



Monday 5th December 2022
Virtual NEC Meeting facilitated via Zoom.
8.00 pm – 9.30 pm

ATTENDANCE:

Mary Jordan	National Chairperson	MJ	Liz Healy	North Dublin Branch	LH
Siobhan Leacy	National Hon Treasurer	SL	Karen Canning	South Dublin Branch	KC
Karen Canning	PRO	KC	Mairead O' Dwyer	South Tipperary Branch	MOD
Mary Osakwe	Administrator	MO*	Deidre Farrell	Roscommon Branch	DF
PRESENT			Mary Jordan	Waterford Branch	MJ
Dearbhla O Hanlon	Cavan/Monaghan Branch	DOH	Anne Hennessy	Wexford Branch	AH
Maria Galbally	Carlow Branch	MG	Una Ui Dhuinn	Wicklow Branch	UUD
Pauline McCaul	Clare Branch	PM			
Jennifer Flaherty	Cork Branch	JF	Marie Cantwell	PDC	MC
Deirdre Gillespie	Donegal Branch	DG	APOLOGIES		
Pauline Whistler	Kildare Branch	PW			
Caitriona Lynch	Kilkenny	CL			
Liz Kinane	Limerick/Nth Tipp	LK			
Paula Devitt	Mayo Branch	PD			
Debbie Maher	Midlands Branch	DM			

MEETING OPENED

Mary Jordan (National Chairperson) opened the meeting at approximately 8.05pm to allow for all branch Reps to be logged in via Zoom facility and thanked everyone for attending.

NEC MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 2022

Minutes from the previous NEC meeting were sent to all members prior to this meeting for comments and to be approved. MJ read through all of the main sections of the minutes and asked if there were any questions or changes to be made. No amendments were requested. Therefore, the minutes from 5TH September 2022 were formally adopted.

APOLOGIES AND CORRESPONDENCE

No apologise or correspondence has been received

FINANCIAL UPDATE

MJ showed all attendees the overview of the IGPNEA National Bank account and explained the figures.

Opening balance on 01.01.2022 was €131,287.85

Closing balance to date is €202,561.40

MJ explained the section to the left is an overview of the income totalling €186,166.31

And the information to the right is an overview of the expenditure totalling €114,992.76

The income does include €19,247.48 of 2023 membership subscriptions to be carried over to 2023.

MJ also highlighted the conference created a surplus fund of €54,093.02

MJ asked if there was any questions.

No questions asked.

MJ advised that MO would send a copy of this overview with the slides from the meeting tomorrow.

IRISH HEALTHCARE AWARDS WINNER

MJ was delighted to inform those that were not already aware that we had won an award at the Irish Healthcare Awards for Best Educational Meeting of the Year for our Dermatology course. MJ showed an image of the IGPNEA with the award that was on the Irish Healthcare Awards official website and explained who each person was in the photo.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

MJ explained who the Educational Committee members are:

Roisin Doogue, Karen Canning and MJ as current chair.

KC gave an update on the PG Cert in General Practice Nursing.

We have been in communication with TUS. Brendan O Shea from ICGP, KC and RD were at the meeting in Athlone.

When they looked at the outline for the three semesters, they were not really impressed so RD was able to submit our suggestions and TUS feel this could be worked on. The continuing issue is funding. We are still trying to get funding through Slaintecare.

In the meantime, there has been some further communication with UCD. Brendan O Shea has spoken to Professor Walter Cullen. The UCD course is ready to go in September. But it really is for community RGN's. We are not sure if they have funding and if so where from, but we will continue to push this. UCD seemed interested in what we are doing with TUS.

KC also explained that RD had contacted the School of Nursing at University of Limerick and has had a positive response. We are waiting for a meeting with them to be confirmed.

MJ went on to say that we have worked hard to secure independent funding from Pharma companies for education similar to the Dermatology course.

As of today we are in advance talks in regards to a Menopause course. This is to be based on the British Menopause Society course. We have one pharma company interested in funding this, but due to the cost we may need a 2nd company to share the costs.

MJ added that her inbox as well as MO inbox has been flooded with emails of congratulations on the awards and 'can we do something similar' with you.

LAUNCH OF WRKIT

MJ outlined the launch of Wrkit to members.

