



Oklahoma Arthritis Network (OAN)

Thursday, August 7, 2003

MINUTES

Attendees:

Betsy Replogle – Vice Chair, OAN
Bill Wells – Oklahoma Employment Lawyers Association
Cynthia Trent – Quail Ridge Assisted Living Center
Dave Thompson, MS, PT - OU, Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology
Gail Livengood - Oklahoma Health Care Authority
George Bryan Sykes – Cheyenne Arapahoe Tribes Vocational Rehabilitation
Joyce Lewis - Oklahoma Disability Law Center
Karen Ross, MD – OU, Dept. of Geriatric Medicine
Kathe Eastham - Oklahoma Health Care Authority
Marcus Hayes – Charles Atkins Senior Center
Marisa New, OTR, MPH - OSDH Arthritis Prevention and Education Program
Mona Yutterman – Comanche County Health Dept.
Nancy Caruso - Dept. of Rehabilitation Services
Norma Goff – Chair, OAN, Dept. of Human Services
Paul DeAngelis, PhD - Hyalose
Paulette Shafer- OCAST
Shona Lennon- Arthritis Foundation, Oklahoma Chapter
Stephanie LaFevers – Arthritis Foundation, Eastern Oklahoma Chapter
Steve Biggers – Director, OCAST Research and Development
Tina Cohlma – Consumer Protection
Todd Owens – OU Medical Center, Physical Therapy Dept.
Vonnie Merritt - Canadian County Health Department

I. WELCOME – Norma Goff, OAN Chair

New OAN Members present: Nancy Caruso, George Bryan Sykes, Steve Biggers and Paul DeAngelis

II. JUNE MINUTES APPROVED

III. PROJECTS

Two Project Proposals to be completed by January 2004.

1. Physical Activity Day – a workshop for people affected by arthritis or other related conditions. We would like people who are interested in collaborating should contact Marisa at marisan@health.state.ok.us or call (405) 271-9444, ext. 56410. The content, the speakers, and the duration will all be dependent on the OAN workshop planning committee. We have been fortunate to have OAN partners who have already spoken on this topic and who have organized similar activities. *Our message would emphasize how physical activity can decrease pain especially for those living with arthritis.*

Planning Committee: Karen Ross, Cynthia Trent, Jackie Hicks and Marisa New

Objective: Conduct a Physical Activity Workshop in the Oklahoma City Metropolitan Area to inform people affected by arthritis - the importance of physical activity and the types of physical activity available - by November 15, 2003

2. OAN PowerPoint Presentation – this tool is available so OAN partners can customize it to fit your target audiences.

Bill Wells, Charles Bryan Sykes, Stephanie LaFevers, and Shona Lennon.

Objective: Five to ten OAN Partners will present the “Arthritis: A Public Health Problem” PPS or will incorporate these slides into presentations to their organization or to other community groups by January 8, 2004. An evaluation tool will be provided for OAN feedback.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

“Biomedical Research in Oklahoma”

Speaker: Steve Biggers
Director, Research and Development
OCAST (Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology)

Highlights: OCAST supports the research and development process in Oklahoma. Biomedical research is having a positive impact on Oklahoma’s economy.

“Arthritis, OCAST and Hyalose”

Speaker: Paul DeAngelis, PhD
Associate Professor, Dept. of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology,
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Highlights: Hyaluronan is being developed for commercial use. Hyaluronan is a fluid (polysaccharide) that can be injected into the joints to decrease pain due to osteoarthritis.

V. COMMITTEE UPDATES

Advocacy: Chair, Betsy Replogle

The OAN needs to expand its grassroots efforts. We need to increase our partnerships with other coalitions to enlarge our statewide capacity.

The opportunities are ahead of us so we need to get ready! Election years bring more groups together so it is important to have an advocacy meeting on Tuesday, September 9, around 5:30 p.m., NW 25 and Military in Oklahoma City. If you are interested in participating, please contact Betsy, okbr1@yahoo.com or call (405) 848-3819 by Monday, Sept. 8, 2003.

Rep. Frank Lucas will be having town hall meetings on August 13, 14 [posted on listserv]. Call his office for more details. We encourage his constituents to attend.

August 20 - the Presidential Democratic Candidate Debate will be in Stillwater, OK.

Betsy stated that this information would be posted on the *OKArthritisNetwork* Listserv. If you would like to subscribe, just visit the following website, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/okarthritisnetwork/join> The OAN encourages everyone to post any arthritis related announcements. The posting of listserv information is not limited to Betsy Replogle, Shona Lennon and Marisa New.

Promotion: Media Campaign, Marisa New

Due to funding issues, we hope to launch the campaign in late October, early November that will coincide with the Physical Activity Day. If this cannot take place before the winter months, the campaign will be launched in April – May 2004.

We still need people who would like to have people distribute posters and brochures in the Oklahoma City Metropolitan Area. Assistance is needed to address SE OKC, NW OKC. If you live in the suburbs – Edmond, Norman, Yukon, MWC – we would like your help also. [Posters Shown]

You can download the posters (8 ½" x 11" BW) and brochures from the OSDH Website: www.health.state.ok.us/program/apep

OAN is exploring the possibility of partnering with the Lawyers for Working Oklahomans to distribute brochures.

Surveillance: Chair, Surveillance

Described the purpose of the committee – gathering data, performing the analysis and compiling to include in the forthcoming ***Oklahoma Arthritis Burden Report***.

Committee Education:

Stephanie LaFevers, Arthritis Foundation
Master Trainer, Arthritis Self Help Course (ASHC)

The ASHC has gone through some revisions and trainers across the United States are busy providing updates to existing leaders. A new applicant process will be available soon for interested people to apply. New trainings will be offered soon. There is hope to have trainings in OKC and Tulsa. This is an evidence-based program.

Contact the Arthritis Foundation for more details: Oklahoma Chapter (405) 936-3366 or the Eastern Oklahoma Chapter (918)-743-4526.

The OSDH and the AF will be partnering to train more people trained in the ASHC, PACE and Aquatics program and to promote these to the communities.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Quail Ridge Assisted Living Center will be starting an arthritis support group at their facility Monday, September 15 at 6:00 p.m.

The next OAN Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 4, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. This meeting will have videoconferencing capabilities. Contact your county health department to ask if they will be participating or contact Marisa New, marisan@health.state.ok.us or call (405) 271-9444, ext. 56410.

Meeting Adjourned.