**Granite State PNHP**

**Minutes**

**September 25, 2024 – NH Medical Society Office – Annual Meeting**

Attending:

Ken Dolkart

Jim Fieseher

Rob Kiefner

Don Kollisch

Ahmed Kutty

Resmiye Oral

Gary Sobelson

1. Introductions
2. Minutes from August 28 - accepted
3. Business Meeting
   1. Elect Steering Committee (Ken, Jim, Kay, Don, Ahmed) – unanimous
4. National Issues -
   1. Heal Medicare (i.e. fighting Medicare Advantage)
      1. PNHP chapters are doing various actions
      2. The Jayapal “anti-MA” letter was signed by more representatives than before
      3. NYS Unions have succeeded in stopping NYC and some unions from automatically enrolling new Medicare recipients on MA
      4. Ken: NH state employees are automatically enrolled in a newly-designed Anthem/BC/BS MA (which is a PPO) when Medicare eligible. But they can opt out. The MA program is actually pretty good; as a PPO it has a wide network.
      5. *Rob*: PNHP should perhaps update their “Our Pain, Their Profits”. Some information is out-of-date. *I may be able to point to relevant sections.*
   2. Adjusting to the National political shifts
      1. Ahmed: Harris says “strengthen ACA and control costs”
      2. Jim: Project 2025 is fighting price cuts
      3. Rob: Project 2025 would make MA the default Medicare choice for everyone
   3. National PNHP meeting November 16 in Chicago
      1. Don: caveat emptor regarding the suggested Hotel’s required add-ons
5. Chapter activities
   1. Medicare Advantage "Day of Action" campaign – Jim, Ken, Ahmed
      1. Jim: there is a tool-kit
         1. *All: Cover letter to send not only to PNHP but also others, e.g. Democratic Party groups, NH Health Care action, our State Reps*
         2. Sample letter to mail, e-mail, or call/read to 3 or 4 of the Congressional delegates
         3. List of contact information
         4. Talking points and references
      2. Jim, as goal is to e-mail on Sept. 30, send out notices today and remind again on Sept. 29
      3. *Don: I will publicize on the List-serv*
      4. *Ahmed: I will send it out to the RaD contact person*
      5. *Ken: I will send to Jenn Coffey*
      6. *Don: I will send to Maggie Goodlander*
      7. *Ken: send to specialty societies*
         1. *Ken: I will send to ACP leaders*
         2. *Rob: I will send to NHAFP leaders*
   2. NH Legislature
      1. Jim: Peter Schmidt and Jess LaMontagne are drafting a “guaranteed issue at community rating” bills
      2. *Ken: I will contact Jason Aziz (Health Economist with the NH Insurance Dept) about “guaranteed issue at community rating”*
      3. All: **Jonah Wheeler, Peter Leishman, David Nagel, Bill Palmer, Peter Schmidt** and **Jessica LaMontagne** are all still interested in a Health Care Caucus
   3. Public education events
      1. Ken: I was interviewed by Dan Wise on the AARP Community TV show
         1. “Pretty strong and no punches held”
         2. May or may not be aired
      2. *Don: I spoke with Mike Padmore to whom I will send materials.* Mike says*:* “NH AARP can only follow national policy”
      3. Film screening at DH-Lebanon – Don
         1. Don: key is to get publicity. I am speaking with a DHMC administrator about DHMC sponsorship/support
         2. Ken: the newsletter “Pulse” (from Geisel) might help
   4. Oct 17 UNH Health Law Symposium
      1. 3-5 of us will attend.
      2. *Don: I will contact Deb Fournier asking if we can table*
   5. Letters to the Editor (LTE’s)  or other postings
      1. *Jim*: Op-Ed to Union-Leader, Seacoast, and Concord Monitor comparing Medicare Part C to junk bonds. *I will post to the List-serv*
         1. *Don: I will send to National PNHP for posting*
6. Geisel SNaHP (Students for a National Health Program)
   1. Ken: there was a table at a Geisel activities fair that got 15 students’ signatures
   2. Ken: the Dean of the Rowan Osteopathic School of Medicine is interested in including the curriculum of the NNE Med Student Internship! National PNHP (Phil and Ed) might be interested and will follow-up
   3. Rob: can any of this material be included in the Geisel curriculum?
   4. Rob: consider being in touch with Guy DeFeo at the UNECOM
7. New Business
   1. ? are we interested in national EHR? - Janet
8. Treasurer’s Report - $935.03
9. Next meeting - October 23, Zoom only