### Commission on Government Affairs

**Vision**
Inspire New Hampshire nurses as leaders to expand the impact of the nursing profession to improve the health of the people of New Hampshire.

**Mission**
As a Constituent State Nurses Association (C/SNA) of American Nurses Association (ANA), the New Hampshire Nurses’ Association (NHNA) exists to promote nursing practice and the well-being of New Hampshire nurses by providing professional development, fostering nurse innovation and leading in health advocacy to enhance the health of the people in New Hampshire.

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**Date:** 11/27/2018  **Location:** ZOOM Conference Call  **Start Time:** 5:30  **End Time:** 6:30

**Chair:** Pam DiNapoli  **Recorder:** Paula MacKinnon, Staff

In Attendance: Cynthia Cohen, Sarah Meade, Carla Smith, Polly Campion, Melody Moschan, Bob Dunn, Barbara Cormier, Shauna Dalleva, Susan Smith

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**MEETING AGENDA & MINUTES:**

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<th>Agenda Topic/Link to Mission and Vision</th>
<th>Discussion Summary</th>
<th>Action / Follow-Up</th>
<th>Responsible Person(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>New Members Added</td>
<td>Christine Lopez, Carla Smith and Shauna Dalleva</td>
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| December 4th Dinner meeting            | Purpose: To orient new commission and council members to their advocacy role  
Place: upstairs meeting room at GSC start 4:30 to 7:00  
- Set up starts at 4:00 - Bob would like room set up as Large U, will need AV equipment for his laptop  
- Attendees arrive at 4:30  
- Start with intros and ice breakers, 1st part of presentation by Bob.  
- Break for dinner and networking (1/2 hour)  
- Leaders of each council will network with their groups  
- Bob will finish Presentations  
- He and Polly will be available for open discussion and questions after Bob finishes. | Need handouts for information on NHNA resources on website  
Finalize list of who is attending  
Prepare list of contact information for each council group | Pam to talk to Joan  
Pam  
Paula | Asap  
Asap  
ASAP |
| Legislative Forum January 29th         | Joan is securing sites. CMC, Lebanon, St. Joes.  
Host site will be Granite State College -- also they will be considered a sponsor  
Discussion over whether or not a Keynote speaker is needed.  
Discussion: Sarah: Perhaps the keynote time would be better to use as an introduction to the evening. Attendees may need to know a little about NHNA and the legislative councils which are new. That info is more valuable than an actual keynote speaker. | Secure sites  
Arrange logistics of web conferencing  
Set up registration | Joan  
Joan  
Joan |          |
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| Cynthia agrees with Sarah Polly agrees: Instead of Keynote, we need someone to set the stage for the evening.  
- Decision was made that Pam will do an intro to the evening  
- Followed by introduction to the Panelists: Kitty Kidder (taking Denise Nies place) Polly and Carlene, and Bob  
- For each bill that the commission have decided to bring forward to the membership: Intro to bill; pros and cons, NHNA recommendation; open for discussion | Arrange method of contact hours  
Arrange voting  
Finalize Agenda | Joan  
Joan  
Pam |  |
| Timeline for the councils to do their work  
- Bob states that bill texts start coming out the week before Christmas  
- Bob will review each as they come out and record each one that he thinks NHNA should be aware of  
- He will then assign each bill to one of the legislative committees and give it to them in a spreadsheet format with links for them to review the bills  
- The committees will decide which bills NHNA will work on, and bring them to the Town Hall  
- By Mid-January, (week of the 15th) the CGA and Councils should meet, as they would have had time to discuss what should be brought forward to Town Hall | | |  |
| Polly: Bills we know are going to be drafted:  
1. LNA licensure  
2. School Nurse Consultant Position | Polly: Sen Kahn is filing a bill to remove the licensure requirement for LNA  
NH is one of only a few states that do license them.  
- Hospitals Association oppose the idea as the employer would have to track continuing education.  
