

**West Suburban Health Group
Steering Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 10:30 AM
Dedham Town Hall, Dedham, MA

Meeting Minutes

Steering Committee Members in Attendance:

Jim Kern, Chair	Town of Dedham
Marc Waldman, Board Chair	Town of Wellesley
Jerry Lane	Town of Dover
Bill Chenard	Town of Natick
Christopher Coleman	Town of Needham
Karen Jelloe	Town of Wrentham

Guests in Attendance:

Anne Costello	WSHG Assistant Treasurer
Donna Lemoyne	Town of Wayland
Chuck Murphy-Romboletti	Town of Needham
Merriam Johnson	Town of Dedham
Debbie Deegan	Town of Dedham
D. Snowden	Town of Shrewsbury
William Hickey	Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
Erin Hayes	Tufts Health Plan
Fred Winer	Tufts Health Plan
Julia Lebrun	Fallon Health
Michael Breen	Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA
Carol Cormier	Group Benefits Strategies
Chris Nunnally	Group Benefits Strategies
Karen Carpenter	Group Benefits Strategies

Steering Committee Chair Jim Kern called the meeting to order at 10:38 AM.

Approval of the minutes of the June 18, 2018 meeting:

Marc Waldman moved to approve the June 18, 2018 minutes as written.

Motion

Christopher Coleman seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Approval of the minutes of the March 28, 2017 and October 5, 2017 Steering Committee Executive Session meetings:

Marc Waldman moved to approve the March 28th and October 5th Executive Session Meeting minutes as written.

Motion

Christopher Coleman seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote

Treasurer’s Report:

Assistant Treasurer, Anne Costello, distributed and reviewed the August and September 30, 2018 financial reports (unaudited figures). She said the Fund Balance had an overall decrease of \$316K through September 30, 2018. Ms. Costello said the reason for the decrease was mainly due to the MMRA collateral payment. She said WSHG had good claims experience from July through September.

Carol Cormier asked Mike Breen to request a reduction of the BCBSMA Level Monthly Deposit.

Marc Waldman made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s report.

Motion

Jerry Lane seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

GBS Reports:

Funding Rate Analysis (FRA) – Carol Cormier said the July report now includes the runout and said expenses are 4.3% above rate revenue. She reviewed the FRA summary with data through August 2018 and said the expense-to-funding ratio across all plans on a *paid claims* basis was 94.1%. She said the rates set were sufficient for all plans except for the Tufts plans. Ms. Cormier said it is too early to run a deductible accumulation report on the High Deductible plans.

There was a discussion about the HSA qualified HDHPs, and the amount of employer contributions to the HSA, and the timing of the employer’s contributions into the employees’ HSAs.

Jim Kern asked to have a future discussion about the 111F cancer law on the next Agenda.

Reinsurance reports – Karen Carpenter reviewed the *FY18 policy period* MMRA reinsurance reports. She said that 10 members incurred claims over \$300,000 in the amount of \$5,575,297(total claims). Ms. Carpenter said WSHG has received \$2,071,896 in reimbursements so far and there is \$503,400 due the group. She reviewed the 50% Report and said 46 members have total claims of \$9,545,435.

Ms. Cormier said 56 members accounted for \$15 million dollars of the group’s claims.

Karen Jelloe joined the meeting.

CanaRx Update – Carol Cormier reviewed the last three quarterly CanaRx reports. She said she compiled the reports across all of the health plans and noted the prescription counts have gone down. She said she spoke to CanaRx and they are going to review the data to see if they can see a cause for the reduction.

High Performance Health Plan - Carol Cormier said CanaRx has been added to enhance the WSHG health plans and a telemedicine program may be added in July. She said Jeff Beane from MyTelemedicine will make visits to each unit to explain and promote the program. Ms. Cormier said another program the Committee is going to look at is carving out the prescription drugs from the health plans.

CY19 Medicare Plan Rates:

Carol Cormier referred to the rate exhibit in the packet and said the Managed Blue plan rate should read \$365, not \$388 and noted it was a 4% increase. She said the Board already approved

the BCBS Medex 2 and Harvard Pilgrim Medicare Enhance plan rates. Ms. Cormier reviewed the Fallon Senior Plan rate and asked Fred Winer to speak to the Tufts Medicare plan rates.

