**Granite State PNHP**

**Agenda/Minutes**

**October 23, 2024 – Zoom**

Attending:

Ken Dolkart

Jim Fieseher

Kay Hillinger

Don Kollisch

Ahmed Kutty

Janet Perkins-Howland

Dixon Turner

1. Introductions
2. Minutes from September 25 - approved
3. Chapter activities
   1. Guaranteed issues
      1. Ken and Jim: NH legislation
         1. Rep LaMontagne and Schmidt may submit legislation regarding 6 crucial words from the statute that – if removed – would make guaranteed issue of MediGap Supplemental plans available at Community Rating.
         2. Jim: we should do our best to educate members of the Commerce committee before the official hearing
         3. Janet: can we see the highlights of the Bill?
            1. *Ken: I will ask Jess for the bill*
      2. Ken: Other states
         1. Ken: NY is well-protected
         2. Ken: Maine’s protection is multi-faceted and comprehensive. Will share a “cheat-sheet”
         3. Jim: NH “Day of Action” (Sept 30) re: Medicare Disadvantage - ask people to write our 4 congressional representatives
         4. Jim: we do not know how many responded to our campaign
         5. Jim: may have a connection (Laura Weigle) with Maggie Hassan who ?may want to meet with us?.
   2. NH Legislature
      1. Ken: last session, a bill was passed requiring Insurance Companies to respond quickly to Prior Authorization requests. Let’s look at that bill (HR561) to see who is involved.
         1. *Ken: I will reach out to Bill Palmer and Cynthia Rosenwald*
         2. *Don: I will reach out to Dave Nagel and Sue Prentiss*
      2. Janet: consider reaching out to the Chairs of HHS.
   3. Public education events
      1. UNH Health Law Symposium
         1. Ahmed: Deb Fournier interested in the HCA purchase of CMC, but opined that the State of NH may not have the leverage to stop the consolidation.
            1. *Don: I will ask Rob, who attended today’s community meeting about that merger, for a report*
      2. Dixon: I chatted with Chris Pappas about Medicare (Dis)Advantage, and gave him the PNHP report “Profits over People”
   4. Letters to the Editor and other postings
      1. Valley News Op-Ed – Ken Dolkart
         1. Re-posted to the NH-PNHP web-site
      2. Minnesota – Thomas Lane
         1. Thomas and Lin are re-writing it for the NH Bulletin
      3. Rob Kiefner had Op-Ed in Concord Monitor
4. National Issues
   1. Heal Medicare – fighting Medicare Advantage
      1. Ken: Some commercial insurance companies are dropping MA
5. Geisel SNaHP Chapter – no reports
   1. Don: I will reach out to ask how
6. New Business
   1. Janet: should PNHP help focus public attention on the lack of coordination of Health Records?
      1. Ken: recent Gallup polls: Americans no longer think that US health care is the best in the word.
      2. Jim: the VA – if it develops a national EHR – could be a model for the nation
   2. National Meeting – November 16 in Chicago
      1. Janet: when can we see the Recordings?
      2. Don: please donate to the Nicholas Skala Student Scholarship Fund
7. Treasurer’s Report - $935.03
8. Next Meeting - ?joint November/December – Dec. 11 (with Dec. 4th as Back-up)
   1. Perhaps joint meeting with Jim’s “NH Health Care Action Group”, esp if can get Maggie Hassan to attend