

Minutes - APPROVED
Nominations and Engagement Committee
April 11, 2022 – 3:30 p.m.
Remote Meeting by Zoom

Present: Shondrea Cobb on behalf of Ed Fairbrother, Jim Bower, Gary Mutchler
Vacancy: One seat
Excused: Terrance Baxter
Staff/Guests: Elin Dowd, Executive Director; Michelle Cocco, Clerk of the Board; Judy Drake, Chair of the Board; Kylie Rodrigues, Benefits Specialist; Teri Apalovich, Finance Manager

Call to Order

Mr. Fairbrother, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Changes to the Agenda

The minutes were deferred to the next meeting.

Executive Director Report

Ms. Dowd said the Executive Committee met last week and is looking forward to discussing long-range planning in May. She said Mr. Bower is making progress working with CSEA in trying to get representatives to attend meetings of the Joint Committee on Plan Structure and Design.

Ms. Dowd reported there is a vacancy on the Nominations and Engagement Committee; efforts to fill that seat have not yielded a representative.

2023 Committee Membership

During discussion of 2023 Executive Committee membership, Ms. Drake announced she will be stepping down from the position of Board Chair. Ms. Dowd said as a result of this it is likely the Vice Chair, Rordan Hart, will be recommended to fill the position of Board Chair and this would result in a vacancy in the Vice Chair position. Also, Mr. Shattuck's term as Village of Union Springs Mayor will expire in April of 2023 and he will not be seeking re-election; this will result in an additional vacancy on the Executive Committee. Ms. Dowd spoke of the resignation of Chris Wagner and said there should be consideration of having representation again by Seneca County.

Ms. Dowd said Mr. Fairbrother suggested Rita McCarthy from the Town of Erwin be considered for membership on a committee. Also, there have been discussions with the City of Cortland about serving, as Mack Cook left the City at the end of 2021.

Mr. Mutchler said he would be willing serve as Chair of the Nominations Committee if Mr. Fairbrother would be willing to serve as Vice Chair of the Board of Directors.

Ms. Dowd reported Nancy Webster has left employment with Tompkins County which will leave the labor seat and the position of Vice Chair on the Operations Committee vacant. Mr. Bower said he expects replacements to be announced soon for both Tompkins County CSEA labor seats. Mr. Bower said it appears with one exception Labor Directors are from Tompkins County and said he hopes membership can be expanded to include labor from other areas.

Prior to the next meeting Ms. Dowd will speak to Mr. Fairbrother to see if he would be interested in changing seats and will present the Committee with a draft roster for discussion at the next meeting.

Board Retreat Agenda

Ms. Dowd reviewed topics that have been covered in the August educational retreat and said it has been suggested that the agenda items include: an update on strategic planning, Medicare options that are available and how to manage this at the Consortium. With regard to strategic planning it has been suggested guest speakers be invited, such as the CEO from Cayuga Medical Center, to talk about the increasing costs of medicine and their predictions of costs and how to plan effectively for mitigating risks. A second suggestion was to invite the CEO from Excellus or someone from Excellus to talk about risk levels and growth and how the Consortium should be prepared for growth and its associated risks.

Mr. Bower said he likes getting both a local and broad perspective as the Consortium has moved into a new area. Ms. Drake said she likes the idea of looking at how much risk and reserving the Consortium should be looking at. Mr. Mutchler said a representative of a medical center will likely talk about increased costs and what the Consortium will have to pay, and although on a bigger scale, Excellus is in the same business as the Consortium and may provide insight on how to handle things. Mr. Bower suggested Cayuga Medical Center would be able to give information on medical trends and utilization, as well as growth into new territories. Ms. Dowd said the Consortium will see a growth in providers as it moves into other areas.

Ms. Drake said she would like to know what topics and programs Segal is talking about right now. Ms. Dowd said a topic that was discussed with Locey and Cahill today was utilizing shared service money, particularly for new members. She said there is access to some funds and thought will need to be given to this as part of strategic planning as well as part of the Medicare Advantage discussions.

Ms. Dowd spoke of member engagement and what is working and what can be improved as this is the second year of the new governance structure with the Board not meeting on a regular basis. She spoke of marketing materials that are being distributed today that members can share with other municipalities and asked members if they know of ways to further engage with members to let her know. She said efforts are being made to increase member involvement in marketing as that has resulted in success in the past. Ms. Drake said an ongoing challenge will be the need to continue to re-educate members due to turnover in staff and Directors as well as a lack of engagement during the year. Ms. Drake suggested to continue to incorporate polls in meetings.

Next meeting

At the next meeting the following will be presented:

- Potential changes to 2023 committee membership;
- An update from Ms. Dowd on Board Retreat guests; and
- A report on topics Segal thinks are important and what resources might be available

Ms. Dowd said there had been discussion of holding the Retreat or Annual Meeting with a dinner; this will be considered in the next couple of months while monitoring the situation with Covid variants.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.