

MINUTES
Special Meeting of the Executive Committee

Joint Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

Tuesday, October 6, 1998
The Sheraton Seattle Hotel & Towers
Room 416

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 12:22 by Marion L. Walker, M.D., Chairman of the Joint Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery. Also in attendance were Thomas G. Luerssen, M.D., Joseph Piatt Jr., M.D., Bruce A. Kaufmann, M.D. and Frederick A. Boop, III, M.D.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from the previous Executive Committee meeting, April 28, 1998, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania were reviewed. It was noted that Dr. Boop's name had been inadvertently omitted from those in attendance. With this correction, the minutes were approved.

Financial Report:

The interim financial statement provided by the central office and dated June 30, 1998 was reviewed. It was noted that there were still some outstanding charges for the section including charges for the upcoming meeting. Dr. Luerssen noted that there had been a change in the accounting program at the central office. He believed that they were still making some corrections and changes over the course of the year. It was also noted that there were an extensive amount of charges attributed to the Pediatric Section and upon questioning, some of these will be refunded to the section in the next quarter. The letter from Thomas Socha, the budget analyst, for the Section was reviewed indicating that the section will be credited \$1,739.29 as refund for postage charges for the abstract mailings related to the annual meeting.

The 1998 Annual Section Meeting:

Dr. Luerssen reviewed the plans in place for the section meeting in December. Almost all of the preparations have been completed. 58 papers were accepted for all presentation. Almost 35 abstracts for poster presentation were accepted.

A committee was formed to adjudicate the winner of the Shulman Award and the Hydrocephalus Award. The Hydrocephalus Award committee will include Ms. Emily Fudge of the Hydrocephalus Association in an ex officio capacity. Dr. Boop will organize the formation of the review committees for the Shulman Award and the Hydrocephalus Award. It was noted that Dr. Ann Flannery had requested to participate in this committee and Dr. Boop will contact her.

The Congress of Neurological Surgeons:

Dr. Walker reported that Dr. Hunt Batjer, incoming President of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons, had requested the name of a “young” pediatric neurosurgeon to serve on the Executive Committee of the Congress. Dr. John Kestle of Salt Lake City was nominated to fill this position. Dr. Walker has communicated this to Dr. Batjer.

Classical References in Pediatric Neurosurgery:

Dr. Walker reported on a request from Dr. Robert Wilkins regarding classic references in neurological surgery, a forthcoming book being prepared by Dr. Wilkins. It was requested that five or six of the classic pediatric neurosurgery papers be submitted for inclusion in this book. Dr. Walker, Dr. Boop, and Dr. Kaufmann will obtain the recommended citations and forward them to Dr. Wilkins.

Dr. Wilkins is also preparing a book of recent reviews of pediatric neurosurgery for residents. Dr. Boop was familiar with this project and will communicate with Dr. Walker his recommendations regarding the reviews.

Training Guidelines for Residents in Neurological Surgery:

Dr. Boop reported that the Society of Neurological Surgeons has requested training guidelines for pediatric neurosurgery cases performed by residents. Essentially, it was Dr. Boop’s understanding that a list of cases by CPT number that one would expect a resident at a certain level of training to have proficiency in will need to be developed. The time frame for this was unclear. Dr. Boop is working with the Society on this project.

Request from Pediatric Nurse Practitioners:

Dr. Walker presented a request from a group of pediatric neurosurgery nurses who wish to join the AANS as associate members. Apparently, current requirements include the certification as a CNRN or as a CORN in order to join the AANS as an associate member. The pediatric nurses who are essentially nurse practitioners desire to petition the AANS in order to allow them to also become associate members based on their training as nurse practitioners. Dr. Walker will present this formal request to the AANS at the leadership meeting.

Shunt Device Meeting:

A request from the Center for Devices and Radiologic and Health of the Office of Surveillance and Biometrics of the Food and Drug Administration was presented. This organization is presenting a conference on January 8, 1999 at the National Institute of Health campus. An announcement has been prepared to circulate in the newsletter and a flyer will be prepared to circulate at the upcoming meeting. It was unclear from the announcement who would be invited to speak or what exactly the agenda or presentation format would be.

Outcomes Committee:

Dr. Kaufmann and Dr. Boop reported for the Outcomes Committee. They are still requesting a straight-forward topic regarding outcomes in pediatric neurosurgery. Dr. Kaufmann has again suggested that we undertake a shunt obstruction study. He will develop this completely and present it both to the Executive Committee, and if approved, to the membership at the upcoming business meeting in Indianapolis.

American Academy of Pediatrics:

Dr. Walker reported provisional approval of the Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery in the American Academy of Pediatrics. An organizational meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 19, 1998 to be attended by Dr. Hector James, Dr. Joseph Piatt, Dr. Walker, Dr. J. Gordon McComb and Dr. Harold L. Rekate who will serve as the initial Executive Committee of this Section. Dr. Walker will serve as the initial chairman of the Section. The Executive Committee will develop the program agenda for the Section and the plans for administrating the section. It is understood that the new AAP Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery has a commitment to participate in the annual meetings of the American Academy of Pediatrics and first required participation will occur at the annual meeting in October of 1999. A topic or a meeting plan will be developed by the Executive Committee and reported back to the Joint Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery when it is completed.

New Business:

Dr. Walker proposed the possibility of the Section sponsoring a travel scholarship to some meetings in North America regarding pediatric neurosurgery, specifically the International Society for Pediatric Neurological Surgery meeting in 1999. This kind of scholarship would allow a neurosurgeon from Europe, Asia or South America who otherwise would not be able to make a trip to attend a meeting such as this. It was suggested that perhaps \$4000 per year could be designated for this type of travel scholarship. Applications would occur through the Pediatric Section Executive Committee. This issue will be revisited at the Executive Committee Meeting in December in Indianapolis. If approved, a new committee should be formed to administrate this award.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be December 1, 1998, at the Westin Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana beginning at 2:00 PM, EST.

Adjournment:

There being no further business brought before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas G. Luerssen, M.D.
Secretary-Treasurer
Joint Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery