

# NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES 9 November 2017

**Call to Order:** President Warren Coulter called the meeting to order at 1832 hours. Prior to the start of the meeting, Warren swore in two Board members, Wayne Balcom and Ray D'Amante, who were not sworn in at the Annual Meeting luncheon on November 4<sup>th</sup>. Following that, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the assembly present followed by the invocation delivered by Gary Terhune.

**Attending:** Avery, Balcom, Boyle, Breuder, Burdett, Coulter, D'Amante, Day, Ikstrums, Jaffin, LeFebvre, McLean, Register, Terhune. A quorum was present for the meeting.

**Opening Remarks:** Warren Coulter began by asking if Peter Burdett, the Immediate Past President, had a "few" remarks for the assembled group. Peter thanked everyone on the Board for their support during the time he was President. Other than that, he had nothing to say!

**Immediate Past President Remarks:** Covered above.

**Secretary's Report:** Michael McLean reported that he received no comments or corrections to the October minutes. Michael said that he attempted to update the MOAA Officer Form on MOAA's web site but that page was down. Michael will try again next week. Motion made and seconded to accept the October minutes. Motion passed and minutes accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Roby Day asked if there were any questions on the October report. Roby commented that the retained earnings at the end of October were about \$5,600, much of that attributable to Tony [Burdo] and the Travel Program. Roby went over the bills that have to be paid by the end of the year. That means that we should be left with about \$1,300 left over. He said that we were in the black for the Annual Meeting luncheon for about \$143.00. That means we are in the green about \$1,400 for luncheons. Roby went on to say that we made \$168.00 for the 50/50 Raffle. The winner of the raffle was Jere Ericson, guest of Tony Burdo, who donated his winnings to the Scholarship Loan Fund. Our guest of honor, Brig Gen Marr, wanted to pay for his and his wife's meals but was told he was our guest. So he contributed \$54.00 to the Scholarship Loan Fund as well. Our current veterans contributions balance is \$631.00. We need to decide how we might want to spend it by the end of the year. Roby suggested that we move the 50/50 Raffle from January to April next year as we just had the raffle in November and people might be worn out. Everyone concurred with the idea. Roby went on to discuss Scholarship money he is holding in our checking account not doing anything and asked where the Scholarship Loan Committee might want to move it. No one from the Committee was present to make a decision. Roby then went on to bring up the subject of who can sign checks on our TDBank account. He suggested that Bruce Avery be designated as Vice Treasurer with authority to sign checks. Roby also mentioned that we need a motion to remove "Chad" Chadwick as a signer. He said that a motion passed by the Board would be sufficient for TDBank. The following motion was made by Jim LeFebvre concerning removing "Chad's" name:

“I move that, as former President of MOAA-NH, COL H. Allen Chadwick, USA (Ret.), be removed from those authorized to sign checks on the Chapter’s bank checking accounts to be effective immediately.”

Motion seconded. Motion passed. The following motion was made by Jim LeFebvre concerning authorizing Bruce to be able to sign checks:

“I move that, as Vice Treasurer and Director for MOAA-NH, CDR Bruce F. Avery, USN (Ret.), be designated as authorized to sign checks on the Chapter’s bank checking accounts to be effective immediately.”

Motion seconded. Motion passed. Roby will meet with Bruce at the bank before the next Board meeting to sort everything out. Faith McLean brought up the MOAA-NH Virtual Store half-priced sale she conducted at the November luncheon. She reported that she sold \$145.00 worth of merchandise, which is more than she took in for the prior three years! Michael McLean said that Marie Chipola, the newsletter editor, was hoping for an extra sheet (two pages) for the December newsletter. Michael mentioned that he spoke with Marie at the luncheon about putting in an extra sheet for the September newsletter next year. The consensus of the Board was to try the extra page for the December newsletter to see how it goes. Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer’s Report for October. Motion passed.

