CLINICIANS UNITED

MINUTES

September 11, 2023

PRESENT: Andy Capen (SEA), Chris Miller, Lynn Stanley, Heidi Page, Becky Jamison, Cullen Tiernan (Political Director SEA), Mitch Taranow, Dave Meichsner, Jennifer Corbit, Cynthia Whitaker, Beth Hudgins, Allison Doyle, Adele Bradley, Shawn Hassell, Steven Durost

The meeting began with congratulations: Lynn Stanley received the Pastoral Counseling Association Good Samaritan award. The New Hampshire Chapter of AMHCA won the national award for Chaper of the Year and Sara Sullivan won the national AMHCA award for Counselor of the Year.

Mitch Taranow began the meeting by asking “Where are we going and where did we come from?” Andy stated that there are no updates on our group becoming a Chapter of the Union, despite our paying dues and having written by-laws. He stated that we can always do things informally and attend any union committee meetings.

Cullen Tiernan, SEA Political Director, then spoke about what is available:

1. There is a Political Education Committee that endorses candidates, distributes candidate questionnaires, and follows up with campaign contributions and door knocking.
2. Conservative Committee: This committee works with conservative members of government who are “labor friendly.”
3. Resolutions Committee. Members ask the union to support them on issues, e.g. the unionized Public Defenders asked for help to get them enrolled in the state health insurance.

He also spoke about the Legislative Session that begins this January. He said that because we are not a bargaining unit we have to go to the Resolutions Committee and the State Convention to introduce legislation. It was unclear how we would do that since we have not been accepted as a bargaining unit.

Heidi Page asked what the union wants from us. We have paid dues as associate members and submitted by-laws. It was all very unclear. Andy will try and clarify with the SEA Board.

Shawn Hassell reported on the Family Therapy Group of which he, Allison Doyle and Jennifer Corbit are members. Shawn has been in touch with Executive Councilor Janet Stevens regarding the lower rates paid for 90846 and 90847. She said that it is almost impossible to get rates changed legislatively. She recommended that we go to insurance companies as a group with a statement of concern from all of the organizations like NASWNH, NHMHCA, NHPA and NHMFT. The Committee continues to meet to decide the best course of action.

The next meeting will be October 2, 2023 at noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Miller