

SINGAPORE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE 58TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

**Held on 15 April 2018 (Sunday) at 2 pm at the Alumni Auditorium, Level 2,
2 College Road, Alumni Medical Centre, Singapore 169850**

Members Present: 19

In Attendance:

Mr Martin Ho, Chief Administrator

Mr Lee Sze Yong, Manager

At 2 pm, there were 16 members and were insufficient for quorum required under Article XI, Section (3)(i) of the SMA Constitution. Honorary Secretary, Dr Lim Kheng Choon (Dr Lim KC), adjourned the meeting for thirty minutes in accordance to Article XI, Section (3)(ii). At 2.30 pm, with 19 members signed in, Dr Lim KC called the meeting to order.

At the request of SMA President, Dr Wong Tien Hua (Dr Wong TH), all who were present rose and observed a minute of silence in memory of 17 members of the Association who passed away since the last AGM.

1 OPENING ADDRESS

- 1.1 SMA President, Dr Wong TH, thanked members present for taking time out to attend the AGM.
- 1.2 Dr Wong TH began by identifying a few high-profile events that demonstrated SMA's contribution to leadership in the medical community. He first highlighted SMA's call for a return of fee guidelines during his speech at the 2017 SMA Annual Dinner. He expressed happiness that MOH has set up the Fee Benchmarks Advisory Committee. Dr Wong TH thanked Dr Toh Choon Lai for stepping up to be SMA's representative in this MOH committee.
- 1.3 Dr Wong TH also highlighted the joint advisories on fees paid to Managed Care by Academy of Medicine, College of Family Physicians Singapore, and SMA. Dr Wong TH was glad to note that, till date, SMA does not know of any doctor being reported for a breach of Guideline H3(7) of the Singapore Medical Council Ethical Code and Ethical Guidelines, which relates to fee-splitting.
- 1.4 Dr Wong TH also highlighted the 3-day Singapore Medical Week 2017, including FutureMed 2017 and the 47th SMA National Medical Convention, which helped doctors to learn more about future trends in medicine. SMA's eMarket platform was also launched at the event, and the 1st SMA National Medical Students' Convention was organised by students from the 3 medical schools. He thanked A/Prof Nigel Tan and Dr Charles Tan for organising FutureMed 2017 and the 47th SMA National Medical Convention respectively.
- 1.5 In his address, Dr Wong TH also thanked:
 - Minister Gan Kim Yong, for gracing the 2017 SMA Annual Dinner as Guest of Honour;
 - Dr Loo Choon Yong, for taking up the 2017 edition of the SMA Lecture, with the topic "Internationalising Singapore Healthcare";
 - Dr Tan Yia Swam, Editor of SMA News, for helming the publication even though she is currently in France, and the deputy editors Dr Tina Tan and Dr Tan Tze Lee and editorial team for holding the fort in Singapore;
 - A/Prof Poh Keng Keong, Editor of Singapore Medical Journal and editorial team;
 - A/Prof Gerald Chua, the current Executive Director of SMA CMEP and the SMA CMEP Board and Faculty;
 - Prof Wong Tien Yin, Chairperson, SMA Charity Fund and the SMACF Board;
 - trustees of the SMA Trust Fund;
 - all council members for their volunteer service to SMA;
 - the SMA secretariat, for ensuring the smooth operations of SMA, with activities for members at almost every weekend.
- 1.6 Dr Wong TH highlighted that he was stepping down as SMA President after 3 years. It was a pleasure and honour to serve SMA.

2 GROUND RULES

- 2.1 Honorary Secretary, Dr Lim KC, highlighted the Ground Rules and sought members' cooperation to speak at the microphone and to identify themselves by name for the recording of the proceedings.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 57th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 3.1 The minutes were adopted as proposed by Dr Anantham Devanand and seconded by Dr Lee Pheng Soon. There were no matters arising from the 2017 AGM minutes.

4 REVIEW OF ANNUAL REPORT OF THE 58TH SMA COUNCIL 2017/2018

- 4.1 Dr Lim KC referred members to the SMA 58th Annual Report 2017/2018.
- 4.2 The SMA 58th Annual Report 2017/2018 was adopted as proposed by Dr Tan Tze Lee and seconded by Dr Toh Choon Lai.

