

## **MINUTES HCA-CCC/ALAMEDA MEETING On Zoom February 2, 2025, 3 PM**

**Present:** Janet Thomas, Nel Benningshof, Jonee Grassi, Dan Hodges, Harry Baker, Marian Shostrom, Nicki Davis, Ernie Isaacs.

**Agenda/Minutes:** Agenda was approved. Minutes of December 1, 2024, meeting were approved.

**Membership Report:** Nel reported that the Contra Costa Chapter has 80 members and Alameda Chapter has 24 members.

**Health Care Action Committee (HCAC):** Ernie announced that HCAC has been in existence for approximately ten years but has not recovered its membership since Covid. The group of 80 to 90 people will be folding. Ernie asked for assistance in directing the HCAC members to participate in HCA. Dan offered to work with the HCA's State membership chair, Ellen Karel, to assist in this process. Nel suggested that any of his group could sign up for HCA action alerts, then decide if they want to join as members.

**Treasurer's Report:** Janet reported that our chapter received a check from the State HCA for \$653.80. Our total amount in the bank is \$3,983.09.

**HCA-CA Update:** Jonee encouraged participation at the HCA Annual Membership meeting scheduled for February 23, 2025, at 1pm as well as voting on the slate of Directors to meet the quorum. Nel will send a list for us to call or email to encourage voting. There is a statewide committee preparing for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of HCA in 2026. Our chapter needs to work on community outreach via farmers' markets, educational events, etc. A spreadsheet created by Winchell Dillenbeck was proposed to keep track of our efforts. Harry reviewed the January 23 webinar on the Office of Health Care Affordability (OCHA). He encouraged all to sign a letter requesting a legislative briefing to educate legislators about the damage OHCA's use of "value-based payments" could do to health care. Janet will sign the letter on behalf of our chapter.

**Healthy California Now (HCN):** Dan reported that the leaders of SB 770 are still trying to engage with the Federal government on what type of waiver might be available for California to have single payer. The SB 770 report is due in June, followed by public hearings. The final report is due in November 2025.

**Labor Updates:** Harry reported that many members of SEIU 1021 have signed the letter to demand a legislative hearing about OHCA. Discussion was held about other methods to educate the legislators. Individual visits locally to legislators were suggested as well as partnering with CARA to do Lobby Days at the Capitol. Jonee will request that State HCA put a packet together for legislative visits.

**Announcements:** Janet will be doing a slide show on single payer to the Lamorinda Peace and Justice Group and League of Women Voters CA's Health Care Interest Group. She is considering showing it to Lamorinda Democratic Club, too. Janet announced that anyone wanting to do a health care "break out" session at the League of Women Voters CA convention must do so by the end of February. She reviewed the presentation by Michelle Famula on community health care clinics at the League's Health Care Interest Group. Marian announced that Mt. Diablo Unified School District is distributing "red cards" to students about their constitutional rights in response to immigration/deportation actions by the government.

**Next Meeting Date:** May 4, 2025, at 3pm.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.