

AHEC meeting 8/21

Present: Sarah, Michael, Mauri, Mariko, Gail

Absent: Joyce and Laurel

General discussion:

Sarah announced that she is both pregnant (due in March) and busy at work, which means that she has limited time and energy to put toward organizing and leading AHEC.

Subcommittee chairs should set meeting times as needed. [Patty needs to clarify whether or not there are resources to support teleconferences.]

Reports:

Michael is coordinating with ALPHA and others on an email public health advocacy distribution list to share information about initiatives that members may want to advocate for/against.

Mauri has resigned from being the continuing education committee chair, although she is interested in continuing to develop and maintain the AHEC website. With her departure, the board needs to assume responsibility for a number of details that need to be taken care of for offering continuing education credit for CHES who may attend the Health Summit. They include (1) designing a form for CHES to complete indicating which sessions they attended; and (2) allocating CHES credits based on the length of each session.

Historically, Mauri has also decided which competencies would be assigned to each session when she designed the continuing education credit form; Michael suggested postponing this task until after the Health Summit and limiting this task to the sessions that had at least one CHES participant. Forms, money and related information are due to the national CHES by 1/15.

Mariko is also serving on the ALPHA awards committee, and suggested that AHEC adopt their timeline, although our nominations due date could be later. [There was some discussion about strategies for increasing the pool of candidates, including consideration of people not chosen for the ALPHA award if appropriate. Were there others?]

In Joyce's absence, there was no treasurer's report. Mauri had a copy of the previous report, which indicates that individual memberships are the primary source of funds in the budget, followed by CHES credit fees.

The Board reviewed the draft committee goals for 2006. Given board vacancies and time restrictions of the current board members, Gail suggested that the board focus on one or two areas, rather than all of the objectives that are in this plan. During discussion, the two that were proposed were advocacy and memberships.

Michael's vision for advocacy is that AHEC would [provide timely information on pertinent initiatives, which would] make it easy for members to talk with legislators and be effectively active. This effort will include drafting resolutions that are relevant to issues presented/discussed during the upcoming legislative session.

Sarah identified four board positions that need to be filled, either because the current occupants have indicated that they want to resign or they can no longer serve in that capacity. They are: President-elect, Continuing Education Committee Chair, Memberships Committee Chair and Treasurer. AHEC membership in general could also expand, which might bring more energy to the organization. A list of organizations and individuals was developed and people were assigned to contact them, seeking volunteers for the board.

Anchorage Service Unit tribal organizations	Mariko
United Ways Anchorage Mat-Su Fairbanks	Mauri Michael Mauri
Mat-Su Health Foundation	Sarah
Southcentral Foundation	Mauri
ANMC	Mauri
School nurses	Sarah
Planned Parenthood	Mauri
Youth advocacy groups	Mariko
UAA MPH program	Sarah
Judith Bendersky	Gail
Margaret Koessler	Gail
UAA MSW program	Michael
UAA physical education	Mariko
AK Assoc of Diabetes Educators	Gail

The AHEC fall meeting is scheduled for 10/16 at the BP Energy Center. The board decided that the focus of this meeting should be on continuing/completing the discussion that Jayne facilitated in April, and that we would ask Jayne to come back (if possible) to facilitate again. The date for this meeting could be adjusted to accommodate Jayne's schedule, if needed.