

Minutes HCACF Board Meeting April 16, 2019

Present: Tom Gottlieb, Robert Messman, Elinor Christiansen, Shelly Dworet, Michele Swenson, Susan Gilbert

Absent: Vince Markovchick, Eldon VanderWege

Meeting convened: 2:40 pm

TG: Event with Michael Fine April 25 6:30-8:00pm. Vince M to be on panel.

March Meeting Minutes: Moved to accept – RM, seconded, EC

Follow-up

RM: Director's Insurance – Philadelphia Insurance Co.'s (only for 501C Organizations?) – Liability – Quoted \$565/yr for office/director - \$1 M coverage. Covers injury, accident, etc. Reject "terrorist" coverage.

RM: Lydia may have to send separate application for equal amount of insurance. Lydia: considering Internet Liability (slander, copyright). When Lydia responds to contract, proceed with insurance.

RM: Umbrella policy protects board members for liability individually.

Decided: Move forward with coverage.

RM: Discussion of Financial.

Interest invested in Treasury Bills.

RM: Most important - look at Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet. EC: Accept Treasurer's Report, SD: Second.

SG: Newsletter sent – many visits to website – one donation. Every other month would like to send email blast – topics? Include King Soopers update. EC: Include Stand Together Event; HCAC Annual Meeting 6-6-19 (Include in May update). Physician invited to do presentation – active member of PNHP – Name?___ Or Rick Beezer.

RM: Bring up proposed bills in Congress – with links, "contact congresspersons."

SG: Since Jan.1 – 4 people signed up to HCACF website; couple of online donations. Hits on website – increased some in March – correlation to postings...Many new visitors, less repeat visits.

SG: King Soopers – receipts \$207.... for quarter. Instructions to sign up for donations to group – under "Support Us" on website. Safeway cards not used much.

SG: Anything more the board would like me to do? Discussion with Lydia – requested 2 hours a week to set up website for Advocacy, etc. - Susan: "not the time or energy."

TG: R&E Committee – to provide feedback for articles for website, etc - not living up to responsibility. Should post only items that strongly support national public health insurance. TG will work on PNHI section. MS to help evaluate articles.

TG: Thanks to SG for reviving and maintaining active website.

SD: Article by Himmelstein, Woolhandler – taken to her legislator. Shelly will forward for review.

TG: Reluctance to accept Himmelstein/Woolhandler premise of buying out for-profit providers.

EC: Suggest putting Jayapal bill on website.

SG: Place introduction regarding agreement, and non-agreement with article.

RM: NYTimes publishing articles re: health care – different economists' views on proposed bills. They overlook benefits of states saving medical liability costs, etc. Question – inclusion of end of life directives?

TG: Need Approval: Definition of Social Insurance

Social Insurance is a type of insurance sponsored by the government. This type of insurance will be usually issued to persons facing particular peril. For example, insurance for health care is an example of social insurance. The object of social insurance programs is to transfer the risk faced by individuals to the government. The main characteristics of social insurance are:

- 1. it provides benefits, eligibility as provided by the Social Security Act;*
- 2. it provides for the accounting of income and expenses through a trust fund;*
- 3. it funds through taxes or premiums paid by participants (and others); and*
- 4. it serves a defined population.*

Social Health Insurance is governed by Title XVIII of the Social Security Act.

Approval of Definition of Social Insurance by Board – Moved & seconded – with adjustment (see above).

TG: Medicare-for-All – Includes "A through H" current coverage.

EC: Suggest we read & discuss new bill – **Medicare for All Act of 2019 (H.R. 1384)**, sponsor Rep. **Pramila Jayapal** – next meeting. To be discussed at HCAC annual meeting June 8

TG: Will write up Social Insurance for website.

Next Board Meeting: 5/20/19, 2:30pm – 4pm

Meeting adjourned at 4:10pm

Submitted by: Michele Swenson