

American Academy of Physician Assistants in Legal Medicine

**Annual Membership Meeting
Marriott Rivercenter Room 13-14**

**May 24, 2008
San Antonio, Texas**

Meeting Minutes

The annual meeting was called to order by President-Elect Jeff Nicholson at 1800 hrs. He discussed the dues increase that was approved at the last meeting in Philadelphia last year. Effective with this meeting new members and renewing member will now pay \$75/year for dues. Also, discussed was the possibility of adding a button to the aapalm.org website which would allow members to pay by credit card. This would be done at little cost using the Google software. Jeff will do the research on whether we will pay a small fee for this feature/transaction vs applying for non-profit status, thus making this essentially no fee. He will make this decision.

Sue Curtis, AAPA Staff member for Constituent Relations, attended our meeting and gave much good advice to our membership. There was a long discussion on whether we would apply for non-profit status vs keeping our organization as in its present status as simply a special interest group. We will continue to do the research on this, however at this time we will keep our structure as is as we will not get any advantage with presently 15-20 active members. The plan will be for us eventually to apply for caucus status as our membership grows and as our dues grow. We are grateful for the advice and guidance of the AAPA staff on our behalf.

The recruitment brochure designed by Marcos Varcos, our newsletter editor, was reviewed and approved with only small clerical and design changes. The board approved those small changes and in the near future this letter will be sent out to all AAPA members along with an email letter from Jeff Nicholson notifying them that those who are interested in legal medicine will be able to join our organization as fellows. Also attached with this "blast email" will be a membership application and also a survey which will allow us to get demographic information on our new members. With the Google spreadsheet that we already have which allows board members to quickly see who is a member as well as their specialty, this will give us much flexibility in giving cases to the best PA consultants who are also members of aapalm. Many thanks to Marcos Vargos for the design of this recruitment brochure. We will also make sure that Bob Potter, webmaster and Vice-President will have the revised brochure as well as current membership application and survey tool to be placed on the website.

Several of our AAPA LM members spoke at the conference in San Antonio giving medical legal lectures. We hope that our members can continue to give these types of educational talks to PAs in general as this will be a service that we provide.

The current balance in the AAPA LM checking account is \$1,546.53.

Elections were held during the membership meeting and results are as follows:

President: Jeff Nicholson

President-Elect: Jeff Nicholson

Past-President: James Hull

Vice President: Bob Potter

Secretary: Open

Board Member-At-Large: Roy M Cary

Treasurer: Jim Cary

Web Master: Bob Potter

Newsletter Editor: Marcos Vargas

Student Member: Open

There being no other business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 1745 hrs. The next meeting will be held in San Diego, CA at the next annual conference of the AAPA.

Respectfully Submitted,

James L Cary, PA-C, MHA
Acting Secretary