

## **ARTHRITIS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**April 21, 2021**

**5:25 – 6:00 pm**

### **Committee Members Present**

Rachel Pigott (Chair)

Dr. Sumit Bassi

Linda Kline

### **Committee Members Absent**

Dr. Afton Thomas

Salliann Alborn

### **Maryland Department of Health Staff Present**

Dr. Olubukola Alonge

#### **1. Welcome**

Rachel called the meeting to order at 5:25 pm with members welcome. There was an additional ten-minute delay due to technology/ connection issues for one of the members. There was a quorum and a motion to approve minutes was made by Rachel with the minutes for January and March approved by all members present.

#### **2. Discussion**

Rachel stated that she spoke with the new Executive Director of the Arthritis Foundation, Dina Gordon who is interested in completing an application to sit on the HWC and the arthritis committee. Dina updated Rachel about an ongoing initiative that involves administration of the insights assessment which increases the organization's awareness of the needs of individuals living with arthritis to provide better service; the organization is currently looking for insight ambassadors who can help disseminate fliers. A suggestion was made to include this in our newsletters. A suggestion was also made to place the AOTA messaging on the AF website. Rachel also updated the team about the two creative considerations documents – for social media messaging related to the Walk for the Cure event and the AOTA infographic which had been sent to Kristi and the chair of the HWC for approval. An update was provided on the Walk for the Cure event registration which currently had 11 HWC members participating. She shared a link with the HWC during the prior advisory committee meeting. She recommended sharing the link with our various circles of influence to increase participation and donation of funds. Linda shared the event with her friends and colleagues and has been able to raise a decent amount of funds for the AF. Rachel shared with the team who commiserated with Dr Afton on the loss of her mom.

#### **3. Next Steps**

- Rachel will follow up with Dina on the connect group request during prior meetings.
- Buki will follow up on the status of the messaging requests.

#### **4. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm

**Next Meeting:** May 19, 2021; 5:00 – 6:00 PM