

HCACF Board Meeting Minutes August 19, 2019

Present: Tom Gottlieb, Elinor Christiansen, Michele Swenson, Robert Messman, Donna Smith, Shelley Cohen,
Administrator Susan Gilbert
Absent: Eldon VanDerWege, Vince Markovchick

Meeting convened: 2:43 pm

Discussion

TG: Two months ago – money was given to other organizations – \$1,190 + \$500 to CUFHC (for Wendell Potter event)...\$40 to insurance for directors. Total to Advocacy: \$800; \$300 to other organizations.
Total Distributed: Almost \$1,700. \$660 to Advocacy for end of year letter. Advocacy did not share cost of end of year letter – cost regarded a donation by HCACF to HCAC Advocacy.

HCACF Total Income Fiscal Year 2018-19: \$11,300

TG: If we donate money, we should ask for copy of organization budget, e.g., for event, etc.

EC: HCAC Advocacy has a problem meeting costs – e.g., liability insurance for the advocacy group; half of the cost of office space. Advocacy discussing an event for next summer around Medicare for All, perhaps inviting Rep. Jayapal. SC: Previous events we have planned took about 6 months planning.

DS: Foundation needs to wait before supporting an Advocacy event. We need a budget, etc. Lydia wants to meet with Donna for discussion soon. Perhaps talk to Advocacy about being included in planning an education function? Will speak with Lydia.

TG: We could plan a joint event between HCACF & HCAC Advocacy. Tom also willing to meet with Lydia.

EC: Need to do grassroots education associated with an event.

TG: To reduce their costs, HCAC Advocacy could pay for PO Box, telephone instead of office; or HCACF could fund as a gift to Advocacy. Office cost \$250, discussed with Tiffany/CCLP.

EC: Advocacy now focused on federal level, not state reform

SC: It is important to stimulate interest in events for a larger attendance. Previous events made money from auctions, etc.

EC: Presenting a talk Sept. 12 at St. Andrews Village.

Old Business: Clarification & approval of July Financial Reports.

TG: Three documents need to be looked at critically. It is a Board responsibility to look over financial documents.

MS: At quarterly financial meetings, it is good to meet a half hour early to review questions about financial reports. July Financial Report approved by unanimous vote.

July Meeting Minutes: Approved by unanimous vote.

Annual Report: passed.

New Business

DS: Request budget support to attend HC NOW conference in Oregon – not to exceed \$500 total – will put together a budget to Robert M.

EC: Motion to pay for travel & lodging for HC NOW conference (Oct. 18, 19, 20) for Donna Smith up to \$500. Motion – passed.

DS: Will submit budget outline for HC NOW conference to Treasurer RM.

MS: Request for HCACF to underwrite *Truthseekers Podcast* produced by Michele Swenson through Denver Open Media in the amount of \$500 for 6 months. Discussion – With loss of Public Access contract through the City, Denver Open Media must charge members more for provision and maintenance of equipment and facilities. Underwriting would help

defray some costs.

DS: Motion to support \$500 underwriting for podcast – passed.

MS: Payment for underwriting is made to Open Media Foundation, nonprofit 501(c)(3). DOM receives 25% off the top of the underwriting dollars, members receive 75%, i.e., 75% is returned to the producer in the form of DOM bucks or cash reimbursements for documented expenses. There is a webform Underwriting Agreement, which I will fill out and obtain a copy. Attached is a letter required by DOM on HCACF letterhead regarding underwriting that I drafted, signed by HCACF Treasurer Robert Messman, for review by the Board.

Website

SG: Glossary composed for website – should be posted under "Library." After some persistence, HC NOW has listed HCACF on their website.

SG: Web statistics – last month visitors dropped dramatically – connected to number of articles posted? Activity rises with more web activity.

SG: Topic headings "Medicare" & "Medicare Advantage" added to website. Need to confer with Brian regarding changes to website. Authorization from Board to confer with Brian granted. Board consensus: Susan contact Brian & ask his fees.

Other Business

SG: Form for "in-kind" donations by Board members – activities, phoning, planning, meetings, events, mileage, etc. Favorite of 4 sample forms chosen. Susan will email selected form to everyone. Dated July-December, but can be set up for quarterly accounting. DS: This information is invaluable when seeking grants, etc.

DS: It has been a long time since HCACF has done a new piece of literature, brochure, handout, etc.

EC: Likes tri-fold form. SC: Likes palm card – smaller, easier to hand out. DS: Suggest creating this new literature in time to include with end-of-year letter; discuss at the September meeting.

RM: Wrote expanded definitions – maybe complementary to composed glossary.

SG: Suggests including links for the "expanded definitions" within the glossary – e.g., a "pop-up box."

TG: I view glossary as a dictionary with 1 or 2 sentences – suggest including expanded definition within a pop-up box.

PNHI Report

TG: TG & EVW rewriting recent paper "Pricing and Payment by a National Outpatient Prescription Drug Plan."

- ⑩ EVW writes technical papers, seeking criticism. The purpose of the paper is to describe current financing of Medicaid prescription plan, Commercial insurance prescription plan, and a new universal national prescription plan. TG suggested the paper needs rewriting to include financing of a national prescription plan. Conclusion: the paper is being rewritten to address this issue.

Second topic:

- ⑩ EVW suggests that the research work done should also be considered as position papers. TG disagrees, and further suggests that research papers, opinion papers and position papers all have different purposes. Discussion follows;
- ⑩ TG – asks if the HCACF board wants to proceed to develop a position paper based on research done?
- ⑩ DS – the purpose of HCACF is education and research, NOT to provide position papers.
- ⑩ SC – Consider a national prescription plan as a proposal and not a position paper.
- ⑩ No board conclusion or vote

Meeting adjourned: 4:07 pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Michele Swenson

HCACF Board member, Secretary