

**American Brain Coalition
Fall Membership Meeting Minutes**

November 14, 2005

1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Room 303

**The Washington Convention Center
Washington, DC**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Francis Kittredge, Jr., MD, American Academy of Neurology
Mahlon DeLong, MD, Society for Neuroscience
Monica Coenraads, Rett Syndrome Research Foundation
Ronnie Wilkins, EdD, American College of Neuropsychopharmacology
Alan Finkel, MD, American Headache Society
Nancy Wexler, PhD, Society for Neuroscience
Suzanne Berry, American Epilepsy Society
John Swann, PhD, American Epilepsy Society
Christer Osterling, American Epilepsy Society
Marian Emr, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
Cynthia Joyce, SMA Foundation
Janet Hieshetter, Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
Sharon Stone, Parkinson's Disease Foundation
Jeffrey Samuels, MD, American Society of Neurorehabilitation
Perry Cohen, PhD, Parkinson's Disease Foundation
Jane Pickett, Autism Tissue Program / National Alliance for Autism Research
Karen Ball, Sturge-Weber Foundation
Kenneth Currier, National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
Katie Sale, American Brain Coalition
Lyle Dennis, Cavarocchi, Ruscio, & Dennis Associates
Mike Amery, American Academy of Neurology
Robin Brey, MD, American Academy of Neurology
Bruce Polsky, 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

BY PHONE:

Linda Wilkerson, American Neurological Association

I. Welcome and Introduction - Francis I. Kittredge Jr., MD, Chair

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by Francis Kittredge, Jr., MD. Dr. Kittredge explained that immediately following the Membership Meeting, all members will be invited to attend the Board Meeting. This meeting will be a town hall style forum, in which all members will have a chance to discuss all agenda items prior to Board vote.

II. Approval of Spring 2005 Membership Minutes – Francis I. Kittredge, Jr., MD, Chair

Pending the following two additions to the attendance list, the Spring minutes were unanimously approved. The updated attendance list should also include Eli Pollard (World Parkinson's Congress) and Christiana Evers (Parkinson's Disease Foundation).

III. Update on New Members - Francis I. Kittredge, Jr., MD, Chair

Membership applications were received from the following organizations:

Associate Member Level:

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

In the future, the Board will approve new members during Board meetings or via telephone conference call. If potential members are being approved via conference call, all current members will be emailed the list to provide input or comments regarding the potential members prior to the conference call.

IV. Legislative Update – Mahlon DeLong, MD, Advocacy Committee Chair

Dr. DeLong reviewed the 2005 activities, including the letters that were sent to Congress and the alerts that were sent to the ABC membership.

The Advocacy Committee may have to revisit its NIH issue paper, as it includes a recommendation for a 6% increase in funding.

The membership is interested in purchasing software for legislative alerts. ABC staff will price several different vendors.

Dr. Kittredge is interested in coordinating ABC's activities with other advocacy organizations and government affairs specialists. ABC will develop a plan to do so, using the CAMR model and other similar organizations.

V. *Neurology Now* Presentation and Discussion – Dr. Robin Brey, Editor-in-Chief & Bruce Polsky, CEO of AAN Enterprises

Mr. Polsky and Dr. Brey presented information about *Neurology Now*. ABC members suggested that the magazine feature the work of ABC or some type of advocacy piece in

the future. Specifically mentioned, was an article regarding the use of animals in research.

ABC staff will provide Mr. Polsky and Dr. Brey with the contact information of ABC members for future collaboration. Mr. Polsky and Dr. Brey provided their contact information, as well.

Robin L. Brey, M.D.
Editor-in-Chief
brey@uthscsa.edu
210-567-4615

Bruce Polsky
CEO, AAN Enterprises
bpolsky@aan.com
651-695-2794

VI. Other Business

Dr. Samuels discussed Medicare's 75% Rule as it relates to rehabilitation reimbursement. For more information, he suggested that ABC members visit: www.asnr.org. Dr. Samuels also proposed that the ABC support the AAN's effort to define the ideal model of chronic care management. ABC members approved this suggestion.

Sharon Stone discussed the art show at the World Parkinson's Congress, and encouraged all members to visit the web site for more information www.worldpdcongress.org.

The AAN's annual meeting will be held in San Diego from April 1-8, 2006. The ABC Spring Membership and Board meetings will take place during that time; however, a specific date is yet to be determined.

VII. Adjournment