**GS PNHP Meeting April 22 2020**

Ahmed Kutty, Susan Hale, Ken Dolkart, Camilla Jones, Kim Whitesell, Don Kollisch

**Agenda**

**April 22, 2020**

1. Introductions – Welcome to Dr Kim Whitesell, psychiatrist, grad of UCSF, trained at Yale, lives in Dover NH and advocate for M4All
2. Minutes from March 25, 2020 – reviewed and approved
3. Public Citizen “Town Meeting Warrant Article” project –
   1. resolutions passed at Holderness and Grantham
   2. Towns with Meetings pending - Peterborough, Hanover:put off until July due to pandemic;
   3. Tom Clairmont expresses some interest? for a City Council resolution in Portsmouth, NH
4. National Scene:

COVID-19 and Medicare-for-All - how can we not let this crisis go to waste?

Discussion:

1. Kim mentions that House Legislation proposed that would cover the costs of COBRA for newly uninsured who have lost ESI!
2. Ken relates that any such bill, if passed, must require strict regulation of insurance intermediaries to insure premiums expended only towards care, w/o profit, with return of any excess towards premiums to subscribers/taxpayers. (similar to existing national programs in Germany/Netherlands)
3. Ahmed mentions competing bill by Rep. AOC to allow those who have lost ESI and ineligible for Medicaid to be directly enrolled in medicare.
4. Proposals by Democratic Leadership:
   1. Ahmed notes that Biden proposing expanding age coverage to 60 for Medicare.
   2. Gary notes that Democratic leadership may be skittish of highly progressive bills as it is geared towards victory in November…

PNHP Activist phone call 4/23/20 9PM – Don will send notice

Letters to the Editor

ALWAYS mention it!

1. Legislative Affairs

State – are there any relevant bills?

1. Speakers Bureau - On-hold, ?except virtual meetings?
2. Student Issues –
   1. Update on Summer Internship – video-conferencing for 7 students, fund-raising to garner stipends for additional students underway.
   2. Geisel doings – Don is doing elective class on narrative medicine and interviewing. Med school is looking for other faculty to offer non-clinical electives for students, given their “down-time” with clinical work.

Anyone want to submit a Single-Payer elective?

5. Treasurer’s Report - $2,166

6.  New business: reaching out to inactive members- remind former members of our meetings and pursuits. Don will distribute excel list and members will contact colleagues

7.  Next meeting: May 27- doubtless still virtual -