**Trustees of the Trust Fund:** (*Initially skipped over – followed Gov’t Relations*) Andrew Breuder reported that nothing really has changed since the Annual Meeting.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Government Relations (National/State/SVAC/MLT):** Peter Burdett said he won’t have much to say because their next meeting will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November, as the normal meeting day (the 7<sup>th</sup>) is Election Day. Peter did mention an event on November 30<sup>th</sup> – “Justice For All” – for which he circulated a flyer around the room. Peter also mentioned an article from MOAA on the cost of sacrifice versus the value of democracy. If anyone would like a copy of the article, they should contact Peter.

**Personal Affairs:** Russ Register reported that this month’s blast email covered three items from MOAA national. **The email report is attached.** Michael McLean said that he received an email from a chapter member who had followed the link to send a message to his elected officials concerning the TRICARE fees increases. After the person filled out all his information and pressed send, MOAA came back and asked if he were a member of MOAA and what his chapter code was. He had never seen that before and did not know what the code was. Michael had never seen that also but added if anyone comes across this in the future, our chapter code is “NH01”. If anyone has this problem, let Michael know.

**Membership:** Michael McLean presented the following membership numbers:

|                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| New members -              | 4                     |
| Deceased members -         | 4 (Plus 2 w/ spouses) |
| Dropped members -          | 0                     |
| Current total membership – | 722                   |

Someone asked if someone from another state can join our chapter. The answer is yes. A short discussion ensued about who can join what chapter of MOAA.

**Recruiting:** Jim Spotts not present. Michael McLean reminded everyone that Jim Spotts had volunteered to take over Recruiting.

**Programs:** Gerry Boyle reported that we are all set for the 2018 luncheons. Michael McLean pointed out that our speaker for next November 10, 2018 (RADM White) thought he was speaking this Friday, November 10, 2017. Fortunately we corrected him in time.

**Web Page:** Michael McLean reported that there were 238 hits in October, down from 381 in September. Popular Pages in October:

**Hits Page**

|     |                       |
|-----|-----------------------|
| 25  | Chapter News          |
| 17  | Program Notes         |
| 9   | Odds and Ends         |
| 9   | Newsletter            |
| 6   | Transition Assistance |
| 4   | Membership            |
| 2   | Group Travel          |
| 3   | UNK                   |
| 145 | General               |

**Travel Programs:** Tony Burdo not present. Janis Ikstrums presented the following report:

All brochures for our 2018 travel programs have been received from Collette and all tours are posted on our website.

Four passengers booked for the Classical Spain and Portugal tour in October 2018.

I have heard from the Bay State Chapter president, Al Pacquin. He invited me to the chapter's holiday brunch on 2 December. Unfortunately, I will not be in town. I made myself available to speak at another time that is best for him. We will continue to coordinate until we close this deal.

Noted below is the latest information I have on four of the 2020 tours that include the passion play in Oberammergau, Germany. There are a total of seven tours that will be available. I am awaiting prices and dates on the final three:

Austrian Delight (Germany and Austria), 10 days, 12 meals: \$4999

Alpine Explorer with Glacier Express, 10 days, 12 meals: \$6899

Discover Switzerland, Austria and Bavaria, 10 days, 12 meals: \$4,999

Exploring The Alpine Countries (Switzerland, Austria and Germany), 13 days, 17 meals, \$6999

Price includes land tours, meals, passion play, air from Logan on most dates, air taxes, fees and transfers

Three tours remaining are:

Classic Danube River Cruise (Germany, Austria and Hungary), 10-11 days, 22-24 meals

Romantic and Fairy Tale Road (Germany), 13 days, 11 meals

Imperial Cities (Hungary, Czech Republic, Austria, Germany), 11 days, 15 meals

The passion play opens on 16 May 2020. The final performance is on 4 October 2020.

