

**Washington Health Alliance
Board of Directors**

**MINUTES
March 31, 2015**

Board members present: *Don Antonucci, EJ Blanchfield Leanne Bough (phone), Dr. John Espinola, Dr. Al Fisk, Tom Hunt (phone), Fred Jarrett, Greg Marchand, Dr. Pete McGough, Larry McNutt (phone) Yvonne Peters, Charissa Raynor, Dorothy Teeter, Caroline Whalen*

Board members absent: *Dr. Jeff Collins, Paul Sherman, Ron Sims, Nancy Steiger*

Staff present: *Ellen Chatel, John Gallagher, Nancy Giunto, Emily Inlow-Hood, Teresa Litton, Jennifer Loyd, Diane Lyons, Mark Pregler, Natasha Rosenblatt*

Call to Order

Caroline Whalen called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m. She noted that there were new members and staff present and asked everyone to introduce themselves, and acknowledged those joining by phone. Ms. Whalen welcomed new staff member Ellen Chatel, Business Intelligence Developer, and asked Ellen to talk about her experience and background.

Consent Calendar

The Board unanimously approved all consent calendar items: approval of meeting minutes of the February 24, 2015 Board of Directors meeting; accept the resignation of David Grossman MD from the Board of Directors as of February 26, 2015; add Jim Geist of Capital Medical Center, Jeff Liles MD of Providence Health & Services, Shashank Kolokhe of The Everett Clinic and Marc Mora, MD of Group Health Cooperative to the Health Economics Committee; add Caroline Hughes of King County and Carolyn Martin of the National Libraries of Medicine/Pacific Northwest to the Consumer Engagement Committee; and remove Brook Bascom from the Consumer Engagement Committee.

Executive Director's Report

Nancy Giunto gave the highlights of her Executive Director report. Ms. Giunto noted that the Alliance has had a busy month with good turnouts at events hosted in Bellingham, Mt. Vernon and Spokane and praised the Alliance team for working so well together and producing such positive results. She announced that Jennifer Loyd is leaving at the end of May and thanked Ms. Loyd for her great work and dedication. Ms. Giunto shared that recruitment has begun for the Business Manager position. The Administrative Coordinator position is also open and actively being recruited. The position is temporarily filled by Diane Lyons from Office Team. Ms. Giunto announced that March 31st would be Andrew Behm's last day due to the stalled APCD project funded via a CMS data center grant received by the WA State Office of Financial Management.

Ms. Giunto briefly addressed the results of the Board Evaluation Survey, noting that one more survey was received today and will be factored into the final results. She noted that the survey results delivered mixed opinions and candid feedback, including varied understandings of the strategic direction of the organization and board effectiveness. Ms. Giunto shared that the June 30th retreat will include time to address the survey results and areas for improvement.

Ms. Giunto presented the new membership recruitment packet, which was put together by John Gallagher and Emily Inlow-Hood, with input from Greg Marchand and Dorothy Teeter. Mr. Gallagher also acknowledged the design firm for keeping consistent with the Alliance's look and feel. The packet tells the Alliance's story and will be used as our pitch packet. Ms. Giunto noted that specific documents can be inserted into the back cover to target the group that the presenters are addressing.

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Ms. Teeter asked if Board members will be able to have packets in their offices to hand out. Ms. Giunto replied that every member will have a supply. Ms. Giunto also noted that the fold-out piece of the packet contains information on the history of the Alliance that was on the poster board at the last All Alliance meeting, and is now also displayed in the Alliance office.

Nominating Committee Recommendations for Board Appointments

The Nominating Committee members are Dr. Al Fisk, Dorothy Teeter and Don Antonucci. Dr. Fisk stated that most candidates were presented at the last Board meeting, and presented the names of two new nominees: Steve Mullin from the Washington Roundtable and Paul Sherman, MD from Group Health Cooperative. Dr. Fisk shared that Mr. Mullin was highly recommended by Rick Cooper and that Dr. Sherman is well-known to several Board members and would be an outstanding health plan representative for the Alliance. Ms. Whalen shared that she would be happy to have another pediatrician join the Board to fill the vacancy left by Dr. Grossman.

Dr. Fisk noted that with Dr. Grossman's departure Greg Marchand has taken on the role of Treasurer. The position of Secretary is still open. Ms. Whalen thanked Mr. Marchand for taking on the added responsibilities and shared that she appreciates Dr. Jeff Collins agreeing to serve on the Executive Committee as Vice Chair. All nominations were approved. Dr. Fisk stated that the Committee hopes to have additional slots filled by next month.

2014 Community Checkup Report

Ms. Giunto introduced John Gallagher to present the Community Checkup report. Mr. Gallagher noted that this is the eighth Community Checkup report and that the list of counties included keeps growing. The three new areas included in this report are Skagit, Spokane and Whatcom counties. The report is a snapshot of these three counties, showing an overall mix of successes and needs for improvement. Mr. Gallagher shared that the 2015 Community Checkup will include Ellensburg, Wenatchee Yakima and Tri-Cities and will be aligned with the new WA State Common Measure Set for Healthcare Quality and Cost.

Mr. Gallagher addressed the key findings of the report, which show significant variation across counties and medical groups in the quality of care patients receive. The report concludes that no single clinic or medical group is good at everything, and while there are high-performing groups on select measures, patients are still not getting care they should be receiving. Board members discussed the results and suggested ways that future reports might include more stories, data visualization and graphics that explain and personalize the impact of the results.

Statewide Expansion

Mr. Gallagher reported that the meetings were reasonably well attended and each had a different tone including different representation from the community. At the meetings, Ms. Giunto asked people to talk about who they are and what excites them about healthcare. Some of the common themes amongst the groups were questions about data and understanding the limitations of data, what the data can and can't say, and how data will be used. There was some expression of anxiety from providers about how data will be used. There were good conversations, and by and large people were interested and excited to see the Community Checkup results. It was also noted that a number of leads were generated from the meetings. Skagit Regional Clinics and SeaMar are strong prospects. Ms. Giunto recognized Dr. Jeff Collins and Nancy Steiger, who were present and actively engaged at the Spokane and Bellingham meetings, respectively.

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Ms. Giunto and Mr. Gallagher spoke about their trip to Pasco on March 12, where they met with the leadership and Board of the Washington Counties Insurance Fund (WCIF). They discussed value-based purchasing, highlighting the Alliance's newest reports and APCD legislation at Executive Director Jon Kaino's request.

Tom Hunt helped set up a meeting with Avista in Spokane. Avista has approximately 4,000 covered lives in the Spokane area. Additional work is needed to encourage their membership in the Alliance.

Mr. Gallagher stated that this was a team effort to get everything done and acknowledged Teresa Litton, Natasha Rosenblatt, Emily Inlow-Hood, Ellen Chatel and Mark Pregler for their efforts. He praised their teamwork and acknowledged the hard work it took to get the meetings scheduled and the website up and running. There will be an online version going live that will include the membership recruitment packet so prospective members can be referred to the website as well. He acknowledged that, thanks to the hard work done by Emily Inlow-Hood and Jennifer Loyd, the Customer Relationship Management system is complete. This will allow the user to log, track and email people as needed. He concluded that the next step is getting out there and getting people in the door.

Charissa Raynor inquired about ember recruitment, i.e., are we on track to hit goals by the end of the year? Mr. Gallagher stated that thanks to the Association of Washington Cities membership, we are 2/3 of the way there. Ms. Giunto replied that it is likely we will hit our goal by next quarter.

Ms. Whalen congratulated the staff for all of the great work.

The meeting adjourned to executive session at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Loyd

Larry McNutt
Board Chair