



Wednesday, July 29, 2020
Baptist Medical Center
8:00am – WebEX

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The Northeast Florida Pediatric Society (NEFPS) meeting was called to order on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at 8:06am utilizing **WebEX**, by Dr. Atkins, President.

ATTENDANCE: The roster of attendance is filed in the WCH Medical Affairs Office, recorded in the medical staff database, ECHO.

GUESTS: None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: The minutes of the January 29, 2020 NEFPS meeting were adopted as written.

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW-UP
WELCOME	Dr. Atkins called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for coming. She asked that the minutes from the last meeting be reviewed, for a motion to approve. She noted that the April meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.	Motion made to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and the minutes were accepted.	Minutes to the WCH Medical Board for information.
OLD BUSINESS	None	None	None
NEW BUSINESS	Dr. Atkins presented the slate of new officers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of Mark Bedard, DO - Treasurer Candidate • Motion to approve Executive Committee Slate (effective January 2021)** <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ryan Cantville, DO - President ○ Julie Kellogg, MD – Vice President ○ Mark Bedard, DO - Treasurer ○ Bethany Atkins, MD - Immediate Past President 	There was a vote to approve the executive committee slate, it was seconded and accepted by the membership.	None

Dr. Zenni commented that it is great to see younger additions to the executive committee and that several have been through the UF pediatric residency program.

Dr. Atkins, said that she has seen more activism around social issues by pediatricians in our community than in years past. She feels this is a positive movement and she hopes it will continue. She asked that everyone join, renew their membership, get involved! She mentioned that Society dues go towards causes and initiatives that support the NEFPS mission.

- Dues cycle for 2020 Membership will begin shortly and wrap-up by year's end.
- COVID Pediatric Testing Sites/DOH – Dr. Rolle asked Dr. Atkins share information on testing locations and that it be known anyone who shows up (6 months or up) will be tested. If you have trouble finding pediatric testing sites, contact Dr. Atkins and she'll get you that information. This information can also be found on the Partnership for Child Health website.
- Immunization Update/MMR and Tdap Coverage – there has been a dramatic drop in patients coming in for routine visits and immunizations. The statistics for MMR/Tdap immunizations is quite poor (<65-70%) in our region.

Dr. Goldhagen discussed an initiative to get kids and adults in for flu shots (#FluVaxJax Initiative by DCMS Foundation), VFC ordered by the State has been increased by 50-100% so there will be enough to cover the community. DOH and Agape are implementing back to school availability for MMR & Tdap. COVID has become a lens magnifying existing health inequities in the community. There will probably be a timing problem for primary care providers with the availability of the flu vaccine and getting kids in for MMR/Tdap vaccination. Make an effort to identify the children in your practice that need their MMR/Tdap shots.

Dr. Mirza asked about a rumor, that the schools will not be giving flu shots this year. Dr. Goldhagen said that it wasn't true. Health Heroes has ordered 30K doses of flu vaccines and will collaborate with the school system and the Department of Health so vaccines are available. Dr. Zenni added that she has had instances when talking to some parents about vaccinations, Many think their kids don't need these shots if they are being schooled virtually and some aren't seeing the relationship between needing vaccinations for flu **and** COVID. Dr. Atkins reminded that whether your child is attending a brick and mortar school or being virtually schooled these immunizations are mandated. The question was raised: Do parents need to show proof of vaccinations to participate in virtual learning? Dr. Atkins will look into the answer.

- Northeast FL Medical Society (NEFMS)** – Dr. Atkins introduced the NEFMS position statement regarding racial inequality and possible NEFPS support. Dr. Goldhagen proposed the development of a position statement that would align NEFPS with the Northeast Florida Medical Society, a group of African-American physicians and healthcare providers that have been around since 1896. Their statement reflects that DCMS haven't been forthcoming on issues of racism. The DCMS President, Dr. St. George is running for Congress and his ads reflect a significant issue with the African-American community, gun violence. In the ads he shoots guns and talks against the ACA. DCMS is looking for medical and healthcare

organizations to support their position. The letter and the NEFPS support letter will be shared with the membership. He added that neither DCMS or the FMA took a position for or against the RNC convention that was to be held in Jacksonville. Dr. Zenni feels that NEFPS values align with those in the letter from DCMS and would support a letter of support. Discussion ensued.