**Scholarship Loan Program:** Joe DiChiaro not present.

**Strategic Initiatives (SIC):** Bruce Avery reported that the SIC had been tasked with looking into the request for membership in the chapter for Jere and Carol Ericson, friends of Tony Burdo and Andy Semereth. Bruce researched possible membership possibilities with MOAA. MOAA said they have created an organization call “Voices for America’s Troops” to cover these types of people. Bruce recommended that we grant the Ericson’s honorary chapter membership and that the SIC pursue this organization. Motion made and seconded to make the Ericson’s honorary members. Motion passed. Bruce will notify the Ericson’s.

**Granite State Warriors Award:** Bruce Avery said that he recommends that we have three head tables, one for each of the awardees. A question was asked as to whether we pay for all the guests. Bruce was emphatic that we pay for two guests per awardees, the rest pay for themselves.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Awards:** Joe DiChiaro not present.

**NH Veterans Home:** Joe DiChiaro not present.

**Nominations (Directors & Officers):** Nothing new.

**PAO:** Still looking for one. Sharon Day said that we sent out a blast email advertising for a PAO.

**Granite Slate:** Marie Chipola not present. Michael McLean said that she would like inputs prior to Thanksgiving so she can work on it the week following. Michael reiterated that if anyone has any “war stories” to get them to Marie.

**Web Communications - FB:** Jon VanGuilder not present.

**SUD (Substance Use Disorders) Committee:** Andrew Breuder submitted his report on the October meeting and the minutes from the August meeting. **August minutes and October notes attached.**

**Blast Email:** Vacant. Still need someone to take it over. Sharon Day suggested doing a blast email for a blast email volunteer.

## **LIAISONS:**

**ESGR:** Sandy Way not present.

**Transition Liaison:** Jim LeFebvre reported that he in the process of updating the “Transition Assistance” page of our web site. He gave Michael McLean a huge package of interview questions to scan into his computer.

**VAMC Manchester:** Bernie Satterfield not present. Warren Coulter mentioned that everyone gets Bernie’s emails covering what’s going on at the VAMC.

**Martins Point:** Bob Jaffin reported that he had just received the minutes from the meeting on October 17<sup>th</sup> (**Attached**). Bob went on to say that everyone at his table at the November luncheon had questions about Martins Point. He suggested that they set up a table at the January luncheon and perhaps address the spouses at the annual meeting. Faith McLean said the spouses have been inundated with presentations by VA and travel to the point where they don’t attend the

spouses' program. Faith said perhaps someone could speak for a few minutes at the end of the program. Bob also asked whether Martins Point could set up a table at the Clambake. There were no objections to that idea. Bob answered Judy Terhune's question from last month's meeting about emails she had been getting. Bob said that Martins Point is working to fix the problem. The consensus of the Board was not to have Martins Point set up a table at the January luncheon. Warren Coulter said we can revisit this subject later in the New Year.

**Auxiliary:** Gwen Devoe not present.

## **BREAK FOR DINNER**

### **Reconvened Meeting at 2001**

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Still need PAO:** Already covered.

**National Planning for regional convention:** Peter Burdett commented that after twiggging MOAA national about the subject, they have not done a thing. Peter said if they don't do something soon, CAPT Hunt won't be able to hold space for it. Peter said he could ping on MOAA again.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**New 5-Star LOE Requirements:** Peter Burdett and Warren Coulter took part in a webinar put on by MOAA in which MOAA went over their new Level of Excellence (LOE) grading format. Warren said that MOAA has changed the point system perhaps in an attempt to have more chapters earn a 5-Star level. Warren passed out the scoring sheets for 2016 (current) and 2017 (proposed) and went into the grading differences. Michael McLean pointed out that what we have submitted in the past has been about 18 pages. Now with the new system we only have half a page for one item and a page and a half for another. Michael went into further detail on the content of the new system. Michael is concerned that with the apparent space limits imposed, we may not be able to repeat as 5-Star. The question of how many chapter members are MOAA national members was brought up. Michael said he has to ask national each year to provide that information. He said it is not usually forthcoming.

