

MaineCare Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2020
10:00 a.m. to noon

109 Capitol Street, Augusta Maine, Conference rooms Maine A & B

I. CALL TO ORDER

Kathy Kilrain del Rio called to order the regular meeting of the MaineCare Advisory Committee at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 4th.

II. ROLL CALL

Kathy Kilrain del Rio conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

MaineCare Advisory Committee Members: Kathy Kilrain del Rio; Vickie McCarty; Laurie Belden; Esther Bullard; Laura Cordes; Cathy Dionne; Gia Drew; Al Durgin; Leo Delicata; Mark Eves; Suzanne Farley; Mike Hallundbaek; Zach Hawkins; Jillian Jolicoeur; Marge Kilkelly; Sarah Lewis; Atlee Reilly; Mary Schneckenburger; Judy Seals; Jeff Tiner; Susan White; David Winslow. By phone: Stephanie Chase; Rachel Dyer; Candy Henderly; Melissa Phelps.

MaineCare Staff: Sarah Grant; Tom Leet; Lora Marchand; Michelle Probert; Molly Slotznick; Lisa Weaver.

Guests: Jill Adams; Kathy Adams; Pamela Boivin; Kirsten Capeless; Jamie Cotnoir; Marc Fecteau; Jacob Karaisz; Malory Shaughnessy. By phone: Elizabeth Cameron.

III. NEW BUSINESS

a) Update on Non-Emergency Transportation with Molly Slotznick.

- Working on an Evaluation RFP.
- Leo Delicata inquired as to what the MAC's role might be. Leo believes it would be helpful to have the MAC look at the RFP in advance. Michelle Probert noted she will touch base with Contract Management to see if that is possible.
- Atlee Riley believes targeted interviews with consumers would be valuable.

b) Update on the Rate Setting Study with Molly Slotznick.

- Is there a role for the MAC to play in the RFP process?
- Michelle noted the RFP closed last Friday, and clarified that the RFP request is for an evaluation of the system as a whole.

- Mark Eves requested a list of those services where rate studies are currently being conducted. Michelle will share a PowerPoint of services currently under review.
- c) **Gia Drew shared an overview of the challenges members are encountering when trying to access transgender services under the new rule.**
- MaineCare removed exclusions on transgender services; however, there are problems with the roll out of the policy.
 - MaineCare staff needs to be trained on the policy. There is a lack of understanding about protocol for procedures.
 - Adolescents are being challenged that they are too young to make health decisions by the Member Services Call Center.
 - Gia will send a specific list of the concerns to Sarah, Molly, and Lora.
 - Esther Bullard noted the Department's CORE training for staff was a valuable vehicle for spreading awareness. Jillian asked if the department might consider sharing the training externally.
- d) **Discussion re: Working group report on mental health services.**
- The report contains recommendations that pertain to MaineCare. There are a number of things relating to rates and looking at MaineCare Services.
 - The concern was presented re: prior authorization being required every 90 days for someone with chronic and persistent mental illness.
 - A copy of the report will be made available to the MAC to discuss at the next meeting.
- e) **Discussion re: KEPRO burden in Daily Living Support Services.**
- Jillian noted Section 17 agencies are burdened by the process of having to submit information to KEPRO to determine if patients are eligible for services when that responsibility shouldn't be on the agencies. It's putting agencies out of business.
 - Molly asked Jillian and Pamela to write out their concerns and share the information with Lora Marchand.
- f) **Lora Marchand was introduced as the new Policy Director.**
- g) **Tom Leet presented the Rule Status Update.**
- Section 2 has been adopted.
 - Section 106, School-Based Services, has been proposed.
 - Lora Marchand presented an overview of the Section 106 hearing details and the training that is planned around the rule.
 - Section 5, Ambulance Services; Section 45, Hospital Services; and Section 103, Rural Health Clinics are in draft and will be proposed soon.

h) Updates from Sub-Groups.

- Update from Mark Eves re: School-Based Services sub-committee.
 - Number of things the committee has significant concerns about.
 - Concerned about limiting of treatment hours to the IEP.
 - Concerned about rate reductions.
 - Concerned about limiting of Behavioral Health Day Treatment hours.
 - Committee wants to know if it is normal practice to bring a recommendation to the larger MAC.
 - As MAC committee members, is it appropriate to identify ourselves as members of the MAC at a public hearing?
 - There is a difference on speaking ‘on behalf of’ the MAC versus identifying oneself as a member but not speaking on behalf of the MAC. Speaking ‘on behalf of’ the MAC requires a vote and chair approval.
 - Sarah confirmed a special meeting can be called, per Chapter I of the MaineCare Benefits Manual. Lora raised the question of public meeting protocol to discuss a position and hold a vote.
 - Is having representatives from the Department in the room, if a discussion were to occur re: making a recommendation regarding the rule at the public hearing, problematic?
 - MaineCare staff can be in the room but not engage in discussion.
 - Marc will get the information from the sub-committees to the MAC members.
 - The MAC may determine they wish to hold an emergency meeting prior to the hearing.

- Mary Schneckenburger presented an overview of the Member Access Sub-committee’s work. They have questions about dental access and the transgender rule. Esther Bullard will take the group’s questions relating to eligibility and answer them offline in the interest of time. The group is concerned about agencies that are closing. They also discussed non-emergency transportation access and have questions.

- The Legislative committee needs sub-committee chair. Anyone interested can reach out to Kathy.

i) **Items From Guests.**

- Question as to where MAC info can be found on the MaineCare website.

IV. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- a) Request for Leana Amaez, the Department's lead for Diversity and Inclusion, to attend a MAC meeting and present an overview of her role and her priorities.
- b) Continuation of School-based Services discussion.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Kathy Kilrain del Rio adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

VI. POST-MEETING ACTION ITEMS

- a) On February 4, 2020, Sarah Grant emailed Michelle's Power Point presentation regarding which services currently have rate studies under way to the MAC, as requested by Mark Eves.

Sarah also sent the link to the MaineCare Benefits Manual where you will find language about the MAC (Chapter I, page 85):

<https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/10/ch101.htm>

Lastly, Sarah sent the link to the MAC page of our website:

https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/stakeholders/mac_notes.htm. OMS

recognizes it needs updating and are working to get that done as quickly as possible.

- b) Michelle Probert followed-up with Contract Management to see if it is possible to review the Non-Emergency Transportation RFP in advance.
- c) The Section 106 School Based Services Rule was withdrawn on February 10, 2020. The Department is currently scheduling additional stakeholder outreach to provide clarification a solicit questions and concerns prior to determining next steps.