

BOARD MEETING DATE: May 1, 2015

AGENDA NO. 27

PROPOSAL: Annual Meeting of the Brain & Lung Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation

SYNOPSIS: This item is to conduct the annual meeting of the Brain & Lung Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation. The Foundation staff will present an annual report detailing the research supported by the Foundation over the past year, the Foundation's plans for the future, and a financial report.

COMMITTEE: No Committee Review

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1. Receive and file the annual report and ratify the Foundation disbursements described in the annual report.
2. Ratify the appointment of Dr. William A. Burke as a Foundation Director, replacing former Board Member Josie Gonzales.

Barry R. Wallerstein, D.Env.
Executive Officer

KRW:ML

2015 Annual Report

1. Background

In February 2003, the Board established the Brain Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation. In March 2004, the Foundation amended its Articles of Incorporation to change its name to Brain & Lung Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation (Foundation) and to specify that its purpose is related to the effects of air pollution on brain tumors and lung cancer. The mission of the Foundation is to support research studies on the association between air pollution and brain and lung tumors, as well as research for the development of novel therapeutics for such tumors. To date, the dollar amount of the funding received is \$5,722,568. The current projects are described below.

2. Directors and Officers

The Directors of the Foundation are: Michael D. Antonovich, Chairman
Dennis R. Yates, Vice Chairman
Dr. Clark E. Parker, Sr.
Dr. William A. Burke

The Foundation's staff is: Barry Wallerstein, Chief Executive Officer
Denise Witcher, Secretary
Michael O'Kelly, Treasurer

3. Report on the Foundation's Activities

Current Research Projects

Chronic Exposure of Mice to Ambient Particles to Study Cancer-Related Stem Cell Activation in the Brain
Principal Investigator: Keith Black, M.D., Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Approved Funding: \$1,000,000
Allocated Funding: \$500,000

This project was approved by the Foundation Board in September 2013 as a follow-up to previous laboratory studies conducted by Cedars-Sinai. In the current study, laboratory animals are exposed to ambient particulate matter, including ultrafine particles, for a period of one year for additional investigation of potential stem cell activation into cancer precursor cells. The elucidation of such molecular pathways involved in survival, proliferation, and differentiation of cancer stem cells may be fundamental information to help develop therapies for brain tumors and to develop potential preventive measures. The research is being done in collaboration with the UC Irvine School of Medicine. The on going project was originally scheduled for completion by September 2015. However, due to a power outage, the stored frozen tissue samples collected from prior, shorter-term exposures (one, three, and six months) were lost. This significantly affects the current research project as the stored samples are necessary to compare with the results from the current exposures to complete the study objectives. Cedars-Sinai has committed to cover the replication of the previous experiments to replace the lost samples using their own funds so that the study can be successfully completed. This has resulted in a delay in the project's estimated completion date to May 2016.

4. Financial Report

As of February 28, 2015, the Foundation had a cash balance of \$559,698. Following is an accounting of the Foundation's operations since its inception (7/23/03):

Revenue from Operations	
Contributions	\$5,722,568
Interest Income	39,511
<i>Total Revenue from Operations</i>	\$5,762,079
Operating Expenses	
Grants Awarded	
-Cedars-Sinai	\$4,809,250
-USC	377,967
Corporation Filing Costs	1,390
Bank charges	574
Professional fees-audit	13,200
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	\$5,202,381
Cash Balance	\$559,698

5. Plans for Upcoming Year

The Foundation will continue monitoring the progress of existing research projects. The Foundation will evaluate new projects and provide funding when additional funds become available. The Foundation hopes to receive approximately \$2,500,000 from the Health Effects Research Fund from the SCAQMD for which it will release an RFP to solicit research proposals within the purpose of the Foundation.

6. Replacement of Foundation Director

Dr. William Burke has replaced former Board member Josie Gonzales as a Foundation Director.