5 AUDITED STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

- 5.1 Dr Loo Kai Guo Benny (Dr B Loo), Honorary Treasurer, presented the accounts for SMA Group.
- 5.2 Dr B Loo highlighted a surplus of \$315K for 2017, a fall of \$229K compared to 2016. This was mainly due to a \$559K drop in income from MPS admin fees, as public sector institutions decided not to renew indemnity coverage with MPS. The loss was mitigated by fair value gain on investment accounts \$394K and a \$74K increase in income from organising SMA courses.
- 5.3 The 3 main income sources are SMA member subscriptions [24%], course/event income [23%], and MPS admin fees [21%]. Manpower cost is our main expenditure item of the association in order to support our advocacy work, member events and courses. Despite the drop in income from MPS admin fees, SMA managed to keep our total expenses comparable with last year.
- 5.4 Adj. Prof Tan Sze Wee, Chairperson of SMA Pte Ltd (SMAPL), presented the accounts for SMAPL.
- 5.5 He highlighted that SMAPL's main role is to invest SMA's surplus to generate a better return as compared to bank deposits. A conservative capital preservation approach was adopted up till the recent 2 years.
- 5.6 In the last 2 years, SMAPL has rebalanced its investment portfolio towards a growth focus, as advised by UBS, SMAPL's appointed agent for managing investments.
- 5.7 SMAPL has invested another \$1 million into the investment portfolio. A donation of \$78K was also made to the SMA Charity Fund (SMACF).
- 5.8 Dr Devanand proposed and Dr Noorul Fatha As'art seconded to adopt the audited SMA, SMAPL and SMA Trust Fund financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017.

6 SMA CHARITY FUND (SMACF)

- 6.1 Dr Wong Chiang Yin (Dr Wong CY), a Board Member of the SMACF, explained that SMACF was initially formed to focus on living expenses of needy medical students, carrying on from its predecessor, the SMA Medical Students' Assistance Fund.
- 6.2 With effect from 20 October 2017, Mr Sitoh Yih Pin stepped down from the SMACF Board of Directors. Mr Alex Koh Wei Peng, was appointed to the SMACF Board as a Director.
- 6.3 Dr Wong CY highlighted that the bursary quantum has been increased gradually to current amount of \$5,000, and more bursaries have also been disbursed. 55 bursaries have been awarded for 2017/18. Bursary nominees are interviewed by board members before the bursary is disbursed.

- 6.4 Dr Wong CY stressed on the need to step up fund-raising efforts, to achieve the proposed target of \$450,000. Initiatives like named bursaries and legacy gifts had been put in place.

7 ELECTION OF SMA HONORARY MEMBER

- 7.1 In accordance with Article IV, Section (iv) of the SMA Constitution, the Meeting considered the proposal of the 58th SMA Council to elect Mr Gan Kim Yong as a SMA Honorary Member.
- 7.2 The members present unanimously affirmed Council's proposal to elect Mr Gan to SMA Honorary Membership. The conferment of Honorary Membership will be held during the SMA Annual Dinner on 12 May 2018.

8 APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES FOR SMA TRUST FUND

- 8.1 Members present unanimously affirmed the re-appointment of the following members as Trustees for the SMA Trust Fund for a 3-year term from 2018 to 2021.
- A/Prof Cheong Pak Yean
 - Dr Lee Pheng Soon
 - Prof Low Cheng Hock
 - Dr Tan Kok Soo
 - Dr Tan Yew Ghee

9 ELECTION OF 59TH SMA COUNCIL

- 9.1 The names of the 10 Council Members who would be serving their second year on the Council were announced.

Dr Tammy Chan Teng Mui	Dr Tan Tze Lee
Dr Lee Pheng Soon	Dr Tan Yia Swam
Dr Lim Kheng Choon	Dr Toh Choon Lai
Dr Ng Chee Kwan	Dr Wong Chiang Yin
A/Prof Nigel Tan Choon Kiat	Dr Bertha Woon Yng Yng

- 9.2 By the stipulated deadline, 10 nominations were received for the 10 vacancies. The 10 nominees were therefore elected to the 59th SMA Council.

