**Columbia County Community Healthcare Consortium, Inc.**

**Minutes of the Governance Committee meeting of September 24, 2018**

**Attending**:

Linda Tripp (Chair), Jeff Rovitz, Scott Thomas, Laurie Scott and Robin Andrews. Staff: Claire Parde

**Discussion Summary**:

**Off-site meetings**

The group discussed the options for meetings at locations other than the conference room at 325. Claire noted that the content of the agenda in certain months—notably, December and April, when audit work must be done—does not lend itself to off-site meetings. With regard to the remaining months, she noted that few network members have space to accommodate our large group. However, the group agreed that it is not necessary for network members to host a meeting in order to be the subject of a Network Member Spotlight; instead, they could simply present to the board at our usual meeting location.

Columbia-Greene Community College can accommodate us in October; the group will meet in the Professional Academic Center, Room 612, where the tables and chairs can be arranged to allow for group discussion. Claire will confirm with Jim Campion that he will be prepared to speak for a few minutes about the college.

St. John in the Wilderness is also a possibility for an off-site meeting, though its distance from Hudson makes it challenging. The group agreed that they might save this as a site for a retreat, rather than regular business meeting. The group also discussed the possibility of meeting at DSS and CMH. Staff will pursue.

**Planning for social time at the December Board Meeting**

The group agreed that it would be nice to have some time on the December meeting agenda dedicated to socializing. This will be at the beginning of the meeting, and facilitated by a game such as cocktail party bingo. Refreshments, including a veggie platter, fruit salad, cookies and coffee, will be provided.

**Reviewing the merits of outside presenters at Board meetings**

The group discussed our recent experience with outside presenters, including Dr. Esselstyn of the Rip Van Winkle Foundation, and Kathy Preston, of the New York Health Plan Association. While it was unclear to some members, based on their observation of the board’s quiet response to the presenters, whether the practice was valued by the board, other members spoke to their own interest in the speakers. It was agreed that the practice should continue, with Meg Wallingford, the Chief Operations Officer for Better Health of Northeastern NY, in October, and Frank Pindiak, the Executive Director of St. Catherine’s Center in December. However, Claire was asked to provide a bit of context for each speaker in the agenda, with a brief description of the speaker and how his/her work relates to or has implications for the agency and/or network.

Scott requested a speaker on the topic of rurality, including the “upsides” of rural and strengths to be leveraged. Claire suggested Karen Madden, the Director of the State Office of Rural Health, Board member for the National Association of State Offices of Rural Health, and creator of National Rural Health Day. As it happens, Claire will see Karen later this week at the New York State Association for Rural Health conference, and ask her at that time whether she would address the board in the spring.

**Reviewing the New Board Mentor Program**

Claire distributed a written description of the New Board Mentor Program, which was written as guidance to a board mentor. The Committee suggested a couple of changes to both that document and the New Board Member Recruitment and Onboarding Process, which she will affect. She will also create a handout that is specifically targeted to the board mentee, which outlines both what they can expect and what will be expected of them.

**Comparing the 2015 and 2018 Board Assessments**

Claire distributed board assessments from 2015 and 2018. The members will review and compare them at their leisure, and share any observations or concerns that they may have.

**Board member luncheon schedule**

In the interest of time, Linda and Claire agreed to confer about this separately.

**Next Meeting: TBD**