- The role of the LNA would become a Certified Nurse Assistant, Senator Kahn feels it would help with workforce issues. Pam and Joan are surveying current LNA’s on their opinion. The survey will be sent out this week to about 14,000 NH LNA’s through the NEMSD. The Survey: Background: Unlike many other states, the New Hampshire Board of Nursing licenses nursing assistants. You are receiving this survey because you are one of about 14,000 nursing assistants licensed in NH. The process for becoming licensed in New Hampshire requires you to complete 100 hours of education/training (40 hours didactic/60 hours clinical) and pass an exam. Once this process is completed you are placed in a National Nursing Registry. You must also apply for licensure through the Board of Nursing. LNAs must renew their license every two years, with the payment of a fee of $25.00 and ability to demonstrate 24 hours of continuing education (12 hours/year). There is currently an interest in legislation that would propose the cessation of licensing nursing assistants in New Hampshire and transition from a Licensed Nursing Assistant (LNA) to a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). The education requirements, both to become a nursing assistant and continuing | Send survey to NH LNAs  
Tally the results and report to Joan and Pam | Eileen from NEMSD  
Paula | ASAP |
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| education hours to remain a nursing assistant, will remain unchanged. The New Hampshire Nurses Association is interested in your thoughts about this proposition. Do you support a legislative effort by the NH Board of Nursing to transition from Nursing Assistant licensure to Nursing Assistant certification? | ☑ Yes  
☑ No  
☐ No Opinion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                    |                    |          |
| School Nurse Consultant Mandate       | Polly was approached by Kathy Barth of the New Hampshire School Nurses Association  
- There was legislation in 2015 to mandate the position; it was ITL  
- Currently the position is vacant and the Commissioner of Education is not filling it  
- Position used to be housed within the Office of Student Wellness at the NHDOE  
- NHSNA has met with the commissioner and asked for the position to be reinstated and he has chosen not to do so  
- Instead, he contracted with Carla Smith to do a study on its merits, and where it should be housed, NHDOE or NHdhhs  
- Carla submitted the report several months ago and never got a reply  
- Deadline to file the bill is Monday, Polly is working with Kathy Barth to get it done | Continue drafting bill | Polly               | This Week |
| What other bills are possibly coming down the pike? | Bob is not at liberty yet to discuss them in detail.  
House deadline to file LSR is Monday December 3rd.  
The Senate will set their deadline when they meet next week. Usually, the Senate deadline is Mid-December.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Tabled             |                    |          |
| Safe Staffing                         | At a recent Hospital Association meeting, they had zero interest. Many on the hospital association felt that the committees for safe staffing that were agreed upon with NHNA several years ago are working. Joan knows it to be true that some hospitals are not even using the committee. Joan feels it may be time to mandate what the ANA promotes.  
ANA is promoting safe staffing act and would like state constituents to follow suit with mandatory staffing committees  
Discussion: Some hospitals are using an acuity system and some feel that it's almost impossible to predict the acuity on any given day. It appears to work only in retrospect. “We could have used an extra nurse yesterday”  
Polly feels that it adds a level of complexity that may not be helpful.  
Melody: Agrees |                    |                    |          |
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<td>Legislative Breakfast</td>
<td>This group agrees there is no time to get it done this year, but it should be looked out for the next year. Cynthia: Agree, Need time to vet it, and consider all angles. Bob will check on the 5th or 12th of February</td>
<td>Table Safe Staffing to next year</td>
<td>Pam</td>
<td>Done</td>
</tr>
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<td>Legislative Breakfast</td>
<td>All agreed that one is needed. The Nurse Practitioners are holding theirs on January 22nd. Bob will check on tentative dates: possibly the 5th or 12th February</td>
<td>Schedule legislative breakfast</td>
<td>Bob</td>
<td>ASAP</td>
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<td>6:30 Meeting Adjourned</td>
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