**Awareness - Branding:** Warren Coulter brought up what to do with the MOAA-NH Virtual Store items that weren't sold at the November luncheon. Several people had ideas of what to do – none of which were acceptable to the McLean's. A question of what to do with the challenge coins was brought up. A discussion of what challenge coins were all about ensued. Finally, Warren reminded everyone to carry chapter membership brochures with them always.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will begin at 1830 on Thursday, 14 December 2017 at the Red Blazer in Concord, NH.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2017 hours.

Michael A. McLean  
CDR, USN (Ret.)  
Secretary, New Hampshire Chapter  
ATTACHMENTS: 4



## **November 2017 Personal Affairs Report**

### UPDATE *YOUR* INTERIOR

This month, MOAA continues to predict that higher TRICARE fees are coming for active military families and retired military families under age 65. MOAA has three concerns about the rising fee structure: 1) Fees are raised above the cost of living allowance (COLA) across most categories of beneficiaries, to support department readiness costs. 2) It takes control of setting and then adjusting these fees on an annual basis without regard to an index or other supporting data. 3) It ignores the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act's grandfathering of beneficiaries, as evidenced in the way DoD has set up the fee structure between active duty and retired service families. MOAA asks that members contact their elected officials with a MOAA suggested message that opposes these fee hikes. Read more about this matter and access the suggested MOAA message at: <https://www.moaa.org/Content/Take-Action/Top-Issues/Currently-Serving/DoD-Wants-More-Predictable-TRICARE-Fees--Predictably-Higher.aspx>.

MOAA reports that TRICARE For Life is expected to remain unchanged in 2018. However, under new Medicare Part B Premiums for 2018, many people will incur a monthly cost increase. Individuals in the lowest income bracket could see a monthly increase of about \$29 while individuals with a modified adjusted gross income above \$133,500 could see a monthly increase of about \$80. You can read more about this at: <https://www.moaa.org/Content/Take-Action/Top-Issues/Retirees/New-Medicare-Part-B-Premiums--Many-Will-Pay-More.aspx>.

MOAA also reports that as of September 1st, Express Scripts began requiring annual consent from patients enrolled in TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery who want automatic refills of their maintenance medications. When the final refill of said medication ships, Express Scripts will reach out to you to determine your consent to continue the medication in the automatic refill program. See the TRICARE UPDATE section on page 28 of the November issue of the Military Officer Magazine for additional details.



# MILITARY TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Prevention, Intervention, Treatment & Recovery

Chair: Major General William Reddel

Vice Chairs: Jessica Blais, Victoria Bagshaw

Advisor: Jo Moncher

## Joint Military Task Force

17 August, 2017

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

DHHS Brown Building, Room 460

*The mission of the Joint Military Task Force is to enhance awareness and advocacy as well as improve access to affordable, relevant alcohol and other drug related services for military members and their families through education and collaboration.*

