

**GENESEE COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH
420 W. FIFTH AVENUE
FLINT MI 48503
RETIREE HEALTH CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
November 5, 2009**

RETIREES PRESENT:

G. Stimson, *Acting Chair*, D. Lee, G. Kennedy,

RETIREES ABSENT:

L. Smith, R. Sprague, P. Primel, L. Allen, N. Bartkiw, P. Jordan, M. Marcot, P. Casey, S. Higashi

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

UNION MEMBERS PRESENT:

D. Simonds, L. Hamilton

STAFF PRESENT:

S. Mason

Meeting called to order at 10:13 a.m.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of/Additions to the Agenda

G. Kennedy asked to add Advocacy role of the committee to the agenda, if there is time available. D. Lee suggested that a thank you be submitted to the Board for the opportunity to have this committee and if the Board intends to continue the committee for the next year. D. Lee also suggested that the committee have ongoing discussions throughout the year and not just 3 to 4 months prior to open enrollment. G. Kennedy motioned to accept the additions to the agenda. D. Lee seconded.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

D. Simonds informed the committee that she did have corrections to the minutes of 10/01/09 and 10/21/09. D. Simonds ask that the 4th paragraph of page 2 of the 10/01/09 minutes be corrected to include that she will follow up with Les Barrett. Attendance information needs to be corrected on the 10/21/09 minutes to include L. Hamilton, as she was at the meeting. Requested the correction of paragraph 5 on page 2 of the 10/21/09 minutes to clarify that J. DeLay did not provided a grid at the last committee meeting and D. Simonds asked for a comparison grid to be provided at the next meeting scheduled for 10/29/09.

Members discussed how best to get corrections from other committee members not present. G. Kennedy motioned to have the minutes e-mail to all members and have corrections submitted to C. Long. G. Stimson seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

D. Simonds offered to review her notes for the 10/29/09 minutes with C. Long, prior to sending out the minutes for 10/29/09. D. Simonds and C. Long will attempt to review corrections by 11/10/09 to the minutes prior to submitting to members.

Members discussed having deadlines to get the corrections and approval of the minutes to C. Long via e-mail. This will be a 2 step process. Minutes will be sent to members, via e-mail on Monday, 11/09/09 for corrections, with a deadline of 11-13-09. Members should make sure to reply to all to ensure that C. Long receives the corrections. After the corrections have been made the minutes will be sent to members for approval, via e-mail, with a deadline of 11/20/09.

Committee Member Contact Information on website – D. Simonds

D. Simonds ask that contact information, e-mail, be added to the website for all committee members. D. Simonds asked that her home e-mail address, dd1simonds@comcast.com listed as her contact information. G. Kennedy remarked he thought the contact information was already on the website as previously agreed to by committee members. D. Simonds reviewed that initially this information was not listed due to the survey and wanting to make sure all the surveys were sent to S. Higashi and all the committee members. If memory is correct it was approved to add the contact information, but no time line was decided. G. Kennedy would like to know the number of retirees who do not have or use a computer.

Discussion of How to Inform Retirees regarding insurance options for 2010.

G. Stimson asked S. Mason if these was handled through her office or Business Operations. S. Mason informed the committee that notification to retirees is handled in Business Operations. G. Kennedy reminded the committee that letters were sent last year. One letter was regarding open enrollment and options. Another letter informed retirees of meeting, with Representatives of the carriers, dates and times.

Members inquired about what the Board decided at their meeting on 10/29/09. The committee recommendation for 65 and older or disabled and buy up options for 65 and under were approved, per D. Simonds, based on information provided to her by a steward, who attended the meeting. Medicare eligible retirees: Medicare Plus Blue Advantage (BCBS). Also available will be BCN Advantage. Current Health Plus-insured retirees may buy up to Health Plus if they want to keep it. Non-Medicare eligible retirees: BCBS Flex Blue w/Co-insurance, Health Plus will also be available at no additional cost.

L. Hamilton informed members that the office co-pay will remain \$10 and the prescription co-pay will remain \$10/\$20.

G. Kennedy recommended that the options be listed exactly as they are in the letters being sent to retirees. D. Lee informed the committee that there was 1 year in which he did not receive any information about insurances, not even open enrollment.

After much discussion, G. Stimson summarized that letters need to be sent out as before and should include a detailed grid with benefits-at-a-glance providing what is covered and what is not, as well as, setting up meeting dates with Representatives for explanation of benefits.

D. Simonds expressed the need to have contact information for the insurance carriers, so that individuals with concerns about specific coverage can contact the carrier directly to get their

questions answered. Suggested that a contact name and phone number be included in the letters being sent to retirees.

L. Hamilton agreed with D. Simonds, and also suggested that a customer services number would work as well as a contact person, as customer services departments have access to the plan and would be able to answer questions as well.

G. Kennedy inquired about who a retiree would contact at CMH to get answers to questions, instead of having several retirees contact committee members themselves. D. Simonds reminded the committee that retirees should contact her or S. Mason.

S. Mason spoke with J. DeLay on the phone and confirmed that letters will be sent out to retirees either on 11/6/09 or 11/9/09. The letters will include meeting times, with representatives, for morning, afternoon, and evenings. Copies of the letters will be on the website.

The committee discuss including committee information in the packets. G. Stimson stated that as long as the information was on the website it should be sufficient.

G. Kennedy inquired about when these changes take effect. The representative at the presentation on 10/21/09 stated that the changes will go into effect 02/01/10. S. Mason informed the committee that she believed the changes go into effect 01-01-10. S. Mason will get clarification.

D. Lee informed the committee that he does not believe contact names and numbers will be provided to retirees. D. Lee motion to have all questions posted on the website, as they are received, which will help to create a frequently asked questions area. G. Kennedy seconded.

The committee discussed the desire to review the packets, prior to being sent out. D. Lee volunteered to meet with J. DeLay to review the packets. S. Mason will follow up with J. DeLay to see if this is possible.

D. Lee stated that there is limited time for retirees to make a decision on coverage, as it has to be made by 11-15-09. After that date retirees are auto enrolled.

D. Simonds inquired about getting a copy of the packet. S. Mason will follow up with J. DeLay

The committee inquired about members getting copies of both packets, 65 and older and under 65. S. Mason will follow up with J. DeLay about the possibility.

G. Kennedy informed the committee, that until the Blue Cross/Blue Shields presentation he did not know what co-insurance meant. The presentation was helpful in explaining what co-insurance was. D. Simonds suggested having a listing on insurance terms and what them mean available to retirees. D. Lee supported. G. Kennedy seconded.

D. Lee inquired about BCN continuing to be offered to non-Medicare eligible individuals. D. Lee stressed the need for consistent information, which has been lacking.

G. Kennedy and G. Stimson responded that BCN is no longer an option.

D. Simonds ask that the minutes of 10/21/09 be corrected to reflect that Health Plus was still an option.

D. Simonds asked that the minutes of 10/29/09 be corrected to reflect that individuals are able to enroll in both BCN and Medicare Plus Blue Advantage.

Discussion of Next Tasks for the Committee (and meeting intervals) – D. Simonds

G. Kennedy suggested that this be table for the next meeting. Committee agreed.

Member Comments

None.

Next Meeting Date

The committee agreed to stick with the new schedule of the first Thursday of the month. The next meeting will be December 3, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

G. Kennedy reminded the committee that retirees who spend the winter out of state will have a delay in getting their packets due to forwarding. G. Kennedy asked if as much advance notice as possible can be given so that those retirees can keep an eye out for the packet.

Adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Submitted by: Chris Long, Human Resources Technician