**Granite State PNHP**

**Minutes, September 28, 2016**

1. Introductions
2. Minutes from Aug 24
3. President Robert Zarr’s visit
4. HB1310
   1. Report on Sept 14 hearing
      1. Ahmed
      2. Camilla
      3. Ed (with videos!)
   2. Preparations
      1. Promoting the Bill
      2. Study Commission structure/logistics
5. Jodi Liu's paper 'Exploring Single payer Alternatives' - Ahmed
6. NH Med Society Letter – Don for Gary
7. Giving talks/showing movies
   1. Oct. 2, Upper Valley Humanists, Hanover
   2. Dec. 9, Temple Beth Jacob, Concord
8. New business
9. Next meeting: ?October 26

Attending:

Ed Helm

Camilla Jones

Rob Kiefner

Don Kollisch

Ahmed Kutty

1. Minutes read and accepted
2. Don: Pres. Zarr visited
   1. State-by-state solution vs. 676
   2. Vermont PNHP is not working further for a state solution
   3. Don: I will send out, again, Zarr’s Peds Grand Rounds web-site
   4. Ed: I am working with CATV to get a copy broadcast
3. HB1310
   1. Ahmed/Camilla: It was attended by Reps Sherman and Fothergill, who were cordial, courteous and engaged. The third sub-committee member, Rep. Emerson, was not there. Chairman Kotowski. They asked good questions. They enthusiastically voted that the Sub-Committee will recommend “yes” vote to the full committee. If the Committee votes “yes”, it will go to the Legislature in February.
   2. Camilla: I presented a series of NYTimes headlines from 2016 about the strain on patients by the ACA, including the uninsured and underinsured.
   3. Ed: an influential statement by Ahmed was “170 NH residents will die this year due to lack of insurance.”
   4. Ahmed: **Dr. Sherman says we CAN modify the bill prior to the bill going to the legislature.**
      1. Camilla: Why would we need to modify the bill?
   5. Ed: Dr. Sherman expressed “ownership”. He will shepherd the bill through the Senate next year, when he moves to the Senate.
   6. Ahmed: we might ask Dick McNamara to be the primary sponsor.
   7. Don: I will write to Tom Sherman asking him to work with Peter Leishman to be sure that the bill he reviewed on Sept. 12 is the correct bill
   8. Ed: there were 3 well-dressed observers at the hearing, who might have been lobbyists.
   9. Viewing the film: “What advice do the Representatives have for moving the bill forward?”
      1. Attend all of the Committee Hearings in January, with hand-outs and data
      2. Bring as many people as possible to the hearings, first at the House, and then in the Senate
      3. If possible bring a patient and an office administrator to the hearings, (talking about how much time/effort goes into billing insurance companies)
   10. The videographer, Will Hopkins, (Exec Dir NH Peace Action), described his problems.
   11. Camilla (on film): get videos of patients talking about access, underinsurance, etc. “I have a patient whose health insurance had a $10,000 deductible who is postponing needed surgery.”
   12. Ed: both FIXIT and The Healthcare Movie have updates/sequels.
   13. Rob: we thank Ahmed and Camilla for their testimony
   14. Camilla: I recently met a woman who received a hospital bill for $30,000 that she gradually paid off, using all of their sayings. Now that her husband died she is living on limited income.
4. Preparing for the next hearings
   1. Appeal to the NH AFP board and the PNHP List-Serv for patient stories
      1. Ed: Set up a table and video tape stories
      2. Rob: if an employed doctor solicits patient stories, s/he may be at risk of being disciplined by their employer
   2. We need 2 live patients and 1 live office administrator
5. Preparing for the Study Commission
   1. We will need patient stories
      1. Ahmed: the (defeated) Gubernatorial candidate Steve Marchand has a great story of his father’s finances badly damaged by the cardiac illness of his mother
   2. Don: We can learn from other States’ experiences
6. Ahmed: I offer to lead Task Force to find 2 patients from each legislative district who can be videotaped
   1. Ed: I will assist
7. Ed: GS-PNHP should write a check to NHCCM as an institutional member
   1. Don: send me the particulars
8. Ahmed: article by Jodi Liu’s paper “Exploring Single-Payer Alternatives”, published by Rand, describes $550 billion saved per year
   1. Don: put on the list-serv a recommendation that members read it
      1. Ahmed: I will
9. Don for Gary: NHMS Med Society newletter insert will go through, but Gary is working through some resistance.
10. Don: we now have an LCD
11. Up-coming presentation
    1. Don: Upper Valley Humanists
    2. Rob: I agree to be on post-film panel at Temple Beth Jacob on Dec 6
12. PNHP National Meeting, Washington, DC, Nov 19
    1. Don, Ahmed, Ed are going to attend
13. New business:
    1. Raising money
       1. Ed: checks from Richard Masters ($500), Ahmed Kutty ($250), Ed Helm ($250) to further our educational efforts
       2. Ed: we need another $500 to match Mr. Masters
       3. Ed: we will send a thank-you note to Mr. Masters
    2. Spending Money
       1. Lauren as staff
       2. Pay the videographer and the editor
14. Ahmed: I have, for distribution, BUMPER STICKERS and FANS