

MINUTEMAN NASHOBA HEALTH GROUP

Steering Committee Meeting

Bolton Public Library
Bolton, Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 29, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.

Steering Committee Members Present:

Donna Madden, Vice-Chair
Anthony Logalbo
Patrick McIntyre
Valerie Jenkins
Margaret Dennehey
Kerry Colburn-Dion
M. Lawrence Barton
John Flaherty
Lorraine Leonard

Town of Bolton
Treasurer, MNHG
Town of Clinton
Town of Groton
Town of Boxborough
Town of Tyngsborough
Town of Carlisle
Concord-Carlisle RSD
Town of Harvard

Guests Present:

Bill Hickey
Fred Winer
Rob Anderson
Jim Cavanaugh
Carol Cormier
Karen Carpenter

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care (HPHC)
Tufts Health Plan (THP)
Fallon Community Health Plan
Steward Health Care
Group Benefits Strategies (GBS)
Group Benefits Strategies (GBS)

Vice-Chair, Donna Madden, called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m..

Approval of the minutes of the December 19, 2011 meeting:

The approval of the minutes was postponed because they were unavailable. The Committee scheduled a Steering Committee meeting on April 3, 2012 at 10:05, prior to the Board meeting, to review the past meeting minutes.

GBS Reports:

Funding Rate Analysis through February 2012– Carol Cormier reviewed the report and said that the expense-to-funding ratio was very low at 83.5%. She said that the Tufts Medicare Complement Plan was discontinued on December 31, 2011 and said that now all of the MNHG retiree plans are insured plans, therefore they will not be eligible for the Retiree Drug Subsidy program.

HPHC Level Monthly Deposit Reconciliation - Ms. Cormier said that HPHC has owed MNHG over \$500K in settle-up money in each of the last 3 quarters and asked Mr. Hickey to have the amount of the level monthly deposit reviewed by HPHC underwriting. She said MNHG now has a credit balance of \$652K.

Stop Loss Reports –

CY11 reports: Karen Carpenter said that there were 3 claimants exceeding the deductible of \$250K with total claims of \$1,259,054. She said the reinsurance carrier has not yet applied any claims towards the \$400K ASD and there are no reimbursements to date. She said one of the two claimants is the one with the higher (\$500K) deductible. Ms. Carpenter reported 9 claimants exceeding the 50% level with claims totaling \$1.5 million.

Early Retiree Reimbursement Program (ERRP) Update- Karen Carpenter said that the ERRP reimbursement funds disbursed have reached \$5 billion, the program limit, and said that further reimbursements are pending. She

said that MNHG is over 1,000 down on a list to receive funds should they become available through the program. Ms. Carpenter said that MNHG has received total reimbursements of \$171,238.76.

Diabetes Program Report– Carol Cormier reviewed the Diabetes Program report since its inception date of December 1, 2011 and said that there are a total of 213 MNHG members eligible to utilize the program. She said that 31 are currently participating, which is 15% of those eligible. She said the target is 30%. Ms. Cormier said that over half of those participating are meeting all of the requirements and are obtaining free medications and supplies.

myMedicationAdvisor (MMA)- Carol Cormier said that the cost of Lipitor abroad through the import Rx program is less expensive than is the generic version in the US. She recommended keeping it on the list of MMA medications until it is no longer cost effective.

The Committee agreed with Ms. Cormier’s recommendation.

The Town of Groton’s Joint Purchase Agreement with the West Groton Water Supply District:

Valerie Jenkins said that the Town of Groton entered into a Joint Purchase Agreement (JPA) with the West Groton Water Supply District. She said that it is a small municipality of two employees and said that they have requested joining the MNHG through the Town of Groton.

Carol Cormier said that they are too small of a unit to review their claims experience.

The Committee had a discussion and agreed that an amendment to the JPA stating the Town of Groton has the right to terminate the agreement for failure to pay health insurance funding rates to the MNHG.

Ms. Cormier said that this could be addressed through a Memo of Understanding (MOU).

Margaret Dennehy made a motion to recommend to the Board to approve the West Groton Water Supply District through the Town of Groton with the proposed amendment or MOU.

Motion

Lorraine Leonard seconded the motion. Valerie Jenkins abstained. The motion passed by a majority vote.

Status on implementation of plan design changes and mitigation proposals by member units:

Carol Cormier said that she has received confirmation from all of the MNHG units regarding plan design agreements, except for the Towns of Stow and Ayer. She said that the Town of Ayer is expecting to finalize its agreement this week. Ms. Cormier said that the 60-day employee notices of changes will need to be mailed no later than Monday, April 2nd.

Tony Logalbo joined the meeting.

MNHG Chair and Steering Committee Vacancies:

Tony Logalbo said that the Nominating Committee proposes nominating Donna Madden for the position of MNHG Chairperson and Valerie Jenkins as the Vice Chair. He said that there is also a Steering Committee vacancy that is being considered by someone on the Board. Mr. Logalbo said that he expects to have the Nominating Committee Report and recommendations ready for the April 3rd Board meeting.

Treasurer’s Report:

Treasurer Tony Logalbo said that the Fund Balance as of December 31, 2011 continued the trend upwards in dramatic fashion. He said that the estimated Uncommitted Fund Balance was approximately \$5.2M (unaudited), which is about \$1M above the fund balance target.

Larry Barton noted that the \$600K level monthly deposit credit is not included as a receivable.

Health Plan Reports:

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care - Bill Hickey said that he is busy implementing all of the health plan changes, holding informational sessions and attending health fairs. He said that the HMO literature is finalized and that the PPO materials should be ready soon. He encouraged those that haven't held an informational session to consider having one. Mr. Hickey said that HPHC has a limited network option that was recently approved, but said that it is not a plan that would work for the MNHG area yet. Mr. Hickey said that he thinks the open enrollment packets were mailed out yesterday.

Tufts Health Plan – Fred Winer distributed and reviewed Medicare Part B and Part D monthly premium information for high income consumers and said that the premiums are higher for those with incomes of \$170K or higher.

The Committee asked Mr. Winer to speak about this at the April 3rd Board meeting.

Carol Cormier said that she will resend to the Board, the instructions for having employers automatically pay Part B late enrollment penalties directly to CMS.

Fallon Community Health Plan (FCHP)-

Rob Anderson distributed and reviewed a handout explaining what a deductible is and how it works with the FCHP plans. He said that he would send an electronic copy to the Board.

Mr. Anderson said that FCHP is affiliated with the Steward Health Care Systems and asked the Committee to consider offering the limited network option built exclusively around the Steward provider network in the future. He said that the costs would be 20% below the FCHP SelectCare plan. Mr. Anderson introduced Jim Cavanaugh from the Steward Health Care system.

Jim Cavanaugh said that the limited network health plan is a low cost option and is a fully integrated community care plan. He said that Nashoba Hospital is the closest facility to the MNHG employers and then listed additional facilities in the Steward network. Mr. Cavanaugh said that there are approximately 2,500 providers in the network and said that the plans provide tertiary care outside the network, but with a more restrictive determination process than a physician referral. He said the tertiary hospitals include Brigham and Womens , Dana Farber, and Mass. General. Mr. Cavanaugh suggested that the Committee review the network of providers and consider the plan in the future.

Rob Anderson said that he will check on the open enrollment materials and send them out to the units.

Other Business:

There was no other business.

Patrick McIntyre moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion

Margaret Dennehy seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Donna Madden adjourned the meeting at 11:10 AM.

*Prepared by Karen Carpenter
Group Benefits Strategies*