



**ASMBS Connecticut State Chapter Annual Meeting  
Wednesday, May 6, 2026 @ 5:30 p.m. CST**

**ASMBS Annual Meeting – HBG Convention Center, Room 210B, San Antonio, TX  
Zoom Link Shared  
Connecticut Chapter Membership Invited to Attend**

**Meeting Agenda – With Updates**

1. **Call to order, Welcome & Introductions:** Dr. Darren Tishler, President CT ASMBS
2. **Treasurer's Report:** Dr. Jennifer Schwartz, Treasurer & Katy Dunay
3. **Walk from Obesity 2026:** Aimee Fucci, Tammy Piel & Jane Sweeney
  - **Save The Date:** Sunday, October 4, 2026 @ 10 am
  - **Location:** Hubbard Park, 999 W. Main Street, Meriden
  - Thanks to all who supported the 2025 Event – **Top Walk Nationwide!!**
4. **Obesity Summit 2027 – Save the Date!**
  - **Location:** Foxwoods Resort, Premier Ballroom, 350 Trolley Line Blvd., Mashantucket, CT
  - **Date:** January 21-22, 2027
  - **Recruiting for the Planning Committee:** We will begin biweekly meetings of the committee beginning in June – please reach out to Dr. Papasavas, Dr. Tishler, Dr. Karen Gibbs or Katy Dunay
  - **Open Discussion/Review:** What went well? Where are opportunities to improve? Sponsorship – Outreach – Marketing – Collaboration
5. **2026 Election- Ballot Planning:** Dr. Darren Tishler – open discussion and invitation for members to engage and become more involved in the CT ASMBS Chapter
  - **Review of Membership** – Surgeons/Program Members
  - **Nomination for Open Positions:** Open Call – Option to nominate members with email to [ctasmbs@gmail.com](mailto:ctasmbs@gmail.com) – Nominations Open from 5/6/2026 – 5/24/2026.
  - **Election Process:** Ballot will be created with nominees for upcoming open positions, distributed to the current chapter members by 6/1/2026 and announcement of election results will be shared via email communication from the Board – announcement 6/15/2026, with new term to begin 7/1/2026

**Current Board of Directors – CT ASMBS:**

- **President:** Dr. Darren Tishler
  - **Vice President:** Dr. Karen Gibbs
  - **Secretary/Treasurer:** Dr. Jennifer Schwartz **\*\*Position Open June 2026 – Dr. Neil Floch Elected**
  - **Integrated Health Chair:** Dana Cantiello, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, CBN **\*\*Position Open June 2026 – Dr. Dale Bond Elected**
  - **STAR Access to Care Rep:** Dr. Aziz Benbrahim
  - **STAR Access to Care IH Rep (non-voting appointed):** Gabreille Berthiaume, DNP-C **\*\* Position Open June 2026 – Kristen McCartney, PA-C Elected**
  - **Member at Large:** Dr. Mia Shapiro
  - **Member at Large:** Dr. Randal Zhou **\*\* Position Open June 2026 – Dr. Ed Hannoush Elected**
  - **Member at Large:** Dr. Neil Floch **\*\* Position Vacant with Change in Position for Dr. Floch**
  - **Obesity Medicine Liaison (non-voting):** Dr. Devika Umashanker
  - **Past President:** Dr. Saber Ghiassi
6. **New Business:** Prepare for Advocacy work at the State Level in 2027 – Access to Care
  7. **Conclusion & Thank You to the Chapter Board for your service and advocacy work!**