This is a collaboration with the holistic wellness platform, wrkit.

wrkit offers four different areas, each addressing one key area of your overall wellbeing:

Mental Health - POWR

Physical Wellbeing - MOVE

Continuous Development - LEARNING

Financial Wellbeing – LIFESTYLE SAVINGS

Mental Health:

Developed by experts, POWR offers practical, actionable advice to help you feel better. No one size fits all so there are a range of tools on offer with POWR.

Physical Wellbeing:

In this fast-paced world it becomes increasingly difficult to meet movement goals which reduce our risk of ill-health. MOVE brings together top Irish coaches to offer a large range of on demand classes.

Continuous Development:

The LEARNING platform brings together the best of online learning. Choose from top university courses to pursue professional development and career advancement or personal interest courses on hobbies you enjoy, with access to TED Talks, podcasts, books and more.

Financial Wellbeing:

The LIFESTYLE SAVINGS platform gives you access to discounts, savings and preferential rates across a huge range of brands and services, including essentials like groceries and fuel to help stretch your salary further. Particularly relevant with the ever-increasing cost of living.

By now you will have received your information pack on how to get the most out of wrkit. You will need your membership number (found on your membership card) to create your own personal account on the wrkit site, which you can access directly from the IGPNEA website home page or here: <https://irishpracticenurses.ie/wrkit/>

MJ mentioned members will need their membership number to sign up. This is on their membership card. The system is already live, and all members will receive an email in the next few days with full details. Full details will also be in the December edition of the journal.

THE CLINIC FOR THE WELL PEOPLE ISSUE

MJ mentioned everyone will remember from the emergency rep meeting that there had been an issue. MJ has now received a response from Sonja and Rachel. Firstly on the 10th November acknowledging MJ's email.

Then a follow up email on 24th November that basically said nothing to see here, we didn't do anything wrong.

It was sent but not signed so MJ had to clarify if this was just Sonja's response or both.

Sonja clarified it was just from her.

Sonja had stated she did not see the difference between our association Facebook page and the 'I am a General Practice Nurse' Facebook page.

MJ added that she then followed up with Rachel and Rachel responded that she did not know she had to notify the rest of the NEC when she received offers to work with nurses. She also had not looked at the Code of Conduct since she signed it.

MJ asked what everyone wants her to do with this at this stage as they have both clearly said it is nothing to do with them.

It was agreed that there isn't really much that can be done with this now.

The NEC have done what's needed and asked the questions, from the CRA point of view and issue was investigated so we have done everything we can.

MJ asked, as part of our Articles of Association should we allow continued membership of anyone breaching the Code of Conduct.

It was felt that we should maybe allow them to be members but not hold a committee role.

The whole aim of committee members is to boost and promote IGPNEA and GPN's in general so if someone is breaching the Code of Conduct it wouldn't be appropriate to hold a position in future.

It was also agreed that we would make it easier for anyone taking a role to understand the Code of Conduct and the role they have taken on to ensure they are aware of all of these things.

MJ asked if everyone is happy for us to write up the incident report on this and tighten up our policies around volunteers to prevent this happening again and support both IGPNEA and volunteers.

LAUNCH OF IGPNEA PRINCIPLES OF GENERAL PRACTICE NURSING COURSE

MJ announced we are launching our Principles of General Practice Nursing Course in January 2023.

The course is aimed at those nurses in the early stages of their general practice careers and those nurses considering joining general practice from another setting. It will give an understanding of the role carried out by general practice nurses (GPNs); the wide variety of skills required to work safely;

information on how to link to evidence-based educational resources for further learning and the opportunity for further career development within the general practice setting.

The course content has been strategically planned to orientate the participant to practice safely in their new working environment. The therapeutic relationship in general practice differs from that of the acute healthcare setting. Care interventions span all age groups, throughout the life course and across all fields of nursing. The course will afford the participant the opportunity to consolidate his/her prior learning with the knowledge and skills to manage and deliver quality care in a range of issues in the primary care environment, within the realms of wellness and prevention of chronic disease and multi morbidity.

Optimal support and direction will be provided for those who are taking the course while undertaking other significant work and family commitments. The course values peer to peer learning and utilises the experience of those more established GPNs to give practical advice on working in real-life settings, integrating theory and practice, which optimises patient care and practitioner development.

The course shall consist of 12 modules, delivered virtually via zoom, over a 6-week period followed by a face-to-face practical skills day. NMBI Category 1 approval for each module. There will be a limit of 30 participants per course. It is envisaged to run the course 3 times per year. The first will be in January, then March and September. All of the module tutors are experienced in working in general practice and will bring a unique insight into the practicalities of working in this exciting environment.

