



**OFFICE OF MAYOR DONNA DEEGAN  
TRANSITION HEALTH COMMITTEE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH INSURANCE ACCESS  
MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, JULY 10, 2023  
4:00 – 5:30 PM**

**Committee Members**

**PRESENT:**

Carolyn McClanahan, M.D. – Health  
Committee Chair  
Dr. John Montgomery  
Jennifer Ryan  
Susan Grich  
Jerry McMillan

Jennifer Cowart (via Teams)  
Charles Gray (via Teams)  
Marva Gelzer (via Teams)  
Sunil Joshi, M.D. – Chief Health Officer  
Lynn Sherman – Exec. Dir. of Health  
Programs

**ABSENT:**

None

**COJ Staff Support:**

James Richardson  
Trisha Bowles

**Guests Present:**

## **Call to Order**

Dr. McClanahan called the meeting to order at 4 pm welcoming members and guests.

## **Chair's remarks**

Dr. McClanahan shared background on how the transition committees are envisioned to work. She asked members to introduce themselves and share any insights that they had around the discussion topics.

## **Logistics / Sunshine Law**

James Richardson introduced himself as the staff support to the committees. He would be the main point of contact. Trisha Bowles, Office of General Counsel. Provided some information concerning Sunshine Law and how the committee members could communicate with each other. They both shared the Sharepoint site information that had been established for the Health committees and provided directions on how they were to be used.

## **Discussion Topics:**

- **ACA Enrollment**
- **Health network challenges**

Committee members engaged in discussions around the major impediments to insurance for residents and the challenges with identifying insurance and primary care and how to access it. While the challenges were many, most members felt that the Mayor was well positioned to be a communicator and a convenor.

Discussions focused around what the Mayor could do bring about community collaboration in order to increase impact. The Mayor, Dr. Joshi and Lynn Sherman are well positioned to do this and encouraged to do so. They suggested that a method was needed to really do a deep dive to find out what is going on – what organizations are offering what services. Once this is done, then a gap analysis can be conducted in order to begin developing programs to address them. Education was a major discussion point and there was consensus that a public education campaign needed to be conducted during the ACA enrollment timeframe and that Mayor Deegan could use her bully pulpit to do this. The healthcare network was a major discussion point and it was consensus thought that the Mayor could convene the insurers and providers together to the table to encourage collaboration to solve this major issue.

Dr. McClanahan talked about the possible transition report format and the timing. The committees would all be meeting over the course of the month and she is tasked with having the report in draft form completed around mid-August.

James shared that he would communicate the next meeting and location as soon as he could arrange the logistics.

## **Comments from the Public**

**None**