



Conference Committee Minutes

Friday, September 22, 2023, 8:30 AM via Zoom

Attendance: Dr. Mack Taylor (Committee Chair), Gary Harbison, Jessica Gibala, Olayinka Adekunle, Patricia Pou, Dr. Megan Krohn, Tiffany Grant, Karen Dent, Sarah Dirksen, Melissa Kleffner-Wansing, Ashley Herrman, Jessica Emmerich..

- Introductions were made.
- Minutes (see Minutes, November 18, 2022) – Approved.
- 2023 Conference Survey (see Conf. Survey Summary & Policy Conf. Survey Report) – Reviewed.
- Memberships Survey (see Cumulative Membership Survey Report, 2022 Membership Survey Summary & 2022 Membership Survey Report). – Reviewed.
- General Layout for 2024
 - Pre-conf. webinars – Feb. - Advocacy training for participants visiting the Capitol, other webinars (see below)
 - Thursday, March 7
 - Capitol Visits – 8 AM – 10 AM
 - Welcome roughly at 11 AM
 - 4 sessions with breaks ; 4 – 6 exhibitor/sponsor focus (5 minutes each)
 - Lunch
 - Oral Health Champion Awards & Networking Reception
 - Friday, March 8 –
 - Breakfast – 6:30 – 8 AM - Discussion – Self-directed by topic & table
 - 3 sessions with Breaks ; 4 – 6 exhibitor/sponsor focus session (5 minutes each)
 - End with lunch
- Supporting the Displays – Discussed door prizes and possible CEs for exhibitors.
- 2024 Theme – Several possibilities were suggested - Guiding the Future; Building Healthy Smiles: Bridging Gaps in Oral Healthcare; Innovations in Dentistry: Advancing Oral Health in Missouri; From Prevention to Policy: Navigating the Path to Better Oral Health; From Prevention to Policy: Navigating the Path to Better Oral Health; From Policy to Practice – Putting Ideas to Work.
- Potential Speakers and Topics – Discussed the need to balance policy & clinical (attendance is a mix) - Several suggestions were made - Medicaid; Discussed previous presentation on SDF and sealants by Craig Hollander; Jessica Hembree (on advocacy); (from mid-states dental leadership) Mark Vujcic on dental industry trends; panel discussions are always good – innovative local public health agencies on oral health and engagement of the dental community; panel on school nurses; community involvement through FQHCs; grants & grant-writing; technology in dentistry & AI; webinar on sedation services within safety net clinics; Dr. Miller – State Dental Director Update.
- Oral Health Champion Award Recommendations – The following people were discussed as potential award MCOH Oral Health Champion Award recipients: Gwen Sullentrup (for Office of Dental Health Work), Roger Sullivan (for assistance with local fluoridation issues throughout the state), Amanda Fahrendorf (for support of the initiative to increase dental provider enrollment in Medicaid), Dr. Miller (for Office of Dental Health Work), Dr. Ron Wilkerson (for support of Medicaid dental provider enrollment), Dr. Aaron Bumann (for support of Medicaid dental provider enrollment) & Dr. Emily Hahn for support of Medicaid dental provider enrollment). There was some discussion about the award criteria and work related to MCOH mission and vision. These suggestions will be reviewed at the next meeting.
- Committee Member Updates – Time did not allow for updates at this meeting.
- Upcoming meetings

Conference Committee – Friday, October 27, 2023, 8:30 AM via Zoom

Board Meeting – Thursday, December 7, 2023, 8:30 AM via Zoom

Policy Committee – Friday, October 20, 2023, 9 AM via Zoom