Dr. Kellogg, who is working on a NEFPS statement regarding racism and racial disparities, she paraphrased Dr. Martin Luther King “Silence is betrayal”, highlighting the need for our Society to have a statement. The AAP came out with a statement on the impact of racism on child and adolescent health a year ago. Dr. Goldhagen mentioned that PFA has issued a letter on the issue. Action items also need to be developed and education needs to take place. Several of the doctors on the call offered to work with Dr. Kellogg to craft a statement for NEFPS. Dr. Gayle spoke saying he is also a member of NEFMS and is encouraged that this issue has been brought to NEFPS. He understands that some “feathers will be ruffled” but there will not be change without it. Dr. Goldhagen added that this is a critical child rights issue and an opportunity for NEFPS to take a stand and use our collective voices.

STANDING BUSINESS

School Health Program Report: No report.

None.

None

FL Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics(FCAAP) – Dr. Joseph said that FCAAP sent out a statement, this morning, on returning to school with a toolkit for parents to aid their decision-making. It went to all State pediatricians (members and non-members). The DOH is also releasing a statement. Dr. Goldhagen pointed out that there is not a consensus for returning to school and NEFPS needs to develop some general recommendations. Dr. Pitel added that the Nemours stance is that the child’s overall health must be considered when making this individual decision. Discussion ensued.

Accepted as information.

None

She also discussed some programing AAP provides. Each week there is a webinar (on various topics of interest (examples: managed care; telemedicine). There are also regular Medicaid updates and they meet regularly with AHCA. AHCA agreed to pay for managed care plans to pay for telemedicine, one child check and to pay for physical exam and the audio part of the exam. AHCA is waiving penalties for physicians who are PTMH-certified but not able to meet some requirements due to COVID, so they receive the higher pay. The annual conference in September is free.

Dr. Atkins congratulated Dr. Joseph on her election as AAP regional representative.

Children’s Medical Services (CMS) /Duval County Medical Society (DCMS): No report.

None

None

WCH Update: Dr. Bridgham reported –

None

None

- **Critical Care Tower Construction** – the building is starting to rise from the foundation. Completion is slated for November 2021. Then it must be equipped and commissioned so the actual opening would be February of 2022. Meetings have been taking place regarding the development of new processes for working in the three NICU floors environment, none of the floors are immediately adjacent to labor & delivery. New processes are being developed to manage the special needs of newborns and subsets of NICU babies (super-premies, ex-premies). Also being discussed are mini-units for neurological and cardiac cases. The extra space will allow more dedicated care of specific neonate populations.

With the PICU moving from WCH to the new Tower use of the vacated WCH space will be an inpatient rehab program that is being developed. This service, for long-term and neuro kids in an inpatient setting is inadequate to non-existent in FL. Dr. Goldhagen commented that there is no center in the State for the medically complex; kids are sent to Brooks from all over the state. This is a crucial, much needed service.

There is discussion regarding refurbishing the rooms on WCH 4, 5, 6 to produce fewer rooms with more space.

- **EPIC** – the contracts have been signed to start the process of moving from Cerner to EPIC with “go live” in November of 2022. A lot of in/out patient physicians will be engaged to participate in its development. The EPIC platform called “Care Everywhere” will allow greater sharing of information between primary & hospital settings.
- **COVID/WCH** – currently the virus has been a much less of an issue for WCH, compared to the adult side. At almost any time WCH may have 2-5 positive or “patients under investigation”. Pre-procedure testing is taking place in a manner safe for patients and staff. Processes have been put in place when moving patients so it is done safely and with minimal exposure to other patients. Across the BH System there had been a significant upswing in cases in the last few weeks but is now trending downward here and around JAX; Thankfully, we’ve not gotten to the point of overtaxing our ICUs, inpatient capacities or ventilator capacity

University of Florida: No report.

None

None

Nemours Children’s Specialty Care (NCSC) Update: Dr. Pitel reported on recruitments:

None

None

- Epilepsy-Neurologist starting September
- GI starting August
- Actively recruiting for surgeons
- IR starting August
- Eric Sandler, MD will become Chair, Department of Pediatrics September 1

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- Paul Pitel, MD will retire 9/1 and retiring 10/1.

None

None

St. Vincent's Family Medicine Residency Program Update: no report.

Secretary –Treasurer's Report: Dr. Kellogg reported that membership currently stands at around 213. None

None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:06am. The next meeting of the Northeast Florida Pediatric Society will take place on Wednesday, September 30, 2020 at 8:00am utilizing **WebEX**.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Julie Kellogg, MD
NEFPS Secretary-Treasurer

Bethany Atkins, MD
NEFPS President