Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Tim Putnam, Tricia Hern, Steven Becker, Michelle Howenstine, Paul Haut, Beth Wrobel, Rachel Shockley

Advisory Members Present: Kaitlyn Brown

Commission Staff Present: Eugene Johnson

Board Administrative Service Staff Present: Linda Bratcher

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4p.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

A roll call of seven (7) Board members were counted as being in attendance and a quorum was confirmed.

REVIEW OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the June 3, 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board reviewed a request from Indiana University School of Medicine (IUSM) to utilize remaining Family Medicine Expansion Grant funding to support a PGY2 resident who transferred from another medical school. The rule of necessity was invoked. The situation concerning a student who was supported with grant funds in their PGY1 year but left the program afterwards was explained as part of Eugene Johnson explaining the request as submitted to the Board from IUSM staff. A motion to approve was offered and seconded; motion passed 7-0.

The Board moved to approve a continuation of the administrative services agreement with the IUSM; a motion was offered and seconded; motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board discussed drafts of a statement of improving access to quality healthcare and combating bias in Indiana’s physician workforce. Tim Putnam discussed reaching out to Hannah Maxey and her team to find out and talk about what role the Board could play in addressing the percentage of African-American and Hispanic physicians in the state of Indiana as a proportion to the population as both are clearly underrepresented; he noted they could help the conversation on how to have a physician workforce that reflects Indiana’s population. Steven Becker stated that it’s been a 20-year effort to address these
issues and that it’s a priority for the IUSM not just for admission of medical students, but for the composition of faculty and staff across the School. He stated the biggest issue is the number of students getting into and coming thru medical school. He commented that they are above the state average at the IUSM in terms of over 20% of students being from underrepresented populations.

Michelle Howenstine commented that they start with the end in mind and they know when the healthcare diversity reflects the population, healthcare outcomes are better; she noted that IUSM is in the 5th year of strategic recruitment and retention and stated that retention is 100%. She stated this year they will have an Assistant Dean whose main job will be working in diversity recruitment and inclusiveness in the population. She also noted that there are challenges. Steven Becker made mention of the areas of the sate they are always focusing on with health care disparities in terms of rural and urban. He noted impacting the number of underrepresented students that programs are able to recruit and retain is much more difficult as everyone is competing for the most qualified candidates; he stated it a 10-15 year process to get people thru the pipeline. He stated if they do something it should have an effect.

Paul Haut stated that the Board currently doesn’t ask grant applicants to share they are doing to; he commented that in the application, they need to demonstrate to the Board what they are actively doing, beyond what’s posted on their website, to promote change in the current state. Michelle Howenstine noted that it’s a 5-10 year process to determine how effective a program is in meeting the recruitment and retention goals. Linda Bratcher asked Michelle Howenstine if they were to include some of Paul Haut’s feedback in an updated application, if she could give an example of what a program might say they are doing to increase diversity? Michelle Howenstine discussed the steps IUSM is taking to address the issue, including subcommittees that look at diversity profiles.

Tim Putnam asked the scoring metrics committee to go back and see what in the application could be added to show what programs have done to increase the representation of African American and Latino, or diversity candidate to their program, noting that then it’s on the applicant to show what they are doing. He asked the Board if there’d be interest in doing that along with release of the statement. Steven Becker commented they should collect the data as the programs are starting and graduating residents.

Beth Wrobel stated they should release the statement and look at the outcomes; she stated even if the outcomes are good they want to make sure they stay at that. Kaitlyn Brown commented that she’d want to work on the scoring metric she’d like to do that; being a student and close to students and residents. The Board agreed they wanted to get a statement out as soon as possible. Discussion about the statement continued and consensus was reached on what should be included in the statement; Kaitlyn Brown’s language was noted with “social determinates” of health adding significant weight to the statement. Tim Putnam moved to approve the language as provided by Kaitlyn Brown as the Board’s statement; Steven Becker moved to approve; Michelle Howenstine seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Tabitha Arnett shared that the Indiana Osteopathic has released a podcast called “All IN DO” with IN capitalized because the focus is on Indiana Osteopathic physicians; she noted MDs who practice osteopathically will also be featured in the podcast; she stated that continuing education meetings had taken place virtually and that plans for future virtual meetings would be forthcoming.
Eugene Johnson thanked the partners at Indiana State Medical Association for their help with the updates to the second version of the summary sheet. Luke McNamee noted the ISMA is looking forward to continued growth and to working in the 2021 Legislative Session to get continued funding at current or increased amounts. Tim Putnam stated they have a great story to tell and getting it told will be their next step. Discussion about an upcoming Psychiatry program in Northwest Indiana took place.

ADJOURNMENT

Tim Putnam called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Beth Wrobel moved to adjourn; Michelle Howenstine seconded. Motion passed 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:41p