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

**Minutes of the Governance Committee meeting of July 28, 2021**

**Participants**:

Board Members: Robin Andrews (Interim Chair), Raina Cashdollar, Jeff Rovitz, Scott Thomas, John Thompson

Staff: Claire Parde

**Discussion Summary**:

**Discussion regarding a new Governance Committee Chair**

With the recent resignation of Linda Tripp from the Board, the position of Governance Committee Chair is currently vacant. As a result, Board President Robin Andrews agreed to serve as an Interim Chair for this meeting. Robin’s first agenda item was a request for current members to consider serving in that capacity. Current members reported that they have time constraints that preclude this, so the group considered other board members not currently serving on the Committee who might fill the role. The Committee identified a member with whom Robin will follow up.

**Recommendation for Board Secretary**

As Linda Tripp also served as the Secretary of the Board, that vacancy must also be filled. It was agreed that it would be ideal for the roles of Board Secretary and Governance Chair to be occupied by the same individual, so Robin will make that request of the same member with whom she’ll consult about serving as the Governance Chair.

**Update on in-person meetings plan**

The Committee remembered that, when the Board last met, there was a discussion about the possibility of returning to in-person meetings and various approaches were discussed. Subsequently, a survey was administered to all members to determine their interest and preferences; Claire shared those survey responses with the Committee. Without exception, all members expressed a willingness to return to in-person meetings, with a couple requesting that the meeting space that is sufficiently large to provide for social distancing. As this cannot be accomplished in the meeting room at 325 Columbia Street, staff subsequently planned for an August meeting in a larger room at Columbia Greene Community College (CGCC). However, the Committee discussed that since the survey was administered, circumstances pertaining to COVID transmission have changed that may impact in-person participation. As it’s too late to readminister a survey to assess whether members’ views have changed, the Committee decided that we will continue with the plan to meet in person if, and only if, remote participation can also be accommodated. If it is found that members would be unable to participate remotely, the meeting will revert to a virtual one.

**Discussion of Annual Recognition event**

The group agreed that the Consortium’s Annual Recognition Event, which historically has been an in-person gathering at which the Friend of the Consortium award(s) is/are conferred, is difficult to plan at this time. Therefore, it was agreed that staff will prepare such recognitions for our two 2021 honorees—Linda Tripp and Jeff Rovitz—as they can (e.g. plaque nameplates, certificates, citations, and press releases), with the goal of recognizing them at the December Board meeting. Additional planning for that recognition, whether virtual or in-person, will occur at the next meeting of the Governance Committee.

**Next Meeting: October 27, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.**