

Date: June 14, 2024

Subject: Report from Women Physicians Section to MSSNY Council

The Women Physicians Section (WPS) held their first meeting on May 23, 2024 at 7 am. Over 30 women physicians attended. Dr. Liana Leung, MSSNY WPS Councilor, and Dr. Kira Geraci-Ciardullo, former Chair of the Women Physicians Committee introduced themselves and welcomed the attendees. Then Dr. Jerome Cohen, MSSNY president, addressed the attendees, celebrating the formation of this Section and informing the attendees regarding how the current MSSNY WPS Councilor position was filled in accordance with MSSNY bylaws. Dr. Cohen also shared that MSSNY staffing support is Patricia Clancy, Sr. Vice President/Managing Director of MSSNY Public Health and Education. Dr. Cohen also clarified that there is no financial support from MSSNY for the Section at this current time due to the financial situation at MSSNY.

Dr. Leung then presented the current draft of the Bylaws for the Women Physicians Section that she had written after incorporating some comments from a prior Women Physicians Committee meeting. She thanked those members who submitted their name to participate in the Committee to develop the Bylaws for this new Section. Discussion ensued regarding how the bylaws for the Section need to be approved by Council in September 2024 prior to elections for Section leadership. Positions for the Governing Council such as Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer were discussed. The bylaws will be circulated for input, reviewed, and finalized by the Bylaws Committee over the summer.

Discussion also occurred regarding the best dates and times for future Section meetings. Participants shared their opinions and preferences for meeting times. Both early morning and evening meeting times were considered to allow for greater participation in the Section. Ms. Clancy sent out an email survey to poll which meeting times worked best for the most members.

Future WPS Bylaws Committee meetings have been scheduled for June 18 at 7:30 am and July 18 at 7 pm. The draft of the bylaws were emailed to members for input. The Section will present its final bylaws draft to MSSNY Council for approval and elect its Governing Council this September 2024.