

NHLWAA
Executive Board Committee
Minutes
October 20, 2016

Present: Suzanne Carr, Liz Sayre, Marilyn Ceriello Bresaw, Todd Marsh, Sue Benoit, Bob Mack, Jackie Whatmough, Pat Murphy, Denise Grieg, Charleen Michaud, Lena Nichols, guest Karen Emis-Williams

Pat called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

Introductions of potential new Board member Karen Emis-Williams

Minutes: Correction to add Denise Grieg as present at the 9/15/16 meeting. Motion by Jackie, second by Charleen to accept minutes as corrected. Approved.

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- i. Treasurer's Report: Balance of \$31,490.35 Cornerstone bills are up to date. Motion by Liz, second by Suzanne to approve Treasurer's Report. Approved. There was discussion of attendance and number of people who pre-paid and registered for the Sept. meeting.
- ii. Eversource meeting. Pat, Jill and Denise from Manchester attended representing NHLWAA. Pat reported the meeting being somewhat contentious. Janice interpreted the PUC rules. Two NHLA reps were in attendance but did not say anything. Denise argued current bill as responsibility for local welfare, Janice disputed that. Following the meeting Pat talked with Amanda who corrected Janice's inaccurate interpretation of PUC rules. Denial of Service is 90 days, not 30 days. Expecting municipalities to pay 10%. Next meeting Consumer advocacy meeting 1/18/17 at 1:00pm in Manchester. Additional discussion: Hardship code negotiated to be unified. Each municipality needs to decide what to do about 10%.
- iii. Next meeting is 1/19/17 at 9:30 at LGC. Meetings cancelled for snow call NHMA. Suggested bad weather policy. Motion by Pat, second by Sue to cancel meeting if Concord Public Schools are closed. Approved.

Committees

- i. Technology – GAP training in August, Pat and Dana are on committee
- ii. Nominating – Nominations posted and vote will be at Annual Meeting.
- iii. Legislative – reminder by Bob that Welfare is not a benefits program but rather temporary emergency assistance.
 - A. Jackie reported on the state and federal budget. NH waiver for food stamps approved allow internet as a utility. Retailers want staggered food stamps but it would cost over \$100,000 to change the system.
 - B. SSI letters went out – SSI for a child is not counted as household income in determining state assistance. The state is trying to get TANF grant increased based on poverty level from 39% to 60%. People on TANF in subsidized

housing can apply for DHHS emergency assistance. Persons on TANF can apply for DHHS emergency assistance that will pay SD and FMR only if unit is affordable. Karen from DHHS will begin attending NHLWAA Board meetings.

C. Fraud 167.17 a-c – Bob is going to NHMA advocating for policy positions and legislation that NHMA would support. Similar to state – hold people accountable.

iv. By-laws – Denise to convene meeting in 2017.

Conferences/Training:

Meetings:

1. June conference – panel discussion – excellent. Discussion regarding money collected amount paid by NHMA. Were books sent out to participants including the model welfare guidelines – Who has received it?

2. November all set

3. Panel set

4. Business meeting and elections

5. February session – Emergency management – general preparedness info. What is the role of welfare in emergency response. Active Shooter, shelter in emergency situations, continuity of operations, reunification, Structure: federal, state, local role, homeland security field reps, functional needs. Ask Carol Totskie from HHS.

Other suggestions for February, Coordinated Access – Melissa Hatfield, Service Link, elderly

Other concerns mentioned: DHHS Release of Information, Still counting General Assistance as income.

Motion to adjourn by Liz, second by Suzanne. Meeting adjourned 11:29 am.

Elizabeth C. Sayre
NHLWAA Board Secretary