

NHLWAA
Executive Board Committee
Minutes
March 16, 2017

Present: Pat Murphy, Suzanne Carr, Todd Marsh, Ellen Tully, Liz Sayre, Charleen Michaud, Jill Jamro, Marilyn Ceriello Bresaw, Robert Mack, Lena Nichols, Karen Emis-Williams, Denise Grieg

1. Pat called the meeting to order at 9:32 am.

2. Minutes:

Correction to 1/19/17 minutes – NHLWAA – Karen Emis-Williams will attend state meetings, capitalize Concord. v. replace set with seat. Motion by Charlene, second by Karen, to approve with corrections. Approved. Pat will correct minutes for posting.

Pat brought up concern regarding refund if meeting cancelled. We have a cancellation policy and Feb. Board meeting was cancelled due to delayed school opening for Concord Schools but Association meeting was held. Cornerstone notified Pat that Concord schools changed the cancellation at 8:20 am and questioned if there should be a refund. Pat made the executive decision that if someone paid and called to say they did not attend due to seeing the school cancellation, they can get a credit. Discussion followed that included suggestions of amending policy, question how many involved, some reserve but don't pay until the day, NHLWAA has to pay for meals ordered, no one has requested refund yet. Decision to remain with what we have for now.

3. NHLWAA:

a. Executive Committee:

i. Treasurer's Report:

Year-end calendar report showed \$108 in office expenses for December. No changes in the Jan./Feb. report. Motion by Liz, second by Jill, to accept. Approved.

ii. NHHPP – Pat attended meeting sponsored by New Futures regarding the ACA Repeal. There was general discussion about what they thought could happen. Pat will send a copy of the plan and commentary. Next meeting 3/20/17 to look at proposed bill and Congresswoman Kuster will attend. RX data provided by NHLWAA did not seem to have much impact because the total dollars saved were not significant and there is no way to quantify the savings in other areas resulting in healthier citizens/community.

iii. DHHS – Mark Jewel would like to attend Exec. Committee meetings. Decision to invite Mark to the April meeting. Discussion about the value of being made aware of things happening with DHHS at the state level and impacts on local level.

iv. Next meeting 4/19

v. Electric Assistance Board representative to the PUC – Pat got call from Rory Patterson of the PUC who said they need a person from NHLWAA to sit on the Board – meets 4th Friday of first month of each quarter in PUC concord office. Karen volunteered to attend. Next meeting 4/28 at 9:00am.

Discussion followed about meetings with Eversource – purpose? Pat gave history of how meetings evolved. Steve Buckley of NHMA scheduled first meeting as a response to the number of calls he was getting regarding unreasonable payment arrangements especially around medical. Original meeting gave NHLWAA the opportunity to explain how eligibility is determined at the local level and local assessment of ability to pay. Meetings kept continuing and seemed to become a way for Eversource to implement new protocols without PUC authorization. This resulted in law suit filed by NHLA. Suggestion to wind up meetings cordially and that changes should go through PUC. Charlene and Jill will attend March meeting, Charlene will invite NHLA and Pat will check with Steve to see if he will attend. Present rules say that Municipalities can pay current bill. We need to continue to reinforce/encourage Eversource to work with municipalities. PUC has been relying on towns to resolve issues with Eversource.

vii. Public Health info on website – done under Other in Agenda below.

Committees:

- i. Technology – Cannot do easy fix to change DHHS waiver.
- ii. Legislative affairs – (Denise, Angela & Pat)
 1. State and Federal Updates – nothing to report
 2. SB 7 Food Stamps- Paul from Manchester will attend Finance Committee meeting for hearing on 3/21 at 9:00 am. Present legislation is attacking eligibility by
 - a. eliminating waivers - reducing eligibility from 185% of poverty to 130% of poverty resulting in a greater number of households not eligible for benefits.
 - b. ABWAD – relating to selling assets – how can people do work program without transportation?
 - c. Child Support will have to be involved – FS applicants would have to be in compliance and showing good faith effort to do so.

All of these will delay households getting food stamps, resulting in towns having to provide assistance for longer periods of time and costs always pass down to municipalities.

3. Local Welfare Fraud included in 167.17 a-c no longer active.

4. Conferences and Trainings

a. Meetings:

i. weather cancellation discussed earlier – see above

ii. April session: moved to Wednesday 4/19

1. AM session - Pro-Bono
2. PM session – NH Oral Health Coalition for Adults

iii. June 15, 2017 NHMA Welfare Conference

3. Mock Fair Hearing – Steve Buckley – is this in place of usual Welfare 101? We do not want to lose the value of training new people or selectmen. Jill will schedule meeting for training committee and Steve Buckley after April meeting.
4. Afternoon session to be determined at April meeting

5. Other

a. DHHS handout

b. Bedbug info on website – Pat was asked by a company out of Washington state to put

a link to their business on our website. Denise will research NH based companies and get links – would prefer to use NH based company.

c. Thank you from Jill for those who sponsored her “sleep out” on 3/24 to support Child and Family Services.

Motion by Charlene, second by Bob to adjourn at 11:32 am. Approved.

Elizabeth C. Sayre
NHLWAA Board Secretary