Granite State PNHP

Agenda

October 25, 2023

Attending:

Samy Amkieh

Ken Dolkart

Jim Fieseher

Kay Hillinger

Don Kollisch

Ahmed Kutty

1. Introductions
2. Minutes from September 27
   1. Ken: Marianne Williamson is in favor of HC4A
   2. *Samy: I will send out bird-dogging guidelines*
   3. Thomas: Dean Phillips (Congressman from Minnesota) will be in Concord, NH tomorrow in the Democratic FITN primary
3. Chapter activities
   1. Elect Convener – Don Kollisch elected; no one else volunteered
   2. NH Legislature –
      1. Status of our two bills – moribund
      2. Ken: Possible bill for 2024 session: instruct Dept of Health to apply for a CMS “AHEAD” grant which could establish a Cost-Control Commission (as in RI, CT, MA)
         1. Samy: the RI Office (OHIC) is staffed primarily by Health Insurance people, so it is seen as relatively toothless
         2. Gary: we have to be aware of our “mission drift” away from Single-Payer
         3. Ken: I hope to make a presentation about the AHEAD grant to the NH Commission on Interprofessional Primary Care Workforce
      3. Proposing a legislative "Health Care Caucus" – Ahmed
         1. There was a meeting with Peter Schmidt; Jonah Wheeler, Bill Palmer and Peter Leishman no-showed
         2. Gary: there has not previously been such a caucus
         3. Don: Peter Schmidt has offered to speak with David Nagel (R) and Jim Murphy (D)
         4. *Jim: I will ask Jessica LaMontagne to be in touch*
         5. Ahmed: Jonah has offered to be the main organizer
         6. *Ahmed: I will push Peter Schmidt to pull a meeting together*
      4. Newly established “Health Care Consumer Protection Trust Fund and Advisory Board”– Ken
         1. Who is the sponsor? *Thomas: I will try to find out*
            1. Will there be public hearings?
            2. Ken: Which entities will comment?
            3. *Resmiye: I can ask Matt Houde what he knows about this*
            4. *Gary: I can ask Ava Hawkes what she knows about this*
         2. Gary: we can discuss this with Lucy Hodder at the time of her visit to our chapter
      5. Gary: perhaps bird-dog Gubernatorial candidates
         1. *Ken: Cinde Warmington will be in Grantham soon; I will be there*
   3. Public education events
      1. Presentations
         1. Lions - Peterborough – Ahmed
            1. Great interest including small business people in Price/Cost control,
            2. 10 people
         2. Upper Valley Clinicians - Nov. 1 - Don
         3. Kendal-at-Hanover (Retirement Community) - Nov. 14 – Don
         4. Action in Manchester, organized by Rights and Democracy, protesting Aetna Insurance, Oct. 11 – Jim
            1. 18 people attended, blocked by a security guard
            2. Good anecdotal testimonials
            3. Jim: I spoke about the 2nd highest deductibles/co-insurance in the nation
            4. Jim: perhaps our chapter can have a more-robust social media presence
      2. “American Hospitals” movie screening
         1. Lebanon - Nov. 15 OSHER
         2. *Don: I will send out a notice*
         3. Ken: the movie will get wide release Nov. 10 on Amazon, Apple, Google play
      3. Franklin Pierce event – NH Insurance Dept. this Friday
   4. Many of us have written to Maggie Hassan re the appointment of a Health Insurance executive to be the public appointee to the Federal Medicare Trust Fund
      1. Gary: if progressive Senators, esp Bernie, are unhappy with this nomination, **they** will block it.
   5. Speakers at future meetings
      1. Lucy Hodder, Esq.  ?November
      2. Phil Lawson, MD (Littleton) or Benoit Gosselin MD (DHMC Lebanon) - trained in Canada
      3. Someone from NH Dept of Insurance?
      4. Someone from NH Dept of Health, e.g. Morissa Henn Sobelson, Deputy Commissioner?
      5. Ken: how about someone from the Legislative Commission on Interprofessional Workforce, esp re: Primary Care – Mary Bidgood Wilson
      6. Samy: how about someone to address labor, e.g. someone from CIR
         1. Resmiye: can we go on strike for a day or two?
   6. Ken: Facebook page
      1. Ken: the Facebook page is quiescent
      2. *Ken: I'm looking to have a student from SNaHP to assume editorship*
4. National Issues –
   1. National PNHP Campaign against Medicare Advantage and Privatization of both VA and Medicare
   2. PNHP Grand Rounds speaker training
      1. *Don: I will ask if it was taped*
   3. Annual Meeting 11/10-12/23 – Atlanta
      1. Ahmed and Don will attend
5. New Business
   1. Jim: will soon launch a Web-site for the **New Hampshire Healthcare Action Group**, based on the Seacoast
      1. Jim: can Ahmed and Ken send copies of Op-Eds and a biosketch?
6. Treasurer’s Report - $1334.93
   1. Anticipate spending $4-500 for the Nov. 1 event (fruit, cheese, soda, water)
7. Next meeting when?   In previous years we have avoided the two holidays (Thanksgiving and Christmas) by scheduling one meeting for early December, i.e. Dec. 6 or Dec. 13
   1. Many would prefer Dec. 6
   2. *Don: I will ask Lucy Hodder if Dec. 6 would work. If not, then either Dec. 5 or Dec. 7 – Zoom, please!*
   3. Gary: FYI, the NHMS building will likely be sold in the near future!