

Consumer and Small Employer Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

- > **date:** July 22, 2014, 1 – 4 p.m.
- > **building:** MNSure Office, 81 East 7th Street, Suite 300, St. Paul, MN 55101
- > **members in attendance:** Jin Lee Johnson – Vice Chair, Kathryn Duevel – Board Liaison, John Freeman, Sheikh Hussein, Julia Johnson (via phone), Michael Jones, Patrick Lochwood, Jama Mohamod (via phone), Claudette Moran, Sondra Reis (via phone), Thomas Lopez, (via phone), John Reich – Director of Government Relations.
- > **members unable to attend:** Anna Odegaard – Chair, Joan Carchedi, Gladys Chuy, Valerie Jensen, Richard Oni, Luis Ortega, Brian Beutner – Board Chair, Carley Barber – Board and Federal Relations Director

topics

Call to order and approval of June 24, 2014, meeting minutes

Jinny Johnson, Committee Vice-Chair

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m. by Jinny Johnson, committee vice-chair.

Approval of previous meeting minutes

- **Motion:** Claudette Moran moved to approve the draft June 24 meeting minutes. Sheikh Hussein seconded.

All were in favor, and the minutes were approved.

Board Update

Kathryn Duevel, Board Liason

Kathryn Duevel, board liason, provided an update and took questions from the committee members. She thanked the committee members for the great report they had given to the board. The board members were pleased with the amount of information that was provided to them. They have been thoroughly impressed with the amount of work this volunteer committee puts in. She reported that the board is looking into discovering the most effective way to communicate information to and from this committee. Kathryn encouraged any committee member with a suggestion pertaining to how to do this to share their idea with the group. She then stated that this committee's suggestions are being listened to, and that the board takes it very seriously.

Committee Update: Member resignation, Process for formulating dissenting opinions

Jinny Johnson, Committee Vice-Chair

Jinny Johnson started by announcing to the group that sadly, Fatema Haji-Taki will be leaving the committee. She has taken a new position with DHS.

Jinny then started a group discussion on the topic of creating a process for formulating a dissenting opinion. What to do when technology (phones) fails during a committee meeting was a large topic of



concern. Committee members shared their ideas regarding the proper action to take should this happen.

Motion: Michael Jones moved that if technology fails us and a member of the committee on the phone is cut off, we deal with the situation as we would a “bad weather” situation and suspend the meeting until it can be rescheduled at a later time. Julia Johnson seconded.

All were in favor, no one opposed, and the motion passed.

How long committee members had to turn in their dissenting opinions after the meeting was complete was the next topic of discussion. The importance of being present (in person or on the phone) at the meeting in order to discuss your dissenting opinion was emphasized.

Motion: Michael Jones moved that if you have a dissenting opinion you must participate in the discussion in order to be able to express your opinion. If there is more to be said, you have 24 hours after the meeting is complete to turn your opinion in. John Freeman seconded.

All were in favor, no one opposed, and the motion passed.

Featured Committee Member

None.

Presentation and discussion on Health Plan Affordability

[John Freeman, Committee Member](#)

John Freeman [presented](#) on the topic of Health Plan Transparency and Affordability and shared his thoughts, recommendations and research with the group. He voiced two central concerns: (a) more information on total cost –sharing/ out of pocket expenses is needed for health care consumers to make well-informed choices when choosing QHPs; and (b) the current marketplace that features low premium and high deductible plans (as compared with other states) benefits some consumers, but results in higher than average costs (vs. other states) for consumers with higher health needs.

Following the presentation, there was a discussion of the MNSure board’s policy scope. The committee also discussed its own parameters, areas of effectiveness, and about what topics it is logical for the committee to create recommendations and present to the board. The discussion also considered the appropriateness of timing for certain recommendations.

There was also a discussion as to the form and timing of staff updates on previously presented recommendations.

From discussion, the committee made two resulting requests:

- MNSure staff present on MNSure board’s purview and authority parameters
- Appropriate MNSure staff update the committee on status of past recommendations

Process for Selecting Topics for consideration/Next month’s volunteer presenters

[Committee Members](#)



There was committee discussion on the best way to give recommendations to the board.

Motion: Patrick Lochwood moved that the committee member who drafted the formal recommendations that were given to the board is responsible for tracking those recommendations, as well as making time to report back to the committee if there is information to report back from the board. John Freeman seconded.

All were in favor, no one opposed, and the motion passed.

Committee discussion on Criteria for Measuring Success

Committee Members

Kathryn asked the committee to give the board some ideas of ways in which the success of MNSure can be measured.

The committee brainstormed and created a list of possible ways MNSure's success could be measured by looking at:

- Access to providers/services (network adequacy)
- Health outcomes
 - Preventive care, healthier?
- Ability to use health insurance (benefits)
- Economic impact on communities
- Culturally appropriate care covered by insurance product
- Applications are processed in an appropriate amount of time
 - Needs to be communication and a process in place between DHS and MNSure.
- Accurate and timely determination of eligibility.
- Clear and effective process for resolving disputes/failures to determination.

Public Comment

Enjoyed John's presentation.

Wrap-up and adjourn

Jinny Johnson, Committee Vice-Chair

Patrick moved to adjourn. There were no objections, and the meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.