**Granite State PNHP**

**Agenda/Minutes**

**February 28, 2024**

Attending:

Lin Brown

Ken Dolkart

Kurt Ehrenberg (guest)

Kay Hillinger

Don Kollisch

Thomas Lane

Gary Sobelson

1. Introductions
2. Minutes from January 17 - including Lucy Hodder's talk – approved as written
3. Chapter activities
	1. Legislation follow-up
		1. HR23 (instruct congressional delegation to support Universal Health Insurance) – Lin, Kay
			1. Committee split 9-9 on party lines
			2. Disappointing that it is going to full House without recommendation
			3. *Don: We just heard from Rep. Lamontagne that the house vote will* ***not*** *be on Mar 7*
		2. Ken: VT has signed on to the CMMI “AHEAD” program, via the Green Mountain Care Board
	2. Presentations
		1. Meetings with staff of Senators Shaheen and Hassan – Ken
			1. Together with Jenn Coffey (who has a strong personal story with Medicare Advantage and Medicare)
			2. Staff from both offices will meet again with us again and will also meet with the interns
			3. Neither would commit to having their Senator sign the “Reform MA” letter
		2. *Don: I met briefly with Steve Ahern, Director, NH Hospital Association, who expressed interest in the Pennsylvania Rural Hospital program*
		3. Future meetings - hope to schedule an Upper Valley screening of "American Hospitals" movie
	3. UNH Franklin Pierce Symposium last week, February 23
		1. *Don: I will invite Deb Fournier, the symposium organizer to meet with us*
	4. Letters to the Editor (LTE’s)?
		1. Ken: LTE to Valley News about Medicare Advantage and will post it
	5. Speakers at future monthly meetings
		1. Neither of the two Canadian-trained NH physicians we solicited - Phil Lawson, MD (Littleton) or Benoit Gosselin MD (DHMC Lebanon) - have panned out
		2. Ken: let’s invite Cinde Warmington, Kelly Ayotte, Joyce Craig to one of our meetings
			1. All: yes!
			2. *Ken: I will invite Cinde Warmington and Joyce Craig*
			3. *Don: I will invite Kelly Ayotte and her competition*
		3. Thomas: consider inviting Mike Cryans
	6. NNE Summer Internship – donation $1350 from our Chapter?
		1. There are 20 applications; will plan to fund ~14
4. National Issues
	1. Nudging lapsed members to re-join
		1. Kay: I nudged a number of them. Most did not want to rejoin, because “it is a losing battle, given politics in Washington, DC. A couple said that they would rejoin. I think I sent the list to Lori
	2. Efforts to get Legislators - Pappas and Kuster - to sign this year's letter against Medicare Advantage
5. New Business - none
6. Treasurer’s Report - $941.03
7. Next meeting March 27, Zoom

Guest Speaker: Kurt Ehrenberg

He and colleagues have developed a web-site petition by which NH residents pledge to vote for candidates who will promote and vote for Universal Healthcare Coverage in the 2026campaigns. <https://www.603free.com/>.

We all expressed interest, and will post this on the list-serv.