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!