**Granite State PNHP**

**Minutes, April 25, 2018**

1. Introductions
2. Minutes from March 28, 2018
3. Legislative Affairs
   1. SB 383 - Title: (New Title) “establishing a commission to recommend policies that will enhance access to affordable health care for all New Hampshire residents.” **just ITL’d*–***Ken (and perhaps Rep Richard McNamara)
   2. Medicaid Expansion status – Rob and Fred
4. Speakers Bureau - Camilla
   1. Monadnock Progressive Alliance Panel - 4/4 - Ken
   2. Libraries
   3. Rotary Clubs
5. Medical Students
   1. Summer Internship update – Ken
   2. Geisel/Dartmouth chapter leaders attended the SNaHP summit in New Orleans in early March
6. Materials - new Informational card – Susan
7. Affiliations – Susan
8. New business
   1. NH Business Review
   2. Seddon Savage planning to reach out to Annie Kuster
9. Treasurer's Report
10. Next meeting May  23, 2018

**Attending**:

Ken Dolkart

Jim Fieseher

Camilla Jones

Rob Kiefner

Donald Kollisch

Ahmed Kutty

Fred Portnoy

Gary Sobelson

1. Jim: My recent Letter to the Editor was answered by someone with a strong “individual rights” perspective.
   1. Ken: Medical Care is a necessity, not a “right”
   2. Jim: I am trying to decide whether to engage further.
   3. Rob: there are trolls out there who write anti-SP comments online
2. Introductions: Ahmed is welcomed home after 8 months absence
3. Minutes
   1. Gary Woods was an enthusiastic guest
4. Camilla: There is Federal legislation being proposed “Medicare Part E”, permitting citizens to “buy into” Medicare. In essence a Public Option
5. Legislative affairs
   1. Ken – SB383 has been ITL’d in the House Commerce Committee
      1. Dick McNamara will extract it for a House floor vote
      2. Ken: Ed Butler suggests “Why don’t you guys do this OUTSIDE of legislation”? By which he means do a study with UNH.
         1. Rob: I discussed this with UNH Health Policy group, Lucy Hodder: They would be interested in pursuing this, but we would have to raise the needed funding
         2. Gary: this means that the legislature is saying: “we do not represent the people, so the people have to organize themselves”
         3. Gary: what we need is a convener. Could JEANNE SHAHEEN convene a Senatorial Commission
            1. Gary/Ken: we **can** have a non-governmental Commission
      3. Ken: If we need to fund a Commission, how about posting an open letter in many daily newspapers “The State has decided to not fund a commission to explore health care”. Tom Clairmont reports that all Democratic candidates for the District 1 seat are pro-Single-Payer
         1. Camilla: how about funding it through GOFUNDME?
         2. Camilla: as we’ve discussed before, we could have a good TV Commercial
   2. Fred: Medicaid expansion SB313 was OTP in the House Finance Committee, going to the full house on May 2
      1. The “Commission to Evaluate” rules have been changed in bizarre ways
      2. Big rally on Wednesday, May 2, at 8am, at the State House
   3. Camilla: we’ve batted our heads against the wall for 3 years trying to get a Commission. It is time for other ideas.
      1. Don: we have gotten attention – which we’ve sought – by having legislation. Let’s keep it going.
6. Other ways to influence Democratic candidates
   1. Primary for the House Seat in District 1
      1. Tom Clairmont has spoken with one candidate. Could we reach out to the 7 or 8 candidates, all of whom state that they support Single-Payer
   2. Gary: we can think about reaching out to candidates for the State House.
7. Fred: Single-Payer is not yet a front-burner topic for Kent Street and other progressive organizations
   1. Rob: they are on-board, but this is not their top issues.
   2. Ahmed: Monadnock Progressive Alliance is committed
   3. Ken: Rights and Democracy is committed
8. Speakers Bureau – Camilla
   1. Ahmed: I will cheerily resume managing the Speakers Bureau
   2. Camilla: Chris Blair of Canterbury has offered to help with the Power Point slides for the Speakers Bureau, and POSSIBLY the Membership DataBase
      1. Don: have him focus on the NH data, rather than the national
      2. Camilla: I will have a DataBase person get in touch with Don
   3. Ken: Monadnock Progressive Alliance panel, organized by Jim Murphy
      1. Presenters
         1. Carl DiMatteo
         2. Marvin Malek and Betty Keller
         3. Ken Dolkart
      2. Well-attended, ~100 people, with good questions
   4. Woodsville and Canaan libraries – **Don** to contact
   5. Warren Library – **Cosy** to contact
   6. New Durham Library – **Camilla** to contact
   7. Peterborough and Keene libraries – **Ahmed** to contact
   8. Cosy hit a barrier with the Rumney library
9. Medical Students
   1. Don: the Geisel SNaHP chapter will continue next year with new leadership
   2. Ken: we are still recruiting students for the summer internship
10. Informational card – Susan seeking input
    1. Camilla: On back they can check off areas that they’re interested in.
    2. Jim: Would the card be KEPT by the public, or would they return it to us?
       1. Camilla: either
    3. Camilla: let’s wait until Susan is at the meeting
11. Ken: Susan has found Healthcare-Now affiliates in NH
    1. Ahmed: I will touch base with Susan about Healthcare-Now connections
12. New Business
    1. Liisa Rajala, Assoc Editor of NH Business Review writing an article about Single-Payer for their April issue
    2. Jeff Woodburn, the Democratic Leader in the Senate, is enthusiastic about Single-Payer
    3. Gary: Molly Kelly and Steve Marchand are running for the Democratic nomination for Governor
       1. Ken: I will reach out to Steve
       2. Ahmed: I will reach out to Molly
    4. Rob: I have sent out to everyone a copy of a proposal for the NH Democratic Party health Care policy, which might be endorsed by the Kent Street Coalition
    5. Don: One-Payer States organization can help us understand more about options
       1. Don: I will invite Phil Caper to phone into one of our next meetings to let us know the range of what states are doing
    6. Gary: we should be prepared to Bird-dog during this political season
       1. Collaborate with other organizations
    7. Rob: Would UNH invite Gerald Friedman to speak? I will try to corner Lucy Hodder to suggest it
    8. Rob/Gary: NHAFP is supporting initiatives at National AFP about Single Payer
13. Treasurer’s Report: our account now has $1294
14. Next meeting: May 23, 2018
    1. Agenda item: can we launch a Citizens Commission on Health Care for All