

VIETNAMESE PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION IN THE USA

Report of Board of Directors Meeting November 28, 2004

Location: Veranda Restaurant, Garden Grove, California

Time: 10:00 to 11:45 AM.

Attendees:

Khiet Bui
Anh Kim Bui
Thang Tat Chu
Thanh Dong Mai
Ai Duy Nguyen
Man Thuc Nguyen
Nang Duc Nguyen
Bich Van Nghiem (represented by Son Bao Nghiem)
Hieu Duc Tran
Dao Mong Tran
Thu Hang Tran
Binh Nhung Tran
Lan Thuy Tran
Tung van Vu

The first Board of Directors meeting of the 2005-2007 term was conducted at the Veranda Restaurant on November 28, 2004 with perfect attendance.

I. REPORT OF PAST ACTIVITIES

Mr. Nang Nguyen, Secretary of the past term, welcomed all members. Mr. Hieu Tran, immediate Past President, and Moderator of the Meeting announced the agenda of the meeting and reviewed the activities of the previous term. A copy of the VPhA-USA Formation, Goals and Organization printed in the first issue of the Vietnamese Pharmaceutical Journal was circulated to introduce to the new members.

II. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Two members have proposed their candidatures:

1. Mr. Tung van Vu, one of former founders of the VPhA-USA and current publisher of the Asian-American Journal of Medicine (Y Te Nguyet San), and
2. Mr. Man Thuc Nguyen, Board of Director Member for the past several terms and webmaster of the VPhA-USA webpage.

Both candidates gave powerful statements of their positions, and were supported by many members. A member of earlier VPhA-USA terms, Mr. Tung Vu has contributed to the development of the association's bylaws. Mr. Man Nguyen was the Co-Chair of the 4th International Convention of Vietnamese Physicians, Dentists and Pharmacist in the Free World in Anaheim, California in August 2002, and is currently the administrator and co-moderator of the Vietnamese Pharmacy Forum. He is also involved in activities with health professionals and students in diverse groups.

A ballot method of voting gave the following results: Nine (9) votes for Mr. Man Nguyen and five (5) for Mr. Tung Vu.

III. NOMINATION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD AND AD-HOC COMMITTEES MEMBERS.

Mr. Man Nguyen, the newly elected VPhA-USA President, nominated the following Board Members to the Executive positions:

Vice President for Internal Affairs: Thu-Hang Tran, PharmD

Vice-President for External Affairs: Dao Mong Tran, PharmD

Vice-President for Professional Development: Binh Nhung Tran, PharmD

Secretary General: Thang Tat Chu, PharmD

Treasurer: Bich Van Nghiem, RPh

Other members have accepted to chair the ad-hoc committees:

Newsletter and Publications: Lan Thuy Tran, RPh

Entertainment Committee: Ai Duy Nguyen, PhD, long time participant, has declined the offer, but is willing to collaborate with the new committee chairperson in the upcoming events.

More committees will be formed with responsibilities delineated in the next few weeks. Board member Nhan Le has resigned since he has retired from the Department of Health Services in Los Angeles. At the election meeting on 10/24/04, the Board has agreed that the next eligible member would fill in any vacant position, thus Mr. Son Bao Nghiem was welcomed as a new member, bringing the total number of Board members to fifteen.

IV. PLANNING FOR THE 2005 TET CELEBRATION

The original date of February 13, 2004 has been moved to **February 20, 2004** due to a scheduling conflict with a Tet Health Fair that a majority of Pharmacy students will attend. The VPhA-USA Tet organizing committee will look into the availability of the restaurant, comparing the choices between distinctive Chinese/Vietnamese food or American fare in a traditional and usually crowded Asian restaurant versus a spacious and more costly hotel site.

V. ADJOURNMENT – NEXT MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM. The next meeting will be announced later.

Lunch was served following the meeting, at the well liked restaurant used for various VPhA-USA occasions.

Mrs. Ai Luu Tran graciously handled the menu selection and hosting of the day's activities on behalf of VPhA-USA.

Notes during lunch: When asked about the Pharmaceutical Care Project started several months ago, Dr. Thu-Hang Tran, President of the Vietnamese Independent Pharmacists Groups in Orange County (please check correct name) said that presentations on television are more likely to be pursued, rather than seeing the patients at the pharmacy. Pharmacists will take turn presenting topics and hold questions and answers on the television. Once the public is more familiar with this aspect of drug information, they will be more willing to come to the pharmacy for pharmaceutical care activities.

Every year, during the Tet weekend, pharmacy students at USC (and WUHS, or in Southern California) participate in a Health Fair for the community at booths next to the VPhA-USA and the Vietnamese American Medical Research Foundation. The event taking place in Orange County is a main attraction for the Vietnamese population, and will be planned in subsequent sessions.

Submitted by Binh N. Tran, PharmD

Meeting Secretary

11/29/04