We have been working with the ICGP to facilitate nurses to log on to complete the course. MJ brief overview on what each module will cover and also the skills day. This information is all on our website.

The fee is €200 for members and €300 for non-members and MJ envisages that all members should be approaching their GP employer to pay.

It will not be recorded; the attendee must attend in person.

AH asked where it will be advertised and how non members will be able to see information about this.

MJ clarified that it will be on our website, Facebook, Twitter and we are hoping for it to be on the 'I am a General Practice Nurse' Facebook page.

It will also be in the GP's Forum journal and MJ is hoping it will be in the INMO journal too.

JF asked if it is just for new nurses as she would love to do it. MJ confirmed that its open to all nurses.

For more information or to apply to contact MO at admin@irishpracticenurses.ie

MO confirmed this will also be added to the website with the links for people to click and book.

LAUNCH OF DIABETES MASTERCLASS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ELI LILLY

MJ announced that we have partnered with Eli Lilly to run a Diabetes Masterclass.

It will start from the very basics. It will be a 10-module course. Each will have CPD points applied for with NMBI.

It will not be recorded as Eli Lilly do not permit for it to be recorded.

LAUNCH OF MENTAL HEALTH SERIES SPONSORED BY LUNDBECK

MJ confirmed that the first module of this has taken place on the 15th November and the recording is on our website. Full information is on our website.

The next module will be on Tuesday 7th March on 'Treating Depression' The 3rd module will be delivered at our conference and the final module on Perimenopause will take place in June.

EDUCATIONAL BURSARY AWARDS OPTIONS

MJ mentioned that we have been inundated with Pharma companies wanting to do something extra at the conference than just having a stand.

We need to come up with a few options and then develop a policy, so we are not favouring one company over the other.

Pharma companies want to support us by giving educational bursaries

Some suggestions include:

Clinical award as before

Educational bursary award as before

Travel bursary to a pharma conference (national and international)

Linking in with other Nursing Educational Associations (attend their conference)

Award for education champion (draw for those who attend our webinars regularly)

Highlight education undertaken by a GPN ((write an article for our journal on something undertaken to improve patient outcomes by a GPN)

All suggestions and ideas welcome

MJ asked all branches to have a think about ideas.

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION UPDATE AND CRA COMPLIANCE

The CRA have acknowledged receipt of the amendments as requested by them and passed as motions 1,2 and 3 at our AGM in October 2022.

They are now insisting that our Articles of Association be updated as per their recommendations as a matter of urgency. They note that there are many duplications of information and that some statements contradict each other.

Siobhan and Karen are working on blending our original articles with the CRA template.

You will be involved in approving / amending the final draft by furnishing the information to your branch members and feeding back their comments and suggestions.

We cannot do this without the input of the NEC reps. We are relying on you to help us achieve a speedy resolution to this matter. It has never been more important than now for us all to work together on this.

KC added that MO had sent them a version combining our articles and the CRA template. The black was the CRA template, the blue text was our articles and the red was where MO had changed words like 'Body' to 'Association'.

SL added that she has made some amendments and will send that back to MO.

PDC UPDATE

MC gave an update on the PDC activities. MC has sent a document to MO to share with everyone. It is something they have prepared for those that don't know what the PDC's do. MO confirmed she will send that out tomorrow.

MC confirmed that Mairead Murphy is now in post in CHO2 and covering Galway, Mayo and Roscommon she has been in the role 2 weeks now.

MJ and MC had met the week before in Cork after the CNO meeting and had a good talk about working together, etc. MC has gone back to her colleagues to discuss how they can engage more with us and how they can give us more updates and keep us in the loop. They will look at this in the new year and come back to us with some suggestions.

One thing that was discussed was the PDC's being members of the IGPNEA. MC wanted to stress that although they are not in clinical practice they want to stress that they are very much in General Practice and we are all working for the same goal. They want to grow the relationship.

MJ mentioned we haven't even had chance to discuss this within IGPNEA since they AGM.

MC reiterated that they are happy to comply by whatever terms we want to enable them to be members.

MJ asked if they discussed the issue of some being members and some not. MC confirmed that they have not discussed that. Just that they want to be members.

AOB

No other business was discussed.

NEXT NEC REPS MEETING

The next NEC meeting will be Monday 6th March 2023.

MEETING CLOSE

MJ wished everyone a happy Christmas and a note to remind their members to renew by the 31st December.

MJ officially closed the meeting at 11.10pm