Fred Winer said the Tufts Medicare Preferred HMO plan rate is increasing from \$314 to \$317, a 0.9% increase. He said the Tufts Medicare Preferred Supplement with PDP Plus plan is going down from \$385 to \$369, a decrease of -4%. Mr. Winer said all good news and no plan changes for CY19.

Bill Chenard made a motion to approve the fully insured plan rates with the Managed Blue for Seniors with a typo correction.

Motion

Jerry Lane seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

My Telemedicine/AccessaDoctor:

Jim Kern said the Board heard the MyTelemedicine presentation from Jeff Beane at the last meeting and said he favored adding the program at first glance, but said some units have a big transition to deal with administering the High Deductible plans (HSAQs) for open enrollment. He said it may be better to wait to add this program.

Carol Cormier said that currently WSHG pays the claims of the carrier telemedicine embedded programs and the members pay copays. She said the MyTelemedicine/AccessaDoctor program is a non-embedded program and WSHG would not be paying any claims and the members will not be charged a copay. Ms. Cormier said the per subscriber per month fee has been reduced to \$1.90 per subscriber, down from \$2.05 and said MyTelemedicine has guaranteed a 5% utilization rate. She said if the 5% utilization is not reached during the first year, \$0.20 will be deducted from the per subscriber per month fee for the following year.

Chris Nunnally added that MyTelemedicine also does more registration outreach and offers gift card incentives. He said the carrier utilization rates for the embedded telehealth programs are under 1% now. Mr. Nunnally also said that the HR department's responsibility will be to let the members know the benefit exists as an added benefit. He said Jeff Beane will promote the program prior to implementation and is available to attend health fairs and/or speak at employee meetings.

Marc Waldman said WSHG needs to figure out how to promote the existing benefits offered and suggested doing that before adding a new one.

Carol Cormier said that a no-copay telehealth benefit is an important benefit for people on the HSAQ plans.

Miriam Johnson said a compromise could be to offer the program in April. She said then the materials could be added to the open enrollment mailings.

The Steering Committee agreed with Ms. Johnson's recommendation.

Christopher Coleman made a motion to recommend to the Board that it adopt the MyTelemedicine program with an April 1, 2019 effective date at a fee of \$1.90 per subscriber per month for three years.

Motion

Jerry Lane seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Pharmacy Carveout Programs:

Carol Cormier said she recommends keeping this item on the table for a future date. She said other clients are seeing over 20% savings when contracting directly with a Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM).

Chris Nunnally said an added benefit of carving out prescription drugs using PBIRx as the pharmacy consultant is that PBIRx will direct a person to CanaRx when their drug is listed on the CanaRx list. He said as requested by the Committee, GBS received a legal opinion that carving out drugs does not need to be bargained since the pharmacy benefits will not change.

Jim Kern asked Mr. Nunnally for a copy of the City of Fall River's Rx carve-out savings report.

Carol Cormier said GBS does not receive any commissions or incentives for bringing the program to the group. She said WSHG would also receive Rx rebates that would normally go to the carrier. Ms. Cormier noted that the carrier administrative fees will increase, but said the savings are expected to outway the administrative fee increase.

Chris Nunnally said the City of Fall River's administrative fee increases were nominal.

Chris Coleman said he would like to see the City's savings report and the legal opinion on letterhead, not in an email.

Chris Nunnally noted that a 6-month lead time would be needed prior to an implementation. He also said the health plan carriers change PBMs regularly.

Health Plan Reports:

BCBS – Mike Breen said Katie Ditullio would be replacing Jonathan Payson as BCBS account representative for WSHG.

Tufts Senior Plans – Fred Winer said he will be sending out the new senior plan enrollment forms and informtion kits to the HR departments.

Other Business:

Christopher Coleman said that he will be leaving the Steering Committee. He said Chuck Murphy-Rombeletti will be appointed the new Board Member for the Town of Needham and that the town would like to have Mr. Murphy-Romboletti serve on the WSHG Steering Committee.

Marc Waldman said the Steering Committee vacancy will be opened up for nominations.

There was no further business

Marc Waldman made a motion to adjourn.

Motion

Jerry Lane seconded the motion.

Chair Jim Kern adjourned the meeting at 12:10 PM.

WSHG Steering Committee meeting, 10/09/18

*Prepared by
Karen Carpenter,
Group Benefits Strategies*