

NHMS Council Meeting Minutes

6/12/24; Zoom and in person

Scheduled 5-6:30 pm

Present via zoom: Ross Bickford, George Letterio, Audrey Kern, Linda Martino, Frances Lim-Liberty, Maria Boylan, Eric Loo, Travis Harker, Tessa Lafortune-Greenberg, Victoria Jones, Marc Bertrand, Stephen Bishop, Mark Windt, Marie Ramas, Lucy Hodder, Robert Laflam, Lisa Patterson, Franklin Hubbell, Lin Brown, Jane Tewksbury, Ava Hawkes

Present in person: Danielle Albushies, Gary Sobelson, John Hink, Eric Kropp, Seddon Savage, Angela Yerdon

1. **President's Report** *Danielle Albushies, MD* in place of Maria Boylan, DO
 - a. Motion to Approve minutes from 5/2024, seconded, passed unanimously.
2. **CEO Search Update** *Travis Harker, MD*
 - a. One more interview with finalist for the position, Cathy Stratton – June 17th 3:30-4:30 for Council members to meet in the office or zoom for questions and answers. Goal to reach a decision with recommendation by the search committee and vote by the Board. by the next Council Meeting 7/2024.
3. **Director of Advocacy Report** *Ava Hawkes*
 - a. 2024 Brief Legislative Wrap-up
 - b. NH Physicians PAC; Discussion prior to recommended vote to determine if the PAC should be re-established
 - i. Are there providers with time to dedicate to forming a PAC? Anticipated time commitment- initially twice weekly. Not as frequent once set up. Do we need a PAC? The reality is that financial support of candidates is important. An increased presence via a PAC will help us build relationships with legislators. Having a PAC would enable Ava to have more face time with legislators. PAC would be a separate entity from the Board and Council with no administrative help from the NHMS staff. Lucy Hodder is willing to investigate the rules and regulations on PAC formation with Ava.
 - ii. Motion made with a recommendation to the Board of the NHMS to re-establish a PAC, seconded, Yes – 17, Oppose – 4, Abstain – 0.
 - c. Legislative wrap up Session is 6/19/24 6-7:30- only in person with light refreshments
 - d. Advocacy 101 training for NHMS membership options discussed.
 - e. Leadership Summit and Strategic Planning for NHMS Council. Summer is too busy. Recommendation for 12/2024 with a Seacoast option location/Grafton Medical Society.

- f. Discussed a NHMS hosted event for Gubernatorial candidates. Summer discussed but recommended for 9/10/24.

4. **NHMS Policies**

Danielle Albushies, MD

- a. Review of survey from link sent out to the entire membership 5/12/2024 via email regarding the draft policy “Evidence Based Care for Transgender and Gender-Diverse Individuals” 27 responses with 20 “Timely and Important” with supportive comments reviewed; 7 “I have reservations” with written concerns. Reviewed in their entirety with time to discuss. There was a thorough conversation with experts on the Council to address the comments with evidence and practical experience driving the conversation.
- b. An edit to the document was agreed upon by majority vote that the phrase “When this care is indicated” will be added to the third Whereas prior to the ...”may include” list of services.
- c. A motion was made to adopt the policy “Evidence Based Care for Transgender and Gender-Diverse Individuals” with the above edit; Seconded; Yes- 21; Oppose – 1; Abstain – 2.

Motion to adjourn 6:40 pm, seconded and approved.

Next meeting 7/10/24; 5-630 pm

Submitted by Danielle Albushies, MD