### Agenda/Notes

#### ⇒ Present:

*Dr. Andrew Breuder (MOAA)*

*Nancy Triantafyllou (Proforce)*

*Chris Chant (CHI/Center for Excellence)*

*Jo Moncher (NH DHHS)*

*Jess Blais (Accenture)*

*Liz Hennig - Continuum of Care Coordinator*

*Victoria Bagshaw (ESNH Military & Veterans Services)*

*Linda Stone - WRJ VA (on phone)*

#### ⇒ Welcome and introductions

#### ⇒ Leadership changes:

- Jess stepping down as JMTF Vice Chair – Jo seeking leads for new members. Adjutant General retiring end of September, and is Chair of JMTF per statute, so will probably wait until new Adj. Gen. is appointed to see what needs/roles will be, moving forward. Maybe seek new Vice Chair who is member of full Governor's Commission; Joe Harding will bring forward at next Governor's Commission meeting.
- Jess: August 30th Army National Guard Suicide Prevention and Substance Abuse Prevention Program via Accenture will discontinue. Currently in recompet status at federal level (Accenture is not eligible). Sgt. Clements (Drug Testing Co-ordinator) will take over all duties, as of 08/31. No replacement contract awarded yet, so potential lapse in service is a concern. Mike Muldoon is Accenture's lead point-of-contact for drug and alcohol services for National Guard until 08/30. Jess will continue with her role for JMTF and Governor's Commission for the time being unless/until future employment precludes it.
- Jess will continue attending meetings/ GC to provide update through October; awaiting strategic plan draft (October/November).
- Manchester VA has formed partnership with CMC – HHS contracts with Dare Mighty Things to deliver Military Culture Trainings (one on 8/18 at CMC),

#### ⇒ June minutes approved

⇒ Updates from Priority Areas/old business:

| Priority Area             | Lead(s) | TF Tasks/Other   | Updates/notes  |
|---------------------------|---------|--|--|
| TRICARE update            | JMTF    | Expect update from John Reed (TRICARE) at October 19 <sup>th</sup> meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Still a lack of TRICARE providers; reimbursement rates for providers problematic. Still in transition.</li> <li>• Peer recovery support has proven to be problematic in some instances. State may need to refocus goals regarding funding allocation (Not just TRICARE, across state-funded recovery support systems). How do we vet providers? Some of these considerations possibly within the remit of Recovery Taskforce.</li> <li>• <b>John Reed has confirmed for 10/19 meeting, and will provide more information then.</b></li> </ul> |
| Military Culture Training | JMTF    | Possible PsychArmor involvement...   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PsychArmor would like to be featured as a Military Culture Training provider. They feel that their approach aligns with/supports the 12 sectors of ATQ. <b>Sending Jo Moncher more information.</b></li> </ul>  |

⇒ New business:

| Priority Area    | Lead(s) | TF Tasks/Other  | Updates/notes  |
|------------------|---------|---|--|
| Funding for JMTF | JMTF    | Potential for requesting funding for JMTF initiatives ... | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Could there be an ATQ representative who knows about where and when it is implemented/being used? ⇒ Point person, outreach, advocating for funding, maintaining website, etc. Funded role?</li> <li>• Easter Seals is still maintaining website in limited capacity until end of 2017, after which will then move to DHHS. Advocating to use WordPress, to keep current functionality and features.</li> <li>• Website currently getting a lot of attention (NYC looking to incorporate ATQ elements into their website).</li> <li>• 15-min website maintenance/management (should it be a regular agenda item to discuss content?) How much ownership should JMTF have over website – does the taskforce have the capacity to take that responsibility? Jo will be point-of-contact for implementing website changes via DHHS.</li> <li>• Should we seek funding for ATQ rep or military liaison? Goal is to operationalize ATQ. \$5,000 (e.g.,) per BDAS vendor to incorporate a military liaison (8 hours/month, possibly)? Data show value across the system of having military liaisons in place.</li> <li>• Potential to develop an official letter to Tym Rourke regarding specific funding. Could President’s acknowledgment of opioid epidemic lead to additional funding, which may be able to include opportunities for military/veteran populations? Speak to legislators from NH about overlap between these concerns?</li> <li>• Seek funding to integrate ATQ with WITS data system – what are the costs involved with this? Incorporating ATQ for further effectiveness as an early intervention/identification tool in suicide prevention. How do we collect data regarding current ATQ practice? We know it is being used, but it needs to be tracked and it should go beyond the initial question (“Do/did you serve?” ⇒ what next?).</li> </ul> |

