



## **2020 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**September 25, 2020**

### **Minutes**

The Annual Meetings of the Home Care, Hospice & Palliative Care Alliance of New Hampshire and the Granite State Home Health & Hospice Association took place on Friday, September 25, 2020, as a virtual meeting on Zoom. Gina Balkus, CEO started the meeting at 9:32 a.m. She explained the online format and voting, then introduced Jim Culhane, CEO of Lake Sunapee Region VNA and the current president of the Alliance Board of Directors.

Jim thanked everyone for coming and remarked that this virtual meeting is a testament to our resiliency during a pandemic. Jim thanked the meeting sponsors, USI and AmTrust, Berry Dunn, and Sheehan Phinney.

#### **Association Business Meeting**

Alliance CEO Gina Balkus asked the audience to appreciate and reflect on the work their teams have each done during this remarkable time to care for the most vulnerable, and each other, during the covid-19 pandemic. She highlighted some of the accomplishments of 2019 including overcoming PPE shortages, the 9<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of worker's comp dividend payments as well as the transition to online education, advocacy and education.

Gina thanked the Board Members and the staff for their dedication to the Alliance's mission and thanked those who are stepping aside from the Alliance's leadership positions including Kristin Barnum, Mike Counter, Diane Dedousis, Peg Gilmour and Dottie Gove. She also welcomed ten new provider members of the Alliance; Accredo Health Group, Bell Tower Home Health, Caretenders – Epping, Compassus Hospice, Heaven Sent Home Care in Nashua, Independence Care of NH, MAS Home Care, NH Home Care Providers, Timberland Home Care, Visiting Angels in Claremont and the Upper Valley.

#### **Secretary's Report**

Jim Culhane presented the minutes from 2019 Annual Meeting.  
*It was m/s/p to accept the minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting.*

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Dimitri Panacopoulos presented the Treasurer's report summarizing the audited financial reports for the year ending December 31, 2019. As is required in the by-laws, Hession & Pare Certified Public Accountants completed an audit of the 2019 consolidated financials of the Home Care, Hospice & Palliative Care Alliance and its advocacy affiliate, the Granite State Home Health & Hospice Association. Dimitri reported the Alliance did face a loss this year, but stated the Alliance is in a good financial position to continue serving its members, with total liabilities and nets assets of \$648,219. This includes property, equipment, and investments. Expenses in 2019 exceeded revenue by \$ 11,667. Membership dues and educational program revenue remain the major sources of revenue. The audit was satisfactory.

*It was m/s/p to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.*

## **Bylaws**

In accordance with the bylaws, the Governance Committee met to review the Alliance Bylaws and recommend members for nomination as Directors and Officers. John Getts, Home Health & Hospice Care introduced the proposed amendments which were e-mailed to members for review. John read the amendments and asked for votes using the zoom polling feature.

*It was m/s/p to accept the Governance Committee's recommendations as presented.*

## **Election of Directors**

John Getts presented the board nominations noting that the Governance Committee looks at this carefully when considering possible nominees, and in accordance with the by-laws the governing board represents the diversity of the membership in terms of size, type, discipline and geography. The following members have been nominated:

### **The slate of directors as presented by the Nominating Committee**

The Committee recommends the following individuals for election to their first terms on the Board of Directors for the Alliance for our affiliate organization – the Granite State Home Health and Hospice Association.

- Michelle August, Director of Hospice at Home Healthcare, Hospice & Community Services in Keene
- Johanna Beliveau, CEO of the Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Vermont and New Hampshire in White River Junction, CT
- Mary Bendel, Clinical Director at Healthy at Home in Nashua
- Lauren Robison, CEO of Home Care Assistance in Bedford

We recommended re-election for another 2-year term for:

- Donna Frizzell from the VNA of Manchester and Southern NH
- John Getts, from Home Health & Hospice Care in Merrimack
- Jennifer Legassie, from Central NH VNA in Laconia
- Dimitri Panacopoulos from Berry Dunn
- Julie Reynolds from Cornerstone VNA

## **Nominees for Officers**

The Governance Committee recommends the following slate for 1-year terms as Officers of the Alliance:

- Julie Reynolds as President
- Jennifer Legassie as Vice President
- Dimitri Panacopoulos as Treasurer
- Donna Frizzell as Secretary
- John Getts as Executive Committee Member at Large

*It was m/s/p to accept the Governance Committee's recommendations as presented.*

Jim then recognized departing board and thanked the board members continuing with their terms.

Newly elected Alliance Board president, Julie Reynolds introduced keynote speaker, Aaron Blight, Ed.D., Founder, Caregiving Kinetics. Aaron offered his thoughts on *Framing the Care Experience: A Paradigm for What You Do*.

**Presentation of 2020 Awards**

- Maryellen LaRoche Nursing Scholarship: Beth Rachdorf, Concord Regional VNA
- 2020 LNA of the Year Award: Ruth Orkins from Home Healthcare, Hospice & Community Services in Keene
- Home Care Service Award: Jennifer Gullison, Chief Clinical Officer at Cornerstone VNA.
- Ira Byock and Yvonne Corbeil Award for Innovation and Collaboration in Delivering the Best Care Possible in Palliative Care: Agata Marszalek, MD, Medical Director and the Wentworth Health Partners Supportive and Palliative Care Team

*Business meeting concluded, 10:50*

Respectfully Submitted,

**Donna Frizzell, RN**, VNA of Manchester & Southern NH, Secretary

DRAFT