

## **NHARCH Annual Meeting and Board of Directors Minutes 2/8/22**

**Present:** Eldon Munson, Matt Gatzke, Linette Handschumaker, Alex Amann, Meghan Cook, Kris Andreozzi, Jeanne Donohoe, Sara Nadeau, Gary Cahoon, Michelle Pelham, Jen Skelton, Chris Kelliher, Amy Rauert, Deborah Burns, Pat Gray, Shannon Lynch and Alex Koutroubas

**ZOOM Board Meeting Called to Order:** 1:34 PM

**Approval of Minutes from January 11, 2022 Board Meeting & Annual Meeting:** A motion was made, seconded. A correction was requested for the spelling of the last name of Senator Machin. Approved.

**Approval of Financial Statement for January 11, 2022:** Alex and Matt reported that dues continue to come in. Several new residences have elected to join NHARCH in addition to several returning members (Cornerstone at Hampton (new), Hillsbrook Village (new) and Pond View (returning)). The financials still show a projected deficit for 2022. A motion was made, seconded. Approved.

**Review and Approval of FY 2022 Budget:** Alex submitted two budgets based on prior year expenses; the first with one conference and second with two conferences. Both versions show an overall loss but there are sufficient funds in the bank account to cover the deficit. Alex is unable to determine any additional expenses that could be reduced or eliminated to avoid the deficits but noted there is an opportunity for CARES training to bring in additional revenue as well as new membership. However, he also noted that some of the trainings during the pandemic had negative budgets and therefore it is difficult to forecast potential revenue or losses. Discussion centered around a decision about hosting one versus two conventions. Gary advocated for two days of conferences, at different times of the year, to ensure Administrators receive the required annual 12 hours of training for licensure. The consensus was that two conferences would be best from a budget perspective with the expectation that there would be enough training topics between CARES, legislative issues, etc. and reliance on internal experts could minimize costs. A motion was made to adopt the budget with two conferences, seconded. Approved.

**Convention/ Education Update:** Initial discussion centered around the CARES training scheduled for next Tuesday. There continue to be issues with the rollout of the new CARES process; DHHS has issued multiple versions and it is under review again with input from Jeanne Donohoe. Sections of the instructions are not clear. DHHS will be participating in the upcoming training via Zoom for 15 – 30 minutes to answer additional questions and concerns given the final version has not yet been released. Megan Cook will be conducting the training. The expectation is that DHHS will create a fillable version at some point to facilitate use of the document. The Education Committee will be setting a date for the next meeting to begin planning the two conferences and other trainings. The hope is that there will be a spring and fall training.

**Legislative Update:** Alex K. provided an overview of the legislative scene. Five bills were discussed at the previous Legislative Committee Meeting on 2/1/22.

Senate Bill 281: Applies to private pay facilities only and prohibits charging a notice period more than 10 days after a resident passes away. This bill was amended with input from NHARCH to address the concern regarding removal of personal belongings. The bill passed the Senate and has moved to the House.

Senate Bill 413: Relates to the independent audit and needs assessment for COVID: The Board agreed to monitor this bill only. It is anticipated it will not move forward. It is currently in interim study.

Adult Dental Benefits: There are two bills currently addressing dental benefits that are moving through both the House and Senate. A version of these bills is likely to pass given it can be funded initially by settlement funds valued at ~\$20 M. The Board is in support of this initiative.

Senate Bill 333: Relates to the licensing of Case Managers. The Board has no official position on this bill as it does not have a direct impact on residences. Case management agencies are in favor of being licensed.

Senate Bill 332: Relates to the LTC Stabilization Fund: The Board agreed again to only monitor this bill but not to take an official position at this time. There is concern over the fairness of this program (private pay residences are not eligible) as well as the payroll cost to residences.

At the next meeting, Alex will provide an update on the key bills related to vaccine mandates. They are being monitored only at this time due to the impact on workforce management.

The Legislative Committee will meet again on February 15<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM.

### **Old Business:**

Committees: An overview of each committee was provided with the current membership. Matt reminded attendees that committee membership can be extended to non-Board Members. The committees most in need of membership are: Membership, Communications, Nominating (only needed at election time) and Finance. Following the last meeting, Matt had requested members to select committees but did not receive a complete response. Several members volunteered during the meeting. Matt offered to send out an updated list following the meeting in order for additional volunteers to select committees.

### **New Business:**

Medication Management/Staffing: A sub-committee was formed under the leadership of Jeanne Donohue. An initial meeting was held with Kelly Keefe and additional DHHS representatives. Kelly expressed a willingness to continue the discussion. Jeanne noted that at the next meeting, the topic would be development of a poll of members for input on current practices and areas for potential rule changes. The goal is to meet with DHHS monthly. A primary concern is interpretation of the definition of “self-administration” and ensuring DHHS’ interpretation is more clearly defined in rule.

The next meeting will be on March 1, 2022 at 1:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned by 2:45 PM.

Minutes submitted by Sara Nadeau