Dr Anantham Devanand	Dr Benny Loo Kai Guo
A/Prof Chin Jing Jih	Dr Ng Chew Lip
Dr Chong Yeh Woei	Dr Noorul Fatha As'art
Dr Daniel Lee Hsien Chieh	Adj Prof Tan Sze Wee
Dr Lee Yik Voon	Dr Wong Tien Hua

- 9.3 Dr Ng Chew Lip, a new member to the SMA Council, made a short introduction. Dr Ng is currently an Ear Nose & Throat (ENT) associate consultant in the public sector.

- 9.4 The 20 members of the 59th SMA Council were announced:

Dr Anantham Devanand	Dr Noorul Fatha As'art
Dr Tammy Chan Teng Mui	Dr Ng Chee Kwan
A/Prof Chin Jing Jih	A/Prof Nigel Tan Choon Kiat
Dr Chong Yeh Woei	Adj Prof Tan Sze Wee
Dr Daniel Lee Hsien Chieh	Dr Tan Tze Lee
Dr Lee Pheng Soon	Dr Tan Yia Swam
Dr Lee Yik Voon	Dr Toh Choon Lai
Dr Lim Kheng Choon	Dr Wong Chiang Yin
Dr Benny Loo Kai Guo	Dr Wong Tien Hua
Dr Ng Chew Lip	Dr Bertha Woon Yng Yng

10 ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS FOR YEAR 2018/2019

10.1 Dr Lim KC conducted the election for office bearers. One nomination was received for each of the posts of President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Assistant Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Assistant Treasurer.

10.2 The following were elected Office Bearers of the 59th SMA Council:

Office	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
President	Dr Lee Yik Voon	Dr Wong Tien Hua	Dr Toh Choon Lai
1st Vice President	Dr Wong Tien Hua	Dr Tan Tze Lee	Dr Noorul Fatha As'art
2nd Vice President	Dr Toh Choon Lai	Dr Lee Yik Voon	Dr Wong Tien Hua
Honorary Secretary	Dr Lim Kheng Choon	Dr Lee Yik Voon	Dr Wong Tien Hua
Honorary Assistant Secretary	Dr Anantham Devanand	Dr Lee Yik Voon	Dr Noorul Fatha As'art
Honorary Treasurer	Dr Loo Kai Guo Benny	Dr Lee Yik Voon	Dr Wong Chiang Yin
Honorary Assistant Treasurer	Dr Ng Chee Kwan	Dr Lee Yik Voon	Dr Noorul Fatha As'art

11 APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AUDITORS

11.1 Members present approved by majority via show of hands, the appointment of Kreston David Yeung PAC as Professional Auditors for the ensuing year.

12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Dr Daniel Lee, Chairperson of the SMA Property Committee, provided members present with an update on SMA's current lease at 2 College Road Alumni Medical Centre.

- SMA has been leasing the current premise at Level 2 Alumni Medical Centre from the Alumni Association (AA).
- The current lease rate is \$3.00 per square foot (psf) for 3,298 square feet of space.
- SMA's current lease with AA ends on 2 Aug 2018.
- SMA Property Committee was set up in 2015, to look into lease negotiations with AA and other property options.
- SMA had regularly requested for lease information from AA since 2016, in order to give SMA ample time to plan ahead.

