



SPINAL CORD INJURY RESEARCH BOARD

Regular Business Meeting

September 13, 2019

11:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Locations

Hyatt Regency San Francisco, 5 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco, CA

NYS DOH, Metropolitan Area Regional Office, Conference Room 4B, 90 Church Street, New York, NY

NYS DOH, Wadsworth Center, Biggs Laboratory, Sturman Conference Room, Albany, NY

SCIRB Members Present

Thomas N. Bryce, M.D.

Donald S. Faber, Ph.D., Vice Chair

Michael E. Goldberg, M.D.

Bernice Grafstein, Ph.D., D.Sc.(hon.)

Keith Gurgui

Nancy A. Lieberman

Lorne Mendell, Ph.D., Chair

Gary D. Paige, M.D., Ph.D.

Adam B. Stein, M.D.

NYS DOH Staff Present

Teresa Ascienzo

Victoria Derbyshire, Ph.D., Executive Secretary

Andrea Garavelli

Jonathan B. Karmel

Kerri Kluetzman, Ph.D.

Farrah M. O'Brien

Brian Rourke

Jeannine Tusch

Carlene Van Patten

SCIRB Members Absent

Anthony O. Caggiano, M.D., Ph.D.

Kristjan T. Ragnarsson, M.D.

Fraser J. Sim, Ph.D.

Members of the Public

Harriet Katz

Call to Order and Opening Remarks of the Chair

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 a.m. with a welcome by Chair, Lorne Mendell, Ph.D., followed by introductions of New York State Spinal Cord Injury Research Board (SCIRB) members and the New York State Department of Health (DOH) staff. Note, three (3) board members were absent and there is one (1) vacancy to be filled by legislative leadership.

Consideration of January 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Dr. Mendell asked the SCIRB to consider Exhibit 1, the minutes from the January 25, 2019 meeting.

ACTION

Thomas N. Bryce, M.D. made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Bernice Grafstein, Ph.D., D.Sc.(hon.) seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and the minutes were unanimously approved (9-0).

Consideration of Annual Report

Dr. Mendell asked the SCIRB to discuss Exhibit 2, the draft 2018 SCIRB Annual Report. Dr. Mendell said the report includes a synopsis of each NYS spinal cord injury (SCI) funded contract and the DOH staff did an excellent job in organizing the important work that's a result of

SCIRB funding. Keith Gurgui was pleased with the report and noted that there are spinal cord injury research clinical trials in process because of SCIRB funding. Dr. Mendell said that many NYS SCI research centers are receiving SCIRB funding and he suggested including these figures in the report.

SCIRB's 2018 Annual Report Provisos:

- Add narrative with the number of NYS research institutions and principal investigators that receive NYS spinal cord injury research funding and their disciplines/areas of expertise;
- Add descriptions of each SCIRB RFA, along with the number of contracts; and
- Highlight NYS spinal cord injury research clinical trials that are in process because of SCIRB funding.

Victoria Derbyshire, Ph.D., Executive Secretary, noted that the DOH staff will add the SCIRB's provisos to the final 2018 SCIRB Annual Report before it's distributed to the legislative leaders.

ACTION

Vice Chair, Donald S. Faber, Ph.D., made a motion to approve the 2018 SCIRB Annual Report with provisos before it's sent to the Commissioner of Health for approval, and then the Governor and legislative leaders. Michael E. Goldberg, M.D. seconded. A roll call vote was taken, and the report was unanimously approved (9-0).

Board Membership

During the Annual Report discussion, Dr. Mendell noted that finding new board members for the SCIRB might be challenging since many NYS SCI researchers are receiving funding and it's a conflict of interest to accept SCIRB funding. Nancy Lieberman asked if Board members could be appointed if they live out of state. Dr. Derbyshire said that the DOH staff will verify the statute for board member (public officer) requirements.

Future RFAs

Adam Stein, M.D. motioned to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing future RFAs and Michael E. Goldberg, M.D. seconded. The SCIRB unanimously voted to adjourn into Executive Session. Members of the public and non-essential staff were asked to leave the room. After discussing future RFAs, the SCIRB reconvened in Public Session.

Public Comment

No members of the public provided a written statement and there was no public comment.

Future Meeting & Adjournment

At its next meeting, the SCIRB will consider applications for funding two (2) SCI Research RFAs: Projects to Accelerate Research Translation and Innovative, Developmental or Exploratory Activities in SCI and Translational Research Projects in SCI. Dr. Mendell thanked members of the Board and DOH staff for attending. The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.