

**American Brain Coalition
Fall Board Meeting Minutes**

November 14, 2005

2:30 - 3:30 p.m

Room 303

**The Washington Convention Center
Washington, DC**

IN ATTENDANCE

Board Members:

- Dr. Francis Kittredge (American Academy of Neurology)
- Dr. Mahlon DeLong (Society for Neuroscience)
- Dr. Nancy Wexler (Society for Neuroscience)
- Dr. John Swann (sitting in for American Epilepsy Society)
- Sharon Stone (sitting in for Parkinson's Disease Foundation)
- Monica Coenraads (Associate Member representative)
- Dr. Samuels (Associate Member representative)
- Linda Wilkerson on conference phone (sitting in for American Neurological Association)

Others:

- Alan Finkel, MD, American Headache Society
- Christer Osterling, American Epilepsy Society
- Janet Hieshetter, Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
- Perry Cohen, PhD, Parkinson's Disease Foundation
- Ronnie Wilkins, EdD, American College of Neuropsychopharmacology
- Jane Pickett, Autism Tissue Program / National Alliance for Autism Research
- Katie Sale, American Brain Coalition
- Lyle Dennis, Cavarocchi, Ruscio, & Dennis Associates
- Mike Amery, American Academy of Neurology
- Joe Carey, Society for Neuroscience
- Allison Kupferman, American Brain Coalition/ Society for Neuroscience
- Kerri Wade, American Brain Coalition/ Society for Neuroscience

I. Welcome – Francis I. Kittredge Jr., MD, Chair

The meeting was called to order at 2:40 p.m. by Francis Kittredge, Jr., MD. Dr. Kittredge introduced all of the Board members.

**II. Approval of Spring 2005 Board Minutes – Francis I. Kittredge, Jr.
*Action Required: VOTE**

The Board unanimously approved the 2005 Spring Board minutes.

III. Membership

a. Recruitment Status & 2006 Strategy

The Board also asked that the ABC staff develop and circulate a list of key organizations to them. In the event that Board members know someone at one of the organizations, they will identify the appropriate contact for future membership recruitment.

b. Formal Approval of Pending Memberships

***Action Required: VOTE**

There was some discussion related to the fact that some organizations submitted an application to join at the Associate member level; however, given their size and budget, they should have submitted applications at the Sustaining or Organizing level. The Board asked that the ABC staff examine the 2006 budget, to determine if it is appropriate for ABC to charge a small fee for all levels of membership, with certain exemptions as they come up, and to also look into which organizations may be asked to move to a different category of membership. Staff will work with the Treasurer and bring back a recommendation to the Board at the Spring Meeting.

The Board approved the following seven membership applications for associate level membership:

- American Psychological Association
- Association of University Professors of Neurology
- CADASIL Together We Have Hope
- National Ataxia Foundation
- National Headache Foundation
- North American Neuro-ophthalmology Society
- Parkinson's Action Network

IV. 2006 Advocacy Strategy – Mahlon DeLong, MD, Advocacy Committee Chair

As discussed in the Membership meeting, ABC staff will coordinate a sub-group to develop phase two of the Advocacy Action plan.

At the recommendation of the membership, staff will also prepare a letter defending the NIH peer-review system in the event it is attacked again. The letter will reference what has happened in the last several years with the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bills.

V. Election of Officers

***Action Required: VOTE**

a. Secretary

The Board unanimously elected Robin Elliott for a one-year term as Secretary.

b. Treasurer

The Board unanimously elected Jeffrey Samuels for a one-year term as Treasurer.

VI. Board Members' Term Lengths

***Action Required: VOTE**

The Board unanimously approved the following years for the rotation of its members:

- Kittredge (2008)
- Rydell (2008)
- Swift (2007)
- DeLong (2008)
- Mobley (2007)
- Wexler (2008)
- Holmes (2007)
- Elliott (2008)
- Coenraads (2007)
- Samuels (2008)

VII. Email Vote Resolution

***Action Required: VOTE**

The Board unanimously agreed that the ABC Articles of Incorporation be amended to allow an email vote by a simple majority. Dr. Kittredge specified that email votes will be accepted unless a Board member requests a phone call to discuss an issue.

IX. Adjournment