

**GENESEE COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH  
420 W. FIFTH AVENUE  
FLINT MI 48503  
RETIREE HEALTH CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
December 3, 2009**

RETIREES PRESENT:

P. Jordan, *Chair*, P. Casey, G. Stimson, D. Lee, M. Marcot, D. Simonds.  
*Via teleconference:* S. Higashi, G. Kennedy

RETIREES ABSENT:

L. Smith, R. Sprague, P. Primel, L. Allen, N. Bartkiw,

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

UNION MEMBERS PRESENT:

D. Simonds

STAFF PRESENT:

S. Mason, D. Malin, G. Nolkemper

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of/Additions to the Agenda

P. Jordan asked to change the order of the agenda. D. Malin, Contract Manager, will give website presentation first.

Retiree Web Page Changes

D. Malin went step by step through GCCMH web site and where to find Retiree information.

Approval of the Minutes from 10/01/09, 10/21/09, 10/29/09, and 11/05/09

Approval of the minutes for 10/01/09, 10/21/09, and 10/29/09 was completed through e-mail. G. Kennedy and S. Higashi informed the committee that they did not receive these minutes for approval.

*M. Marcot motion to approve the above listed minutes. G. Stimson seconded. D. Simonds asked that the 11/05/09 minutes be approved as provisional until all members have received a copy to review. P. Jordan moved to adopt minutes after discussion. S. Higashi and G. Kennedy abstained.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

Update on Insurance Options Election Process for 2010

S. Mason reviewed that the 65 and under packets were mailed out and the response from retirees, who have attended the information meetings, has been good. S. Mason left the meeting to check on the status of the 65 and over packets

P. Jordan updated the committee on his findings regarding Blue Cross/Blue Shields rate increase. The current increase was a error in mathematics, however, the increase is still 22%, which is high. D. Simonds recommend that P. Jordan's finds be sent to the Attorney General's Office so they are aware of the increase and they may or may not follow up.

The committee discussed whether providers will or will not accept the new Blue products. D. Simonds informed the committee that any where Blue Cross/Blue Shield is accepted; Blue Care Network Advantage and Blue Cross Advantage will also be accepted.

S. Mason returned to the meeting and informed the committee that the 65 and over packets were sent out on 12/02/09, with a December 15, 2009 deadline. The informational meetings are scheduled for 12/09/09 at 2:30 p.m., 12/11/09 at 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Meetings will be held in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Training room of the Main Building. Members asked if all insurance information and the enrollment form could be added to the website to assist retirees will meeting the deadline. S. Mason will follow up.

D. Simonds informed the committee that Insurance Company representatives were not available to the information meetings. Stress the importance of having representatives available at the meetings for 65 and older. S. Mason will follow up.

P. Jordan asked about the possibility of extended the deadline. What is the last possible day enrollment forms could be turned in? S. Mason speculated that the deadline could possibly be extended to 12/18/09, however she will follow up with Payroll.

G. Kennedy asked if his old insurance card will still work after 01/01/10. S. Mason does not believe the old card will work. Discussed concerns will not receiving insurance cards by 01/01/10 and how will bills be paid until the card is received? Several committee members explained that usually doctor's offices will bill you for services, which also shows how much the insurance company has approved to pay for services. You would then pay the bill when you receive it and will not be paying more than you should. D. Simonds recommend that you get prescriptions fill prior to 12-31-09, as most insurance approve a 3 months' supply. Also informed members that checks are available for the company carrier the HSA accounts.

D. Simonds informed members that Advance Care Pharmacy, located in the mail building, has allowed staff to run a tab and pay the bill when their insurance card is received. The Pharmacy is only opened from Monday through Friday, however, it may be beneficial for retirees to use this Pharmacy.

G. Stimson feels that a letter should be sent to the Board expressing the committee's dismay with the short period of time given to review insurance options and make a decision, as the Board approved the recommends at the end of October 2009.

*G. Stimson motioned that a letter be sent to the Board and include the following: "retirees must be given adequate time to consider insurance options, to do this, we recommend that the Board make its decision regarding such options by 09/15/10. G. Kennedy seconded.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

P. Jordan will draft a letter to the Board and will highlight the length of time issue.

#### Update on Declaratory Suit.

No information was available at this time.

## Discussion of Next Tasks for the Committee

The Committee discussed the need to clarify with the Board if the committee was helpful and if it needs to continue. D. Lee suggested that it should be researched, with retirees, if current representatives are still interested in being on the committee, how long they should be on the committee, and if retirees find the committee helpful and want it to continue.

G. Kennedy asked if retirees would look for information they received when they actually retired. G. Stimson informed the committee that she would have to look as she was Non-Union. Non-Union received what was in the Handbook. S. Higashi stated that the Handbook is an implied contract. S. Mason informed the committee that the Handbook is not a contract and the Handbook says it is not a contract.

Committee members asked if a link could be added to the website, which would take them to information regarding the Agencies finances. D. Simonds will follow up with A. Bailey.

P. Jordan and the committee discussed the need for sub-committees to work on specific areas. The subcommittees, intention, and retirees on each subcommittees is as follows:

Communications – S. Higashi, D. Simonds, G. Kennedy

Work on improving communication between retirees and CMH and compile information from retirees and communicating it to CMH with a health care follow up survey to be conducted 4-6 months following the insurance changes to identify the impact on retirees.

Organization – D. Lee, A. Bailey, P. Jordan

Work on formalizing the organization of the committee, to include, clarification of the duration of the committee, the length of members' terms and formalization of some things that we've implemented on an *ad hoc* basis.

Expanding Insurance Options – P. Casey, G. Stimson

Investigate alternative insurance options for the CMH retiree group.

Retiree Advocacy – S. Higashi, G. Kennedy, D. Simonds

Identify and formulate potential positions and potential recommendations regarding retiree interests, as far as health insurance is concerned.

The next meeting will be held on 01-14-10, at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room.

Adjourned at 11:33 p.m.

Submitted by: Chris Long, Human Resources Technician