| Priority Area | Lead(s) | TF Tasks/Other | Updates/notes   |
|---------------|---------|----------------|---|
|               |         |                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WITS cost<br/>⇒ There is a fee associated with changes to WITS system (i.e., additional questions/data points/change language). Current WITS question asks: “Are you a veteran?” instead of: “Have you served?” Ask Mike Rogers about the fee/process for amendments.</li> <li>• <b>Chris Chant will reach out to/raise this with Mike at next scheduled WITS meeting.</b></li> <li>• \$5,000 - \$10,000 per BDAS vendor for military liaisons (how many? Ask Sue Brown). What level would that provide? E.g., bronze, silver, gold, platinum, etc. Should we ask for higher initially? What does a billable hour cost in that contract (Department has provided \$65/hour – what CMHC pays to employee will vary)?<br/>⇒ <b>Jo will reach out to Rob O’ Hannon to discuss further.</b></li> <li>• Is there a point person for these liaisons? A BDAS person?<br/>⇒ Jaime Powers currently is.</li> <li>• \$100,000-\$150,000(?) for Military Liaison (Statewide Co-ordinator) – to potentially do same three things that Community Mental Health Center Liaisons did: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Identify military at intake via <i>Ask The Question (ATQ)</i>;</li> <li>○ Co-ordinate Military Culture Trainings, and;</li> <li>○ Identifying and helping to facilitate partnerships with VA, military and civilian partners</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Based on data from ATQ. But, this potential may be affected by impending leadership changes.</li> <li>• <b>Draft letter ASAP to make request; go for “gold” version.</b></li> <li>• Who should sign? Gen. Reddel as chair of JMTF?<br/>⇒ <b>Jess will discuss with him, will contact via chief of staff, but need to have numbers first.</b></li> <li>• Possible input from PTSD commission regarding Statewide Military Liaison Position – co-sign request as joint partner?<br/>⇒ <b>Jess will ask Lieutenant Colonel Oberman (Chair of Commission)</b></li> </ul> |

⇒ **Other business/updates:**

| Priority Area                  | Lead(s) | TF Tasks/Other   | Updates/notes  |
|--------------------------------|---------|--|--|
| Potential new members for JMTF | JMTF    | Think about who could potentially join JMTF. Think about whom to reach out to... | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ana McKenna? (if her boss is on board – Jo has reached out to him already)</li> <li>• Command Sergeant Major Victor May (National Guard connection)</li> <li>• Dana Osborne (Resiliency Co-ordinator)?</li> <li>• <b>Share one-page factsheet with potential members.</b></li> <li>• <b>Nancy will ask Dana; Jess will talk to Major May</b></li> <li>• Somebody from Serenity? From RAP program? Harbor Homes?)</li> </ul> |

| Priority Area            | Lead(s) | TF Tasks/Other                     | Updates/notes  |
|--------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|--|
|                          |         |                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invite people who make sense in light of now-established goals.</li> <li>• <i>Also sending handout to any contracted entity – to RPHNs, service link centers, etc. Jo will send out information about group’s current activity/priorities/goals and one-pager to contacts to share around.</i></li> <li>• Anyone interested in joining can contact Jess or Victoria.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Leadership entity</b> | JMTF    | Preparation for leadership changes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Who’s the boss of veterans in the State?” Governor is considering ideas presented to him. Common theme is inter-agency development.</li> <li>• New director of NH State Office of Veterans’ Services (Bill Gaudreau) confirmed three weeks ago. Gen. Reddel resigning end of Sept. Dynamics in flux; Governor has been very engaged. Could new TAG shift focus away from health and wellness, family services, etc.(?).</li> </ul> |

### Our 2017 Meeting Schedule:

- ~~16 FEB, 2017~~
- ~~20 APR, 2017~~
- ~~15 JUN, 2017~~
- ~~17 AUG, 2017~~
- 19 OCT, 2017
- 21 DEC, 2017 (reschedule due to holiday?)

**All meetings will be held in the DHHS Brown Building, room 460, from 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM.**

A call-in number will be provided at the top of each agenda.

