**Granite State PNHP**

**Minutes, October 9, 2014**

**Attendees:**

Mark Patnaude

Camilla Jones

John Swartz

Rob Kiefner

Don Kollisch

Gary Sobelson

Shanthi (Nuli) Venkatesan, NH DHHS, Director of Finance – A VERY WELCOME GUEST, WHOSE EXPERTISE WAS MUCH APPRECIATED!

Ahmed Kutty

Susan Zlotnick-Hale

**Phone attendees:** none

1. Minutes approved
2. Around NH
   1. Rob Kiefner – NH AFP will enthusiastically sponsor a resolutions to the AAFP Congress of Delegates which support Single-Payer
   2. Don presented “Health Care as a Human Right” to the Geisel School of Medicine student chapter of “Physicians for Human Rights”
   3. Shanti studied health-care equity at the State level when she wrote her Masters thesis
3. Susan trying to get a venue for “The Health-Care Movie”, especially one that’d be a co-sponsor
   1. Concord Library declined as being “too controversial”
   2. NH Tech Institute has a good auditorium
   3. Red River hasn’t answered
4. Draft Bill
   1. Rob: there was a conference call with Illinois activists
   2. Rob: Absence of content related to medical liability reform; defensive medicine may be costing the system many billions of dollars. This may be because of close ties between Democrats and trial lawyers.
      1. Is the solution “No fault” fund or caps on pain/suffering
      2. If we included tort reform in a single-payer bill, then we might get support from more doctors and from Republicans. On the other hand, it might be a distraction from the core value: universal access to care through a publically-funded system.
      3. Ahmed: let the Writing Group decide whether to have language related to Medical Liability
   3. John: change language to allow care in neighboring states, at rates set by NH
   4. Marc: without covering “financing”, there is no core to a bill; it leaves the engine out of the car.
      1. The bill should say that financing comes from Medicaid/Medicare waivers, as well as an employer premium and an employee contribution.
      2. Marc’s projection is that employer and employee 4% contributions will account for only 20-25% of current health care costs
      3. Shanthi: each “affected party” will comment on financial impact. Collectively, this will be summarized in the presentation of the bill. GS-PNHP should have its OWN financial analysis to counter those who are able to block it based on their own interests.
      4. Shathi: Consider having an impact statement ready regarding: citizens, physicians, hospitals
5. Next steps
   1. We need a “vision” statement as a preamble
   2. We need a title –
   3. We need a bill ready-to-go by next meeting
6. Sponsors to be contacted:
   1. Susanne Smith - Camilla
   2. Richard McNamara - Ahmed
   3. Jill Hammond - ?
   4. Catherine Tudish (from Grafton) - Don
   5. Dan xxxxxx (Senator from Concord) - Gary
7. Writing Committee to have a weekly conference call – next one Wed, Oct 15 at 7pm
8. Educational efforts
   1. Don to file an internship application
9. Membership
   1. No content at this meeting

Next meeting November 13, 2014