



Hawaii Dental Association

1345 South Beretania Street Suite 301, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Office: 808.593.7956 Fax: 808.593.7636 Toll-free: 800.359.6725

Email: hda@hawaiidentalassociation.net Website: www.hawaiidentalassociation.net

Minutes of the Hawaii Dental Association Board of Trustees

Thursday, February 4, 2021

via Zoom

Members Present: Drs. Edmund Cassella, Zach Dodson, Patsy Fujimoto, Carla Fukumoto, Craig Haruki, Sean Holliday, Derek Ichimura, Scott Kanamori, Anthony Kim, Wayne Leong, Jeff Miyazawa, Amy Ogawa, Jaclyn Palola, Wesley Sato, Curt Shimizu, Anthony Sur, and Darrell Teruya

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Ms. Kim Nguyen, Executive Director

Guests Present: Dr. Heather Hearon, President, Maui County Dental Society
Dr. Calbert Lum, Chair, Building Program
Ms. Melissa Pavlicek, President, Hawaii Public Policy Advocates

1. **Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions** – Dr. Patsy Fujimoto called the meeting to order at 8:29 AM, and welcomed all. The new Board members shared a fun fact about themselves and their practice status.
2. **Risk Management Policies (Antitrust Statement, Confidentiality Statement, Conflicts of Interest, and Whistleblower)** – Executive Director Ms. Kim Nguyen reminded all that as this is the first Board meeting of the year, all in attendance must have reviewed and signed on your agreement, per HDA’s written policy.
3. **Review of Agenda/Consent Agenda**
 - Consent Agenda (without action)
 - A. Membership Engagement Program – Drs. Chris Young/Carla Fukumoto
 - B. Young Dentists Group – Dr. Scott Morita
 - C. HDA Foundation – Dr. Wayne Leong pulled this off the consent agenda; it will be discussed under strategic plan goal #2 Community.
 - D. Dental Benefits Providers Task Force- Dr. Dayton Lum
 - E. Direct to Consumer Task Force – Drs. Sean Holliday/Shelliann Kawamoto
 - F. Task Force on Dues Waiver – Dr. Wesley Sato
 - G. Well-Being Committee – Dr. Carl Kobayashi (no update)
 - H. ADA HDA House Delegation Task Force – Dr. Darrell Teruya
 - I. HDA House of Delegates – Drs. Curt Shimizu/Carla Fukumoto
 - J. Sr. ADA Delegate – Dr. Edmund Cassella
 - K. County Dental Societies: Honolulu, Kauai, and Maui

- 49 4. **Organizational Update**
- 50 A. COVID-19 updates – Dr. Patsy Fujimoto thanked Presidents Drs. Heather Hearon
- 51 (Maui) and Kanoe Baird (Kauai) in getting their county members registered for the
- 52 vaccines. There are decreasing inquiries about getting scheduled for vaccines. The HDA
- 53 is exploring the idea of dentists as vaccinators.
- 54
- 55 B. Executive Director/HDA Office – Ms. Kim Nguyen informed the Board of two staff
- 56 policies: staff is allowed to excuse themselves from attending in-person events if they
- 57 feel uncomfortable due to COVID restrictions and current conditions, and when in-person
- 58 meetings resume at the HDA, that everyone will vacate the building at the same time due
- 59 to safety concerns.
- 60
- 61 C. Financial Program/HDA 2021 Budget – Dr. Sean Holliday reported that the HDA is
- 62 in a financially healthy position with strong reserves and healthy gains on investments,
- 63 and is seeing positive trends for membership renewals, although there is about 100
- 64 members left to renew. He reminded all to be conservative this year because we don't
- 65 have the traditional convention. Some expenses will not be incurred, like the convention
- 66 and some travel will not occur. The tenant is not returning but our 2021 budget has
- 67 already recognized that. Marcus Realty continues to market and show the available
- 68 spaces.
- 69
- 70 **Motion:** To accept financial statements. **Seconded.** **Approved.**
- 71
- 72 D. Building Program – Dr. Calbert Lum updated the Board about building
- 73 improvements, security, and the tenant leaving.
- 74
- 75 New/additional maintenance issues include the elevator (which continues to stall and not
- 76 close), and the roof is leaking (into the office).
- 77
- 78 E. Appointment of ED evaluation/compensation committee/Nominating
- 79 Committee members – ED: Dr. Patsy Fujimoto reported that Drs. Dayton Lum, Robert
- 80 Baysa, and Steve Wilhite will serve as Past Presidents; Dr. Candace Wada as the at-large
- 81 member; and Dr. Amy Ogawa as the Board member.
- 82
- 83 Nominating committee Chair is Dr. Dayton Lum. Dr. Wayne Leong is the BOT member,
- 84 and Dr. Chris Nakamura as Young Dentist rep. Other members are Drs. Robert Baysa
- 85 and Steve Wilhite.
- 86
- 87 5. **Past Quarter Highlights**
- 88 A. Joint Finance Group – Dr. Patsy Fujimoto pulled together all workgroup Chairs with
- 89 fiscal responsibilities, to consider HDA's overall financial health.
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- 91 B. New Board Talk Story Recap – Dr. Patsy Fujimoto thanked those who attended; the
- 92 group went through the bylaws, responsibilities, and expectations, with an overview of
- 93 the Legislature and media.
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- 95 C. Dentists Vaccination Provision – Dr. Patsy Fujimoto reported that through our
- 96 research with the government and health planning officials, there doesn't seem to be a
- 97 need for Hawaii dentists to be vaccinators. However, HDA is asking what would be the
- 98 protocol and training if that time comes – HDA is taking the proactive stance in case the

99 time comes. Legislatively, there needs to be a bill or emergency proclamation giving
100 dentists this authority.

