

## HCACF Board Meeting Minutes May 20, 2019

Present: Shelley Cohen, Elinor Christiansen, Vince Markovchick, Tom Gottlieb, Michele Swenson, Susan Gilbert

Absent: Donna Smith, Robert Messman, Eldon VanDerWege

Meeting Start Time: 2:40 pm

TG: Meeting with South Denver Chamber of Commerce – one member supports SP – suggested follow-up

TG: Per Robert in April, most important 2 financial reports are Positive/negative revenue and ??

April Minutes approved.

SG: Email blast to go out in June, about middle of month – let Susan know of info to include.

Stats of website - (86 users April, 100+ in March when newsletter sent)

Many new visitors to website; steady return visits. Increased number of website hits with new postings. New Medicare for All bills have been posted on Website.

EC: Annual meeting June 8. 10am Dr. Rick Beiser/PNHP on new Medicare for All Act 2019 (Rep. Jayapal bill) – to compare with other bills.

MS: Website: Need to change some headers to clarify, particularly issues of Traditional Medicare v. Privatized Medicare Advantage. TG & MS will discuss at biweekly meeting.

SG: Marie Medina working 10 hrs/week for Advocacy – sharing office with Susan; Marie in on Wednesdays. There will be separate billing codes for HCAC Advocacy, HCAC Foundation, e.g., billing, using copy machine, etc..

TG: Website section Partners & Allies - does not include HCAC Advocacy (due to difficulty communicating with Nathan; perhaps will change with Jeannie Nicholson on Advocacy Board). Consider, announce adding Advocacy to Allies at Annual Meeting June 8 (?).

SG: Add PDA Denver on Website as "Ally." Perhaps add "Democratic Socialists of America" – with consent of Chris Diehn (secretary, SW Region, DSA - main focus Medicare for All). DSA coordinates with NNU.

TG: Other allies? UHCAN? (per VM - 25 years advocating for National SP).

SG: Website – several pages need updating. Bios – Let Susan know of changes, edits. Susan will send out existing Bios for updates.

SG: Gone the first couple weeks in June – out of office (May 30-June 12)

SG: Vision 2020 Network (Civicnetwork.io) – 2020 Outreach Team. Way to facilitate communication, share input, feedback. Related to CFPI addressing tax policy, TABOR Amendment in 2020.

Options to join Policy Team or Technology Team or Outreach Team. Learned about through CO Fiscal Policy Institute led by Carol Hedges. Several components – sharing method of messaging, being on the same page. Two-sided information sheet handed out. Check it out online – discuss next Board meeting?

VM: Medicare for All Talk (Session 4) will be finalized this week. Post all 4 talks on Website.

TG: Email of May 23: What theme do we wish to use re: presentation of research & education (with a fundraising event)? Handout with previous responses of board members & Susan. Look at previous ideas, evaluate and edit paper handed out by Tom (to be sent by email by Susan).

MS: Podcast progress -

Recorded a draft intro & outro that ends with image of "single risk pool" – "Everybody in the pool!" with sound effect of people jumping into a swimming pool. Would like to add music for intro/outro. A primary topic: what is and what is not Medicare (Medicare "Not," privatized Medicare Advantage). Wrestling with title, e.g., "Medicare Truth Squad" or "Medicare Truth Seekers." Have downloaded video by Wendell Potter ("Lies of Insurance Industry") & would like to incorporate with narration for a pod cast; Susan is posting video on Website under "Media" heading.

TG: Will call Donna and talk to her regarding time to work on different aspects of HC reform.

VM: Donna working with Public Citizen on Waste, Fraud & Abuse. Focusing on extra cost by-Medicare Advantage – how it is ripping off Medicare, CMS. Working with Eagan/Public Citizen. Donna & Vince working on section on physicians & hospital provider for publication. New leadership of NNU - may discontinue NurseTalk segment with Donna. Donna has suggested to E. Warren that a 1-year transition to MFA be done instead of 2-year. Both plans stipulate that nonprofits not become for-profits. Sanders' plan does not include LTC, House bill does – likely to be a big budget problem re: cost.

SG: There are at least 7 (or 9?) alternative Medicare plans from Congress. Plan buy-ins are only available to those who qualify for ACA Subsidies – cherry picks the healthy.

TG: Difficulty of LTC (as Canada discovered) - unable to do actuarial analysis for the next year. Becomes a problem with under- or over-estimation. There are a set of taxes for social supports in Europe (housing, transportation) – not part of healthcare services. Disagreement between Jyapal & Sanders. Need to do analysis. SS & Medicare set up the system – with a shortfall of money for actuarial analysis – difference made up with General Fund \$\$\$\$. Question of how to put together safeguards with fixed budget – in '60s or '70s, money was decreased if it ran out by June – not sustainable.

VM: Problem of big costs – institutional costs of LTC. Problem – numerous people with Alzheimers, etc.

SC: Home care should be an alternative; can set up within a housing complex, etc. Consider how to look outside of box for LTC that provides jobs, transportation, etc. Can train people (e.g., 800,000 jobs that will disappear with MFA).

TG: CFUHC – good at grassroots organizing.

VM: Bill (H19-1176) HC Cost Analysis. TG: governor has not signed – cost \$200,000. Passed in state for economic analysis – concern about what [form of bill] will be presented to analyze.

TG: This is not a financial analysis, which takes one-half to one million dollars. A separate analysis does comparison for a buy-in model. TG: Not for it or against the bill – an analysis was done previously.

TG: Specialty care for soldiers – a concern of VA nurse. VA is underfunded. Nurse's question: Should soldiers have access to MFA? VM: Funding? TG: Not specified in current bill.

EC: Soldiers now allowed to access private care.

TG: VA is needed for specialty care of soldiers.

EC: Equitable HC, get what you pay for? VM: Must call it a marketplace - not a system anymore.

EC: Need to compare House & Senate Medicare proposals in order to move forward.

VM: Ultimately the 2 bills will need to be combined.

EC: CFUCH – Meeting June 29 – Pipefitters Union No. Broadway. Wendell Potter will be keynote speaker. Possibly include policy discussion, etc. Hope Vince will participate in discussion with Rick Biezer June 8.

VM: Speaking to Freedom from Religion Group June 1.

EC: Republicans afraid that SP may gain traction if there is an honest analysis.

MS: I may not be on HCACF Google Group – not receiving email from Vince, who will add my name when sending to Google Groups.

Meeting concluded: 4:10 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Michele Swenson