**NH-PNHP**

**Agenda/Minutes**

**March 24, 2021**

Attending:

Camilla Jones

Don Kollisch

Ahmed Kutty

Cosy Santiago

1. Introductions not needed!
2. Minutes from February 24, 2021 approved
3. National Scene
   1. Ahmed: the House Bill – “Improved Medicare-for-all as a National Health Program" has a new number [HR1976](https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1976).
      1. Announced by 3 primary sponsors (available on YouTube)
   2. Ahmed: not much mainstream media coverage
      1. Ahmed: Why? Because the Dem leadership is fully behind improved premium support via the ACA (in the American Rescue Plan). Thus, the Insurance industry still controls high Deductibles and Co-Insurance.
      2. Ahmed: even Warren and Sanders seem to not be speaking out on healthcare issues (or at least not yet)
   3. Cosy: “premium support” is actually insurance company support!!
   4. Ahmed: cost control is not addressed, ?d/t AHIP influence
4. Membership Survey results – 15 responders
5. Chapter Activities
   1. List-serv - Can we post more MC4A updates on the List-serv.  Should we?  How and who?
      1. Don: let’s put this off
   2. Monthly meetings: can/should we have presentations? YES!!
      1. Ahmed: Outside speakers!
         1. Politicians’ staff: State democratic leadership
         2. National experts: Ed Weisbart, others
         3. State experts: Tyler Brannen (Perhaps: how are insurance premium costs allocated to the towns), Lucy Hodder (UNH), Keith Loud (DHMC Pediatrician), economist from UNH; media representatives, e.g. Laura Knoy; Dr. Wood (Cosy’s critic); Tom Clairmont
      2. Don: we need someone to keep the schedule
         1. Ahmed: I will
      3. Cosy: members on the list-serv should be solicited to suggest speakers
      4. Don: let’s have a vote. Shall we do this? 4-0 “yes”
         1. *Ahmed: I’ll ask Tom Clairmont “the Business Case”*
         2. *Don: I’ll ask Keith Loud “children” or “academia”*
         3. *Don: I’ll ask Lucy Hodder “state organizing” or “Economics”*
         4. *Cosy: I will seek someone who can address Single-Payer systems in middle-income nations – policies and/or individual patient experiences*
      5. *Don: I will put a notice on the List-Serv of this* “you spoke; we heard you!”
      6. Camilla: Should we offer a token honorarium?
         1. Ahmed: might not be necessary
         2. *Can offer $50/speaker*
   3. Speakers Bureau - NH Rotary List and spreadsheet
      1. Hanover Rotary presentation is scheduled for June 6
      2. *Don: I’ll send out a “pitch” for others to use*
      3. *Don: I’ll send out the Rotary List*
6. State Politics - The possibility of a NH Medical Society Resolution
   1. *Don: Mike Padmore says that he’ll get on i*t!
7. Town Meeting Warrant Articles - follow up
   * 1. One town - Rumney - defeated the article.
        1. Cosy: Dr. Wood’s criticism was that I did not secure votes in advance
        2. Cosy: Older residents - potential “yes” voters – left early because there were young un-masked residents hogging the back of the room
        3. Cosy: it WAS worth the effort
        4. Ahmed: Do it again, if you can. Repeat, repeat!
        5. Camilla/Don/Ahmed: we each could have repeated, if we had lost; but primarily because we had support.
        6. Don: Maybe any new towns that are considering this should only do it if there are at least TWO activists.
     2. Another town - Andover .
        1. Kent: the vote is pending. So far, there has been only criticism/opposition comments.
        2. *Don: I will reach out to Kent:* 
           1. *Ask supporters to speak out, perhaps with a Letter to the Editor*
           2. *Ask* ***Public Citizen*** *to help get out the vote*
     3. Two Cities are considering City Council Resolutions - we hope to hear more
        1. Dover – no representatives
        2. Keene
           1. Ahmed: Core group meets q2weeks (DeMatteo, Murphy, Stockman, Kutty)
           2. Scheduling meetings with individual Councilors
           3. Planning e-mail (~600 addresses from RaD) and text campaign messages to urge citizens to express support
           4. May have on Council agenda for May
           5. Group will draft a letter to the Keene Sentinel (to be signed by DeMatteo)
           6. Keene spends ~$5,000,000/yr on medical/dental insurance premiums. This doesn’t include School District
   1. Assist RaD with spreadsheet of NH Town health insurance premium expenditures
      1. Don: Heather says that RaD will continue to consider this
8. Student Issues:  2021 summer internship – no updates
9. Treasurer’s Report - $521.93
10. New business -
    1. Melissa Bernadin expressed interest in becoming our “staff” and helping to raise funds to make that possible
       1. We are too small
       2. We will suggest she reach out to another, larger organization
       3. *Don: I will answer her*
11. Next virtual meeting: April 28, 2021