# SUD Commission Joint Military Task Force Meeting of 19 October 2017

The fifth meeting of this sub-committee for 2017 was held on the above date. Formal meeting minutes from 17 August were distributed at the meeting and were available electronically.

1. There were ten attendees present at this meeting.
2. As previously discussed, Sue Brown had to re-sign as co-chair of the sub-committee due to clinical demands at Riverbend and contract expiration for her support to the committee at the end of June and Jess Blais from Accenture has also had to resign due to the loss of a contract that was supporting her activity on the sub-committee. Victoria Bagshaw continues as co-chair position in addition to continuing her Secretary duties and a search in being initiated to find another co-chair, particularly someone on the TBI sub-committee to also share the chairmanship on this committee.
3. John Reed, a Martin's Point representative, gave an extended briefing on TRICARE Updates. There were no hand-outs available.
  - a. He suggested you all go to the Defense Health Agency website, <https://health.mil/About-MHS/Defense-Health-Agency/TRICARE-Health-Plan>, for additional information.
  - b. Behavioral Health: Currently evaluating credentialing standards for providers to enter the networks.
  - c. Humana takes over the TRICARE contract east from HealthNet on 1 January 2018. HealthNet moves to the west and the contract regions shrink from three to two.
  - d. TRICARE Prime will remain, but Standard & Extra become TRICARE Select, a preferred provider organization (PPO). They will be moving to a flat rate co-pay rather than a percentage of the bill.
  - e. Enrollments will be moving to open enrollment periods such as for Medicare (usually early November to mid-December), unless you have a "life changing" event or lose your civilian health care coverage. Coming off active duty, veterans will only have 90 days to get enrolled in the new system. No exceptions.
  - f. John will return to the committee in February for any further updates.
4. Nicole Sawyer, PsyD, Vice Chair of the Commission on PTSD and TBI, and I co-signed a letter to the Governor's Commission requesting funding for activities of our sub-committee. We were the only sub-committee to make such a request, and the formal request was presented to the Governor's Commission on 27 October.
5. The "Ask the Question" website was reviewed to determine if any information needed to be updated. The list of referral sources was considered to not be exhaustive. Site maintenance is being transitioned from Easter Seals back to DHHS. We will ultimately need to determine who will be able to edit and maintain the website. Some additional website updates and edits were suggested by the committee members. A question was asked as to what MOAA members would like to see on the website.
6. You can review the website at the following URL: <http://AsktheQuestionNH.com>.
7. There were no updates available regarding the Military Culture Training sessions (Dare Mighty Things". The current contract expires on 30 Sep 17.
8. Next scheduled meeting will be on 14 December 17.

Andrew J Breuder, MD, MPH, FACPM, CPE  
Col (Ret), USAF, MC, CFS



**Military Advisory Council – Portland**  
**Meeting Minutes 10/17/17**

**Martin's Point Update (Dan Houchell)**

1. Martin's Point, as an organization, is very healthy right now. Financially, we are in a very good place.
2. Martin's Point 3-year plan
  - a. For the US Family Health Plan we want to continue to grow our membership, with New York expecting to bring the most growth
  - b. For Generations Advantage we also want to continue to grow our membership with possible expansion into other geographic areas
  - c. We want to explore other options as well as we look to diversify as an organization
3. Generations Advantage is currently in our open enrollment period and enrollments are up 20% from this time last year
4. The Defense Health Agency (DHA) visited Martin's Point last month and they were very impressed with how we are administering the US Family Health Plan. They looked at how we comply with contractual requirements and how we ensure quality measures are met in caring for our members.

