**Philadelphia Multiple Myeloma Networking Group**

**Steering Committee Meeting Report**

Note: Reports will be uploaded in PDF format on the PMMNG’s website within 1 month of meeting.

**Meeting Date:**  11/11/17 Recording Secretary: Marilyn Alexander

**Attendance:** Maddie Hunter, Sharon Alexander, Marilyn Alexander, Mike MacBride, Terry MacBride,

Lori Curtis, Nancy Stewart, Phil Falkowitz, Mike Burns, Christina Bach, Joel Gottfried, Richard Abraham

**Main Topics Discussed, Decisions Made & Actions Planned:**

1. **Finances**. Phil reported that we have $12,113.13 in our account with an additional $300.00 to be paid to the IMF for their ad book.

Christina discussed that Dr. Benci has a $5000 survivorship grant that we may be able to benefit from. He will be having members who wish to volunteer to participate in a focus group.

1. **Program Committee**. Nancy gave an update on upcoming programs for 2018. Dr. Garfall will be asked to replace Dr. Vogl for February’s program as Dr. Vogl cannot attend. Suggestions were made to have more patient/caregiver split meetings, as well as having someone come in to talk about getting 2nd opinions, and also using the leaders toolkit from the IMF for a possible meeting.
2. **Technology**. Mike Burns asked about any changes to Website. He will explore with Joel who has volunteered to work with Mike and be his backup, ways to set up a master list of locations of members addresses, so that there can be interactions between members in between meeting if they wish. We will need to have members sign a permission document before this could be put into effect.
3. **Brian Durie Humanitarian Award**. A discussion was held on whether we want to continue this award. We have decided to table it for now as we want to decide on how to go forward with this. Do we redefine or discontinue?

A possible suggestion was made to honor Dr. Durie with a Durie lecture where we would pay someone to come out to talk to the group.

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1. **IMF Leader Summit**. Sharon and Marilyn gave a brief discussion on what was learned and discussed. They will send out an outline of what took place. It will be decided on who will be attending the next retreat which will be taking place in July 2018.
2. **Announcements**. We discussed how many meetings we should have each year. We decided to continue it as is for now with January, April and October.

A discussion was held regarding sending out a notice to steering committee members prior to the meeting to see who will be attending.

New business cards will be available at the next meeting.

Race committee meeting to be set up soon with Carolyn.

MMRF welcomed Phil and Nancy who attended their race today.

The next Steering Committee Meeting will be held on January 13, 2018.