12.2 The chronology of communications with AA is as follows

- 21 Mar 2017:
 - AA met up with the 3 sister organizations which are tenants at 2 College Road Alumni Medical Centre [SMA, Singapore Dental Association(SDA), and Pharmaceutical Society of Singapore(PSS)], and informed that the lease rate for SMA, SDA, and PSS would be increased to S\$5.90 psf with effect from 2 Aug 2018. AA informed that the reason for the rate increase was that Singapore Land Authority (SLA) has increased the rental rate for the land plot to S\$500,000 per year, up from the current S\$1, with effect from 2 Aug 2018.
 - AA informed that the lease extension from SLA will be for a period of 3 + 3 + 3 years upon the lease expiry on 2 Aug 2018.
 - AA asked the SMA, SDA, and PSS to confirm their acceptance of the new rate within a month of the meeting.
 - During the meeting, the SMA, SDA, and PSS raised concerns over the fairness of the method in apportioning the rent increase by AA. The 3 sister associations also requested for complimentary use of facilities like the Auditorium and swimming pool, in order to provide better value to our respective memberships in tandem with the significant increase in rental rate.
 - The requests were rejected and AA did not change its offer.
- 3 Apr 2017:
 - SMA proposed an alternative methodology of rental apportionment and counter-offered \$4 psf as a fair rate following its review.
- AA called for a meeting on 26 Jul 2017, but subsequently informed SMA that it was cancelled.
- 16 Aug 2017:
 - AA met with SMA President Dr Wong Tien Hua and verbally offered a new rate of "about \$5psf".
 - No official written offer was made to the SMA.
- 18 Sep 2017

- SDA, PSS, and SMA jointly wrote to AA Chairman to propose proceeding with combined negotiations with SLA based on AA's valuation report which stated a market valuation of S\$380,000 per year for the same property, i.e. S\$1.75 psf per month.
- 22 Dec 2017
 - AA rejected the joint proposal by SDA, PSS, and SMA, and counter-offered a lease rate of \$5.00 psf starting from 1 Aug 2018.
 - AA opined that the S\$1.75 psf valuation rate reported by the professional property valuer is a "misrepresentation due to the input of differences in land area".
- 5 Feb 2018
 - SDA, SMA, and PSS jointly responded to AA and informed that market analysis provides no support to justify acceptance of AA's proposed S\$5.00 psf rate to our respective memberships.
 - SDA, SMA, and PSS iterated a joint offer of \$4 psf (inclusive of sinking fund and property tax contributions), as well as requested for value-added inclusions of the usage of Auditorium, Theatre, swimming pool and gym, in order for a larger critical mass to become familiar with the facility and to avoid situations of underutilisation.
 - SDA, SMA, and PSS asked for AA's response by 28 Feb 2018.
 - No official response was received from AA till date.
- 23 Mar 2018
 - SMA wrote to AA and indicated that as no response was received from the AA, SMA will have to consider all other options and alternatives for the SMA, and that SMA will consider a suitable offer from the AA when it is received.

- 12.3 Dr Wong Tien Hua highlighted that the SMA Council really liked the current premises, after being here for so many years, with it being almost like a second home. He did not think that any of the SMA Council members would want to move, if not for the current circumstances.
- 12.4 Dr Daniel Lee agreed with Dr Wong Tien Hua, and commented that in view of the lack of a favourable response from the AA, SMA Council now has no choice but to also consider all other alternatives for the benefit of our membership and in order to continue its business operations, due to the short time period remaining on the current lease.
- 12.5 Adj. Prof Tan Sze Wee asked if there was consensus from the other associations to move.
- 12.6 Mr Martin Ho highlighted that the Boards/Councils of each association (SDA and PSS) are concurrently deliberating on the issue, and SMA has no visibility over the final decision of the respective Boards/Councils.
- 12.7 Dr Lee Pheng Soon urged all to consider the length of the lease, and not just the rental rate, in the evaluation of the all alternative options, as SMA may benefit from a long-term lease. Adj. Prof Tan Sze Wee agreed, and highlighted that SMA should consider the associated costs of relocation, and try to look for an option that provides a reasonably long-term lease.
- 12.8 Dr Daniel Lee agreed that both rental rate and length of lease should be considered important factors as the SMA Council evaluates all options available in the best interests of the SMA membership.
- 12.9 Newly elected SMA President of the 59th SMA Council, Dr Lee Yik Voon, was invited to address the House. Dr Lee thanked members for electing him and his team, and he promised to do his utmost for SMA.

There being no other matters, Dr Lim Kheng Choon declared the AGM closed at 3.22 pm.

DR LIM KHENG CHOON

Honorary Secretary
59th SMA Council