

This subtitle does not apply to ... a public body when it is carrying out ... an administrative function.

**State Government Article Sec.10-508(a)(5):**

A public body may meet in closed session ... to consider the investment of public funds.

**State Government Article Sec.10-508(a)(13):**

A public body may meet in closed session ... to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.

**TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:**

The discussion will concern the implementation of the Commission's previously adopted criteria for grant funding. The Commission will discuss which applications to recommend for funding, given the scientific rankings and other relevant factors. The discussion might also relate to the characteristics of specific applications.

**REASON FOR CLOSING:**

Paralleling the NIH process for considering funding applications, the Commission believes that confidentiality is essential to protect the sensitive information about plans and processes that applicants divulge, to avoid a chilling effect on future submissions, and to enable the most candid Commission discussion of how best to invest its limited resources.

The motion passed unanimously. The Commission went into a closed session at 10:00 am.

In the closed session, the Commission reviewed the scientific peer review ranking of, and key information about, the applications recommended for funding within the four current categories of grant funding (Investigator-Initiated, Exploratory, Post-Doctoral Fellowship, and Pre-clinical Applications). All applicants' names and affiliated institutions had been redacted. The Commission focused on applications that received competitive, meritorious scientific scores, giving priority to applications that included collaborations, regenerative medicine, translational research, and underfunded areas of research.

The Commission recommended applications from each of these four funding categories for TEDCO Board approval.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.