

**The Woman's Board of Rush University Medical Center  
General Meeting Minutes  
May 7, 2018**

**I. Welcome**

**Debra Beck**

The meeting was called to order at 11:36 a.m. Debra welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**II. Membership**

**Elizabeth Bigelow**

Elizabeth announced four new Woman's Board members:

Bethany Crocker

Jill Erwin

Angie Randall

Lenore

Macdonald

Debra welcomed the new members and encouraged all members to introduce themselves and welcome them to the Board after the meeting.

Debra thanked Elizabeth and the Membership Committee.

**III. Invocation**

**Rev. Tommy Rogers**

**IV. Introduction of Dr. Gail Basch and Dr. Nirajan Karnik**

**Stevie Boggess**

Dr. Basch, Rush Medical College Department of Psychiatry Associate Professor, is the Section Director of Addiction Medicine and Program Director of the newly established Addiction Medicine Fellowship. Holding board certifications in Psychiatry and Addiction Medicine, Dr. Basch is a Diplomate of the American Board of Addiction Medicine, a fellow of the American Society of Addiction Medicine, and a graduated senior scholar of the internationally recognized Alcohol Medical Scholars Program.

With a 30 year career at RUMC, Dr. Basch is Chairperson of the Rush Professional Advocacy Committee and also has a focus on professional health and advocates for treatment of the impaired medical professional.

Dr. Basch completed her undergraduate studies at Atlanta's Emory University and Loyola University in Chicago. She received her medical degree from the Chicago Medical School and completed her psychiatric residency training at Rush.

Dr. Nirajan Karnik is Vice Chair for Innovation of Rush Medical College's Psychiatry Department and a conjoint faculty member in the Department of Community, Systems and Mental Health Nursing at Rush College of Nursing.

For the Office of Senior Vice President for Community Health Equity, Dr. Karnik is Section Director of Population Behavioral Health and Director of Community Behavioral

Health Interventions. He also serves as Senior Advisor for the Road Home Program, and, is the Director of the Rush-University of Chicago ITM Center for Underserved Populations and Interventions.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Dr. Karnik received his M.D. from the University of Illinois College of Medicine, his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and completed his residency in General Psychiatry at Stanford University. Dr. Karnik is a Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and Distinguished Fellow of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

Dr. Basch and Dr. Karnik discussed substance abuse, the opioid crises and various treatment options.

**VI. Introduction of Dr. Mark Pollack**

**Stevie Boggess**

Dr. Mark Pollack, Grainger Professor and Chairman of the Rush Psychiatry Department.

Dr. Pollack updated everyone on the 2016 principal project, the Rush Center for Returning Veterans and Their Families. He shared a video featuring Road Home program participants, discussed the success of the program and recognized the Woman's Board for their support and contributions.

He also recommended the book "Dreamland", a well-written history of the opiate epidemic in America over the last few decades.

Debra thanked Dr. Pollack for sharing his time and information about the Road Home Program.

**VII. Approval of the Minutes**

**Debra Beck**

Debra asked for a motion to approve the March meeting minutes. The minutes were approved.

**VIII. Spring Luncheon**

**Kate Mursau**

Debra congratulated Kate and Lindsey on a very successful Spring Luncheon.

Kate reported the Spring Luncheon was a success and a total group effort. She thanked the Spring Luncheon Committee, Michelle Boardman, Jennifer and Catherine in the WB office and everyone who attended and supported the event.

Debra thanked Lindsey and Kate for their hard work on the successful event.

**IX. 2017 Fall Benefit**

**Pamela Fitzgerald**

Debra invited Pam to share the results of last year's Fall Benefit.

Pam congratulated Lindsey and Kate on a wonderful Spring Luncheon.

Pam reported the official final numbers of the Inaugural Fall Benefit "Glow". With the contributions made by the Auxiliary Board and the Junior Board, the Woman's Board is able to fulfill the \$450,000 pledge made to support Rush's School-Based Mental Health Programs.

Pam thanked Debra for her incredible leadership and support.

Finally, Pam carried on a tradition, by passing on a silver tray to 2018 Fall Benefit Chair, Samantha Schwalm. The tray is engraved with the words "Anything is Possible" and serves as a token of inspiration.

Debra thanked Pam on her success and for pioneering the transition from the Fashion Show to the Fall Benefit.

CDs of Eric Genuis' music were available on each table for members to take home.

**X. 2018 Fall Benefit**

**Samantha Schwalm**

Sam is honored to be chairing the 2018 FB. She thanked Pam for all of her work last year and for paving the way for the Board's brand-new event.

Contributor Sessions were hosted on April 26 and 27 – letters are available in the office and the final addressing session will take place on May 10 at the WAC.

There will be a Fall Benefit Meeting on May 16th at 10:30 a.m. at Sam's home. All members are invited to attend. Sam would be delighted to hear any ideas you have for the event.

Sam has secured a contribution of Mezcal for the event. There will be a specialty drink featuring Mezcal at the event.

Debra thanked for Sam for her hard work. She encouraged members to support Sam and the event.

**XII. Upcoming Events**

**Debra Beck**

- Today - Contributor Addressing in the WB office
- May 10 - Contributor Addressing Session, WAC, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
- May 16 - Fall Benefit Meeting, Samantha Schwalm's home, 10:30 a.m.
- June 4 - Exec. and General Board meetings
- June 5 - Rush Benefit for the Road Home Program, Four Seasons

**XIII. Adjournment**

**Debra Beck**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Colby Gaines  
Recording Secretary