**Granite State PNHP**

**Agenda/Minutes**

**October 26, 2022 – Zoom/In-person Hybrid**

Attending:

Ken Dolkart

Jim Fieseher

Don Kollisch

Ahmed Kutty (Zoom)

Thomas Lane

Peter Schmidt (Zoom)

1. Introductions
   1. Peter Schmidt (D-Dover x 20yrs) is a guest
2. Minutes from last meeting on September 28, 2022 accepted
3. Chapter activities
   1. Bill for the NH Legislature proposing an Interstate Compact for Single-Payer
      1. Revisions
         1. Peter: the “drafter” from OLS (Office of Legislative Services) is working on it (but also just delivered a baby).
            1. Peter: I control wording of the bill until it goes to the Committee. Then the Committee “owns” the bill and can change it at will. Therefore, if PNHP has changes, get them as soon as possible
            2. ***Ahmed, Thomas, and Jim – the Working Group – will work on it over the next week***
            3. Don: I will be out of town after Nov. 6, so the Working Group should communicate directly with Peter
         2. Peter: The bill will eventually get fiscal scoring from the Legislative Budget Assistant (LBA)
         3. Peter: “Organization Day” is December 7, at which time a Speaker is chosen
         4. The speaker assigns the bill to a Committee, likely Commerce and Consumer Affairs
      2. Dependence on Democrats winning?
         1. Peter: if Dems remain in minority, the Chair of Commerce would still be John Hunt, so the bill doesn’t stand a chance and would likely be ITL’d
            1. Peter: alternatively it could be sent out for “Interim Study” if there is some interest
            2. Peter: alternatively, if it is “tabled”, it could be brought back for the 2024 session
            3. Peter: Alternatively, if it is sent to a Sub-Committee, it may survive and be ready for next year
            4. Peter: expectation among legislators is that NH may have a Democratic House and Republican Senate
         2. Ahmed and Peter: It **might** be worth having hearings, for the purpose of Public Education
         3. Thomas: it might be more useful for us to work with colleagues from other states than to push for NH hearings
         4. Jim: would it be possible to have a pared-down bill that would pass a Republican majority if the neighboring states have passed their companion bills
         5. Ken: Perhaps we should have a different bill with broad public appeal, e.g. universal primary care, or (Peter) building Medicaid out from Healthy Kids (CHIP) to include adults
      3. Co-Sponsors
         1. Peter: Dr. Jerry Knirk would like to be a co-sponsor if he is re-elected
      4. Networking with activists in other states
         1. MC4A activists
            1. Thomas: there is a Massachusetts MC4A bill with 40% support. Perhaps a multi-state compact would have even more appeal
            2. Ahmed: Maine All-Care has not passed; perhaps a multi-state compact would have even more appeal
         2. Legislators
            1. Peter: I know 3-4 Maine legislators I can speak with
            2. Peter: I can reach out to a former-Senator friend in Massachusetts
            3. Peter: There is an organization called NCSL (National Conference of State Legislatures)
            4. ***Don: we can ask activists from the other NE states to identify sympathetic legislators***
   2. Public education events - Rotaries, Libraries, Businesses, Rural Hospitals
      1. Ken: I may reach out to Dick/Barbara Couch from HyperTherm to see if they would like to have a MC4A presentation
      2. Don: I have spoken with Tracy Hutchins from the Upper Valley Business Alliance, who is interested in the film “Fix It”
      3. Thomas: if we have an event in Hanover/Lebanon, I can help find a venue publicize it at the College
   3. Membership
      1. ***Jim: I have some Dover folk who might be interested in joining. I will send Don their e-mails***
   4. Op-eds, Letters to Editors, Radio
      1. Ken: I have recently submitted a LTE saying “vote Democratic”
      2. Don: Marvin Malek (VT-PNHP) was on Vermont Public Radio today discussion Medicare Advantage. Can we get onto NHPR?
         1. Jim/Ken: now that Laura Knoy is no longer on the air, there may not be a venue on NHPR
         2. ***Ken: there is a program called “Civics 101” that might be a target. I will reach out to them***
4. National issues
   1. Privatization of Medicare
      1. Ahmed: there is a small movement to stop Medicare Advantage plans from using the word “Medicare”
      2. Don: the “Medicare and You” booklet from CMS actively promotes Medicare Advantage
   2. Annual PNHP meeting in Boston 11/4-5/22, including New England Caucus meeting
      1. All of the Steering Committee except for Rob Kiefner will be there.
         1. Don and Ahmed – Saturday only
         2. Jim, Ken, and Thomas – Friday and Saturday
      2. Ken: Former NNE Internship interns will be at meeting
5. New Business
   1. Peter: I suggest reading the daily “Letters from an American” by Heather Cox Richardson
6. Treasurer's Report - $521.93
7. Next meeting - December 21