



Notes of Policy Committee

November 26, 2019

Present: Barry Brogan, Anne Marie Snell, Ann Abdella, Courtney Shaler,
Liz Urbanski Farrell, Sara Wall Bollinger
Excused: Nancy McGraw, Susan Williams, Paul Pettit, Rob Wingate, Claire Parde,
Sylvia Getman

Barry took roll call and welcomed attendees at 9:02.

1. Motion to accept the notes of October 22nd [Anne Marie/Courtney] passed.
2. Identify themes and priorities from Member Survey and other Input.
 - Consensus that the Rural Lens is our main message
 - There are too many ideas; the Committee will prioritize a few for effective advocacy efforts via a Survey
 - We will try to make a distinction between *regulatory* issues that require advocacy with the Departments of State government and *legislative* issues that require new laws to be adopted

Actions:

- a. Sara will send the multi-logo letter that was sent to the Governor re: flavored tobacco to Committee members
 - b. Sara will ask NRHA to send info re: the Senate Rural Health Package and then forward this to the Committee members
 - c. Liz will find and share HANYS position statement on the NY Health Act as well as who are the major proponents of the NY Health Act, A5248/S3577.
 - d. **Who** will find and share the 'plain language briefing' **on what**
3. Partner Organization issues
Actions
 - a. Sara will follow up with the Social Worker Association re: if they have language from the Governor's veto message
 - b. Sara will follow up with the Home Care Association re: legislative language enabling Community Paramedicine
 - c. Liz will send language from HANYS regarding Community Paramedicine

4. New York State Budget

There are reports of a \$4+ Billion deficit. The Executive Budget will likely reduce funding to several programs. The Medicaid Budget Cap was breached last year, but was hidden by games. This year it cannot be hidden. Possible Medicaid cuts across-the board to providers. The prospects for a good COLA are slim.

5. Policy Briefing

Likely Speakers:

- CHCANYS Lacey Clarke
- HCA Al Cardillo
- HANYS Karen Roach
- Legislative Commission Hal McCabe
- AHEC Richard Merchant
- MHA Glenn Leibman

Use Survey results to identify appropriate speakers. We do not have enough time for very many.

6. U.S. Census

It is important that Rural populations are counted to ensure representation and federal funding. This includes Native Americans, immigrants, itinerant farm workers, Plain communities and people who live 'off grid'.

Actions

- a. All Committee members will find the Census advocacy organizations in their communities
- b. Committee members will email contact info to Sara so that social media, newsletter, website and press releases may include Census messaging during the spring of 2020.

The December 24th meeting was cancelled.

Meeting adjourned (Helen/Anne Marie) at 10am.

Happy Holidays

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 28th at 9AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Wall Bollinger