

NHARCH Annual Meeting and Board of Directors Minutes 3/1/22

Present: Eldon Munson, Matt Gatzke, Linette Handschumaker, Alex Amann, Meghan Cook, Kris Andreozzi, Sara Nadeau, Gary Cahoon, Michelle Pelham, Jen Skelton, Amy Rauert, Chris Kelliher and Alex Koutroubas.

Absent: Deb Burns, Jeanne Donohoe, Pat Gray and Shannon Lynch.

ZOOM Board Meeting Called to Order: 1:34 PM

Approval of Minutes from February 8, 2022 Board Meeting: A motion was made, seconded. Approved.

Approval of Financial Statement for February 8, 2022: Due to this Board Meeting being scheduled a week early, financial statements for February were not yet available. Matt reported that annual dues payments continue to be received. Alex reported that there has been no update on the organization's tax status. If it is not resolved in time for the submission of 2021 taxes by March 15th he will file as he did last year.

Convention/ Education Update: Deb was unable to attend the meeting. Matt reported that the committee met last week. The goal of the meeting was to provide an overview of plans for the year. An initial CARES Tool Training was completed already and went well. However, Matt noted that the Tool is not yet final so this training will have to be updated once the final version is approved and released by DHHS. The next session will be in April. Currently, Meghan Cook is the only trainer. The Education Committee discussed sending out a survey to members on training needs. They further agreed on two separate conference dates, as opposed to a two-day conference. One will be in-person in the Fall and one will be in May – early June. The first session will be a Round-Table format for Administrators and no longer than four hours with a specific agenda of topics. A decision will need to be made on whether DHHS will be invited to participate in the Round-Table conference. Board Members also suggested one – two hour training sessions on stand-alone topics. One suggestion was a presentation/training by UniDine to address housekeeping and maintenance training as well as general kitchen training for clinical personnel. Another suggestion was training on the legal rights and responsibilities of Durable Power of Attorneys. Eldon suggested Sue Buxton or the Office of the Ombudsman to provide training on this specific topic. Another suggestion was training comparable to ServeSafe but a condensed version more appropriate for dietary aides. There was discussion that this training would need to be for knowledge only and not certification to avoid duplication with ServeSafe training. The Education Committee will meet again in March.

Legislative Update: Alex K. noted the Committee was scheduled to meet this morning but did not due to vacation for many legislators. He reported that the House and Senate are about seven – eight weeks into this legislative session and all bills have had their required public hearing and will now need to go to the floor. This will occur from May – early June. Alex listened to the Governor's State of the State Address and reported that no specific topics were addressed in the speech directly related to Long Term Care. Discussion on health care focused on mental health, as well as being a summary of past accomplishments as opposed to future goals. At the next Committee meeting, Alex will be focusing on the status of legislature related to vaccine/vaccine mandates. He noted most bills are focusing on a

“right of conscious” exemption. Eldon questioned whether the organization should form a Political Action Committee (PAC). Alex noted this would require a minimum of \$10K to have any impact. Eldon requested Alex put together a proposal and scenarios for the next meeting with the goal of obtaining more access to the candidates for governor.

Old Business:

Medication Management/Staffing: A sub-committee was formed under the leadership of Jeanne Donohue. An initial meeting occurred with Kelly Keefe and additional DHHS representatives. Kelly expressed a willingness to continue the discussion. The sub-committee formulated a survey for members around defining “self-administration”; feedback and approval of the survey from Eldon is pending. The impetus for this discussion is the lack of nurse staffing and lack of clear definition in rule of terms such as “self-administration”.

New Business:

LTC Staff Stipend: Alex reported that this bill is moving forward under the same terms as the prior program. It would run from July 1, 2022 – January 1, 2023. NHARCH has agreed to monitor this bill only.

The next meeting will be on April 12, 2022 at 1:30 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 PM.

Minutes submitted by Sara Nadeau