**TRICARE Update (Paul Tysver):**

1. TRICARE Changes as a result of the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)
  - a. The DoD proposed to increase volume of patients at the Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs). They have been tasked by Congress to prove the value of MTFs and report back to Congress on improvements to access, quality of care, and cost
  - b. Restructure of TRICARE
    - i. TRICARE Standard and Extra are being eliminated and replaced by TRICARE Select
      1. Select is a preferred provider model; there is no requirement to use network providers, but it is less expensive if using participating providers
      2. Select isn't automatic; it will require enrollment

3. Select will have enrollment fees and co-payments or cost shares, based on which Group (A or B) a beneficiary is in
  - a. Co-payments for in-network; cost shares for out-of-network
- ii. Creation of Open Enrollment, beginning in 2018
  1. January 1, 2018 all beneficiaries will be automatically enrolled in their current plan
  2. All Martin's Point US Family Health Plan members will be automatically enrolled in the US Family Health Plan
  3. If members wish to remain enrolled in the Martin's Point US Family Health Plan, **they do not need to take any action**
  4. 2018 is a "grace" year, meaning beneficiaries will still be able to change plans throughout the year without a Qualifying Life Event (QLE)
  5. 2019 Open Enrollment
    - a. November 12 – December 10 (for enrollment on January 1, 2019)
    - b. After the open enrollment period, beneficiaries will not be able to changes plans (i.e., Select to Prime) unless they have a QLE
- iii. Effective January 1, 2018, Humana will become the Managed Care Contractor for the expanded TRICARE East Region and HealthNet Federal Services will move to the TRICARE West Region
  1. The Managed Care Contractor change **does not affect Martin's Point members**
- c. TRICARE fees
  - i. January 1, 2018 increases based on Groups
    1. Group A: sponsor's initial enlistment or appointment occurs before January 1, 2018 ("Grandfathered")
    2. Group B: sponsor's initial enlistment or appointment occurs on or after January 1, 2018
  - ii. Group B beneficiaries will have a higher cost schedule
  - iii. Congress is still deciding if the grandfathered status will remain; if not, all beneficiaries will pay higher costs
    1. The House wants to keep the grandfathered status; the Senate wants to eliminate it
- d. There are no changes to TRICARE for Life; **Martin's Point members with Medicare Part B will have no change to their health plan**

## **US Family Health Plan Updates (Paul Tysver)**

1. The forecast for 2017 was for minimal growth; we have seen moderate growth YTD
2. We continue to get a high number of enrollments, but disenrollments are also high due to large number of deployments ending, higher number of young members “aging out” (losing eligibility due to turning 21 or 23), and the increase of disenrollments due to members turning 65 (not grandfathered in the Plan)

## **Member Services Update (Leslie Chadbourne)**

1. Robyn Merrill was introduced as the new Supervisor of Member Services. Robyn will be attending future MAC meetings
2. Member Seminars
  - a. We continue to hold member seminars around our service area. The purpose of these seminars is to help our members understand how to better utilize the healthcare benefit they have earned.
    - i. So far in 2018, we have had nearly 800 members attend member seminars throughout our service area
    - ii. We have two more locations scheduled for 2018 – Plattsburgh, NY and Saratoga Springs, NY in November
  - b. We are currently working on the schedule for 2019
3. Our telephone metrics – levels of service for answering incoming calls – are being met resulting in our members getting their questions answered in a timely manner

## **Pharmacy Updates (Lindsey Piirainen and Jennifer Soucy)**

1. They have not yet received any information from the DoD regarding pharmacy co-pays for 2019
2. A medication adherence program has begun for our USFHP members. The purpose is to ensure our members are taking the medications prescribed by their doctors. Through the program, the pharmacy can reach out to members to inquire as to why they may not have refilled their medication in a timely manner, such as a financial reason
  - a. Cholesterol medications are the first to be monitored; other medications will be added in the future
  - b. Medication adherence by US Family Health Plan members is very high
3. Added to the current high cost medication outreach program are biologics to treat rheumatoid arthritis

4. The mail order pharmacy is now fully staffed, helping to ensure our members receive their medications in a timely manner
5. Both Lindsey and Jennifer have now been certified as Geriatric Pharmacists

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting has not yet been scheduled, but should be in the April timeframe