**Health Care Reform Forum Meeting Notes**

**Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 2:30 pm**

**Progressive Action for the Common Good**

**Attendees:** Diane Trix, Frank Samuelson, Kay Pence, Jane Duax, Deb Sperry, Rael Slavenski

1. Rock Island Community Health Care free screenings
   1. Frank attended, but did not have any specific updates.
   2. Rael suggests getting incentives/giveaways/gas cards/food gift cards/free public transportation via funding from Quad Cities Community Foundation or other organizations
   3. Deb: Focus on 2-3 subjects or needs. Make this more accessible.
2. Prescription Drug Pricing LTE
   1. Was in the QCT on the 4/21/23.
3. List of Frank’s LTE
   1. Diane will send Frank the link to this list.
4. ARA (Alliance for Retired Americans) Retiree Town Hall on Social Security & Medicare
   1. Talk on what the 22% Social Security cut will entail: May 17th, 2023. Link is in the PAU.
5. May 11th “Abortion is Healthcare: A Public Health Discussion”
   1. Maggie plans to attend.
   2. Allocated ½ million dollars to these crisis pregnancy centers
   3. Deb: many rural areas don’t have obstetrical or gynecological supports and they are talking about setting up these “clinics” in store fronts, but it’s not actual physical health care.
   4. Maggie: NPR covered Kim Reynolds believing Physician Assistants with less restrictions will help Iowa attract more medical professionals. This is ridiculous because medical professionals are being restricted on how they can practice in Iowa.
6. HB 2811 Discussion
   1. Discuss after ARA townhall?
   2. Kay will send a letter to the Des Moines Register and will keep us updated.
7. New Covid Booster Recommendations update - U of I Maggie
   1. Maggie messaged Dr. Byrne (Oncologist at U of I). Will update when she responds.
   2. 65+ and 6+ with weakened immune systems can get an additional bivalent booster.
8. Boycotting Walgreens - Maggie report
   1. Maggie could not attend April Board Meeting. Will ask at May board meeting next week.
   2. Jane goes to Main at Locust Pharmacy instead
   3. Rael goes to Hy-Vee. His perception is there’s not been a national push for a boycott, so it seems it comes down to personal issues.
   4. Unsure if PACG has ever boycotted anything fully as an entire organization
   5. Maggie will ask if we have a stance as an organization as a whole at next board meeting next Wed.
9. Rael’s book review on “Weathering” reports on access.
   1. Diane and Rael have copies
   2. Frank got the library to order the book at Moline Library4
   3. Maggie could ask the Scott County Library in Eldridge
10. Ways to Lower Personal Drug Costs Group submissions
    1. Diane will send this to Kay and Maggie to possibly share this with the PAU and letter to the editor
11. Update on facilitator position
    1. Kay cannot based on her new Scott Co. Dems position
    2. Jane is willing to help co-facilitate with Maggie - We will come up with a time to go over creating agendas and meeting times.
    3. Diane will send documents (in the next several months) to the PACG email for HCRF so we have it all documented

***Meeting notes taken by:*** *Maggie Davis/ Edited by Jeannie Price*