

Minuteman Nashoba Health Group

Steering Committee Meeting

Monday, December 9, 2019 at 9:00 AM

Groton Center Fire Station
Groton, MA

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Melisa Doig, Board Chair
Kevin Johnston
Debbie Nutter

Town of Groton
Town of Ayer
Town of Pepperell

Guests Present:

Ian Rhames, MNHG Treasurer
Brandi Mahlert
Al Saavedra
Liz Sampo
Tracy Pingalore
Kelly Hartnett
Theresa Bell
Bill Hickey
Katelyn Glennon
Patrick Flattery
Lisa Despres
Fred Winer
Carol Cormier
Christopher Nunnally

Concord Carlisle RSD
Lincoln Sudbury RSD
Aetna
Aetna
Aetna
Retiree First
Retiree First
Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
Fallon Health
Fallon Health
Tufts Health Plan
Tufts Health Plan
Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. (GBS)
Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. (GBS)

Melisa Doig, MNHG Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM.

Approval of the minutes of the September 24, 2019 meeting:

Debbie Nutter moved to approve the September 24, 2019 minutes.

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| Motion |
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Kevin Johnston seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Update:

Ian Rhames, Treasurer, said that the audit is moving along and close to being finalized. He said the Fund Balance at the end of November was \$5.3 million, an increase of \$1.9 million. He said the Fund Balance target is \$6.2 million.

Fund Balance Policy and Rate Stabilization:

Kevin Johnston said that there have been no changes to the proposed amendment to the Fund Balance Policy since the last meeting. He said the change is the addition of language on how to deal with a fund balance that has been below the target for the previous 12 months through the rate setting process.

Status of MNHG Participation for FY21:

Carol Cormier said that recently Ms. Doig and she had learned that Towns of Lancaster and Tyngsborough will withdraw from MNHG effective May 31, 2020. She said that they have been long-term members and that both are going to MIIA.

Senior Plan options – Aetna and Retiree First:

Carol Cormier said that it is important for the MNHG to continually explore cost saving options to keep rates down. She said that Aetna and Retiree First have been invited to meet with MNHG because they have offered very competitive senior plan rates and services to other clients. She asked the representatives of Aetna and Retiree First to introduce themselves.

Chris Nunnally reviewed the experience he had with Aetna and Retiree First with other Gallagher Benefit Services' clients.

Al Saavedra, Aetna, said that he would give a brief overview and give the full presentation to the Board following this meeting. He said Aetna is focusing on Massachusetts and public sector business. He said the team at this meeting has experience in the Public and Labor sectors. Mr. Saavedra said with the Aetna Medicare plan the member has access to any provider that accepts Medicare and that benefits would be equal or better than current plan benefits offered.

Kelly Hartnett, Retiree First, explained the services that Retiree First would provide. She described the services as “white glove” services. She said that RF is primarily an advocacy service for seniors and reviewed some of the services.

Other Business:

Bill Hickey, Harvard Pilgrim, and Lisa Despres, Tufts, spoke briefly about the merger agreement between Harvard Pilgrim and Tufts. They said things are moving along and they expect that there will be more information by the end of the summer. They said all contracts in place now will be honored until they expire.

There was no other business.

Kevin Johnston moved to adjourn.

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| Motion |
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Debbie Nutter seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Melisa Doig adjourned the Steering Committee meeting at 9:38 AM.

*Prepared by Carol Cormier
Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc.*