
AHRMM Board Meeting Overview May 8-9, 2014

- AHRMM Board Chair Christopher O'Connor led the Board in a discussion of industry trends, which was a continuation of a discussion on the subject from the first quarter 2014 Board of Directors meeting. Board members voted on the three highest-priority industry trends which were: Consolidations/Partnerships, Demand Planning/Risk Based Contracting, and Out of Acute Care. The board had a discussion and determined that they task forces would be created to further investigate Consolidations/Partnerships and Out of Acute Care and that Demand Planning/Risk Based Contracting would be reviewed at a later date.
- AHRMM Membership & Marketing Senior Manager, Catherine Carruth, provided a report on the history and future of the chapter program. There was a discussion on the responsibilities of and opportunities for board members to support the chapters. Staff will work on a proposal for a possible board emeritus position, which would serve as a strong and active liaison for chapters.
- AHRMM Board Immediate Past Chair Annette Pummel led a discussion regarding the terminology around the terms "uniformed services" and "military" which mean different things however were being used inconsistently and sometimes interchangeably. Ms. Pummel recommended that the terminology be formally changed from "uniformed services" to "military" in the bylaws. The board voted unanimously to make this change.
- Ms. Pummel, in her role as Nominating Committee Chair, urged board members to encourage qualified members with good leadership skills to run for the board.
- Debbie Sprindzunas, AHRMM Executive Director, and Mike Schiller, AHRMM Supply Chain Director, provided an update on the Supply Chain Savings study. The study will examine what is working and what the impediments are to achieving savings in the healthcare supply chain through a survey of hospital supply chain professionals with the goal of identifying opportunities for improvement. AHA and AHRMM are working with Dr. Lawton Burns at the Wharton School of Business on this study. A similar study was performed in 2005 with a similar pool of respondents, so there will be opportunity to make comparisons between the two sets of data.
- Karen Conway and Mr. Schiller and presented an update on the Cost, Quality, and Outcomes (CQO) Movement. Since the last board meeting, activities around CQO have included presentations by board members and other supply chain professionals at industry and affiliated chapters, several CQO articles, case studies, and leading practice submissions. Christopher O'Connor has developed a CQO Year 2 presentation for the board to use to continue to spread the CQO message. The CQO Strategy Committee has been working on Industry Engagement and the Thought Leader Summit that will be held at the AHRMM Annual Conference this summer. Feedback from members and from healthcare supply chain professionals throughout the industry has been extremely positive. The CQO Marketing Committee is starting to collect CQO-relevant papers and resources internally, in order to keep track of the ongoing industry-wide conversations on CQO.
- Mr. O'Connor presented an update on the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the healthcare exchanges, and the Medicaid expansion.
- Mr. Schiller presented on proposed changes to the structure and activities of the Issues & Legislative Committee. The proposal included the volunteer selection process and the committee charge. The responsibilities would change from monitoring and reporting on issues to proposing and initiating change and leading efforts where supply chain interests are paramount. The board voted unanimously to move the proposal forward, and asked staff to work on the specifics around the volunteer selection and logistics.
- Ms. Sprindzunas presented a high-level picture of the Executive Director's report.
- Marc Hochman with A.T. Kearney, Inc., presented on his company's view of supply chain with a focus on where the profession needs to be by 2020.
- The meeting ended with Mr. O'Connor's closing remarks.