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102 **6. Strategic Goal #1: Membership**

103 A. Dental Education Program – Dr. Derek Ichimura described the partnership with the
104 Arizona convention effort. Arizona invited Hawaii, and Hawaii is pursuing the lowest
105 risk method (receiving a small percentage of the registration fees from Hawaii
106 registrants). HDA’s responsibility is to promote the convention.

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108 HDA is in the early stages of contracting with the Convention Center for HDAC 2022,
109 but we don’t know what that will look like.

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111 HDA continues to offer the virtual CE courses in 2021.

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113 Dental Education Program’s goal is still to bring in income and to look for opportunities
114 to do that while cutting expenses.

115
116 The question of whether we will join with other states’ conventions was raised. This
117 offering has not come up with other states, but the Dental Education Program will
118 entertain this if other states offer it (since those states are doing the work).

119
120 B. Endorsement Program – Dr. Scott Kanamori reviewed the opportunity to join the
121 TDSC/Henry Schein partnership. The Program members discussed and reviewed the
122 materials and the process – how would HDA manage the members’ signing on, and
123 primarily, what would this do to our relationships with other competitors, like Patterson,
124 who has supported the HDA and the HDAF?

125
126 With these concerns, the Endorsement Program is recommending that the HDA decline
127 signing onto this agreement at this time.

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129 **Motion:** To accept the Endorsement Program’s recommendation to decline joining the
130 TDSC/Henry Schein agreement. Seconded. Approved.

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132 **7. Strategic Goal #2: Community**

133 A. The HDA Foundation Board discussed the idea of having the HDA assume
134 management of its finances, in much the same way that HDA does for Honolulu County.
135 This would improve such efficiencies as tracking member donations and income and
136 paying bills in a timely manner.

137
138 There would be no income generated to the HDA (no management fee) and the expenses
139 for the bookkeeper’s time would be absorbed by the administrative expenses already
140 allocated to the HDAF in the HDA budget.

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142 **Motion:** To have the HDA assume management of the Foundation financials. Seconded.
143 Approved.

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145 **8. Strategic Goal #3: Advocacy – Dr. Fujimoto moved up this item to the beginning of the**
146 **meeting.**

147 A. Legislative Program – Ms. Melissa Pavlicek, Hawaii Public Policy Associates
148 introduced the opening of the Legislature and the importance of building relationships
149 with (new) legislators, especially during the pandemic.

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Policy – The Legislature opened on Jan 20th and bills are being introduced until Jan 27th. Legislators are mainly concerned about the \$1.8 billion budget deficit. 2,800 bills were introduced. HPPA reviewed those pertinent to oral health and dentistry, and pulled out about 80 bills to support, oppose, or monitor. Thus far, none of those bills pertain to dental therapy or dental assistants. We will be using VoterVoice, an app to submit testimony – virtual technology is more important this session than ever.

We are also monitoring the activities of the Board of Dentistry, especially about the online CEs.

Give Kids a Smile (GKAS) – Although HDAF is not able to offer the in-person GKAS clinic day in Feb as usual, we are putting together videos on oral health for the schools, and working on a proclamation.

Media and communications – HPPA continues to provide support of the HDA and HDAF to public and media, and internally to members, such as crisis communications during COVID-19. HPPA will also be promoting communications about charitable contributions among our members.

COVID matters – Dentists are now beyond a “crisis” point since many have received the vaccine. Dr. Fujimoto reminded all that as board members, you could be tagged by the media for your opinion, and that you will be seen as speaking from the HDA.

With the Legislature working virtually, Ms. Pavlicek talked about the Legislative Breakfast, and updated rules from the Ethics that prohibit “gifts” to Legislators, including food.

- 9. **Executive Session** – The Board went into executive session at 10:08am. Guest Dr. Hearon and Ms. Nguyen were excused. The Board adjourned from Executive Session at 10:32am.
- 10. **Brainstorming/New Business**
 - What’s keeping you up at night about the HDA?
 - What are the future/potential issues that will regard the BOT’s attention?
 - Dr. Anthony Sur appreciates the virtual meetings because they eliminate travel for the Neighbor Islanders.
- 11. **Adjournment** – There being no further business, Dr. Fujimoto adjourned the meeting at 10:44AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Carla Fukumoto
Secretary