

**MINUTES OF THE
MARYLAND STEM CELL RESEARCH COMMISSION**

Monday, November 5, 2018
TEDCO Offices,
Columbia, MD

No Action Items

Members in attendance:

Scott Bailey
Rachel Brewster
Margaret Conn Himelfarb
Diane Hoffmann
Haig Kazazian
Debra Mathews, Vice Chair
David Mosser, Chair
Linda Powers
Avram Reisner
Ira Schwartz
Curt Van Tassell
Bowen Weisheit

Guest in Attendance:

Jennifer Elisseeff, TEDCO Board
Francis Smyth, Chair, TEDCO Board

Staff in Attendance:

Dan Gincel, TEDCO
Amritha Jaishankar, TEDCO
Sabrina Spinner, TEDCO
Tammi Thomas, TEDCO
John Wasilisin, TEDCO

The Commission meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m.

I. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Commission reviewed the minutes from the September 21, 2018 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Executive Director Report

A. 10th Annual MSCRF Symposium

The 10th Annual MSCR Stem Cell Symposium was integrated with the TEDCO Entrepreneur EXPO Conference, held at the Hotel at University of Maryland, College Park October 30, 2018. The event was a great success and attracted over 1,000 registered attendees. The stem cell track was conducted in parallel to EXPO programming.

Dr. Gincel indicated that nearly 10 years ago, there was a need to create a platform to showcase stem cell funded research, and to bring life science professionals, clinicians, companies, patient advocates from across the region to share medical breakthroughs and forge collaborations within these industries. Over the past several years there has been a rise in such events, questioning the need for the Fund to organize an annual symposium. Management has partnered with national, global, and local organizers to sponsor various stem cell / life science events across the region to promote the Fund, increase brand awareness, and strengthen relationships within the industry. Dr. Gincel will revisit the topic of how or if the Commission should move forward with the annual symposium during the strategic planning discussion.

B. Other

Dr. Gincel announced and congratulated Dr. Amritha Jaishankar on her promotion as the Associate Director for MSCRF program.

C. Next Commission Meeting

Monday, January 7, 2019 – 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

III. Statement for Closing the Meeting

A motion was made and seconded that the Commission go into closed session. The motion stated the following:

STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION

General Provisions Article Sec.3-103:

This subtitle does not apply to ... a public body when it is carrying out ... an administrative function.

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

The discussion will concern the extent to which TEDCO's new goals, as explained by its Board chair, comport with those of the MSCRC.

REASON FOR CLOSING:

The Commission believes that

a presentation on the evolving goals of TEDCO, which is itself exempt from the Open Meetings Act, and consideration of the extent to which said goals may pertain to those of the MSCRC in discharging its duties regarding the operation of MSCRF, raises issues implicating TEDCO's statutory duty to administer the MSCRF on behalf of the MSCRC.

The motion passed unanimously. The Commission went into a closed session at 2:26 p.m.

In the closed session, the Commission discussed a presentation on TEDCO's evolving goals focusing on job creation/expansion, etc., versus those of the MSCRC which instead focus on advancing research aimed at promoting treatments and cures for human diseases and conditions using human stem cells, and the extent to which these goals may be harmonized.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.