



# Arizona In-Home Care Association March 18, 2021 Virtual Board Meeting Minutes

**Those present:** Zach Shaw Steve Thompson Aaron Sinykin  
Monica Bananto Steve Alfonsi Seth Layman  
Keffory Levy Jude Tarris Lisa Martinez  
Angie Rash Linda Thompson

**Those Absent:** Kathy Zazueta Lisa MacNaughton Dayna Klecak Bob Dailey

The meeting was then called to order at 11:33 AM by Zach Shaw

Prior to beginning the meeting, Zach mentioned to all that AZNHA had a rule stating that if a board member missed more than three meetings with no reason, there was grounds for dismissal from the board. Zach also said that he would contact Kathy to discuss this with her. And that he would speak with Lisa Mac about meetings and that until if/when Dispatch Health becomes a member, she is not considered an AZNHA member.

**Minutes:** There was no discussion regarding the minutes, Steve T. made the motion to approve, Aaron seconded, and all approved

**Treasurers Report:** There was no discussion about the financials. Keffory moved to accept, Steve A seconded and all approved.

**Membership Contacts:** Zach asked each board member if they had made any contacts since the last meeting.

Zach reported that he had made no contacts  
Keffory continues to make contact with InstaCare AZ  
Steve T has made no contacts  
Monica has spoken with Joshua at Brookdale  
Steve A – has contacted three agencies but no results at this time  
Aaron – has one new EPDPA member that will become an AZNHA member  
Jude has made no contacts  
Lisa M has spoken with Homewatch Caregivers, Chandler  
Seth is working on an insurance company  
Angie has spoken with Grand Canyon Home Care

Jude asked about non-members participating in the Education Sessions, and it was decided that Jude and Linda would ask all meeting participants to identify themselves (company names) via the Chat box.

## Committee Reports:

**EPDPA:** Aaron reported that they were still focusing on the budget, and that there had been no in-person meetings and that Zoom has been challenging. He said it looks like they are on the right path to getting an increase as some legislators are pushing for the increase.

On a federal, there is a 10% increase in the latest COVID bill and that EPDPA is compiling a wish list. He also talked about FMAP which is related to federal matching of Medicaid dollars at 70%. Discussion occurred on this topic and is available on the recording.

**HCAoA:** Steve reported that the speaker at the last meeting talked about liability regarding COVID issues. The takeaway is that most carriers have an 'infected disease exclusion' in their policies.

The speaker whose topic was legalized marijuana and that his take is that attorneys are unlike physicians. Since recreational marijuana has no legalized protection, he believes AZNHA can continue with business as usual regarding its' drug testing policy.

Then Zach said he considers the topic as business as usual since under federal guidelines, marijuana is still illegal. That AZNHA supports best practices and therefore, no changes will be made to AZNHA policy.

Steve said that the next chapter meeting is May 19 and they are looking for a speaker whose topic is self-care.

Note: At this point, Bob and Lisa Mac joined the meeting.

**Conference:** Monica reported that she was unable to participate in the Whova call, but that both Zach and Keffory did participate. Keffory said he thought that Whova is a good product and that they can customize to fit our needs. He said that while he liked the product, his concern was spending too much time in front of a screen.

Zach polled the group and Keffory, Seth, Jude and Monica believe that setting the conference for March 2022 would more than likely work best. They asked Linda to contact the conference center to determine which dates might be available 1Q22. She will also contact Embassy Suites and the Doubletree (both part of the Hilton group) about room rates.

Keffory said that Whova could provide bare bones, and that content could be uploaded to the app. Sponsors can upload presentations. Zach said that Whova would be a small expense and then asked the Conference Committee to be prepared to offer dates at the next meeting with options 1, 2 and 3.

**Education:** Jude reviewed the HOV presenter for the March meeting and Zach thought it was very good. Jude is looking at hiring being a topic for a future month. He has contacted a couple of people and is waiting to hear back from them before making an announcement.

He asked the board who are ALTCS providers if there were any topics that would be specific to their needs. Aaron said the issues are the same even though the service lines might be different. Keffory said care delivery is the same.

Jude said that Home Care Pulse might be good in the summer, then have them say that they would be participating in the conference. Keffory suggested working with 3<sup>rd</sup> party tech – anyone who works with companies who has the technology might be considered to speak. Monica said that Constant Companion and Copper Star might be a good fit for this topic. She said that Constant Companion is similar to Life Alert and works with Alexa (both audio and video), and is like a digital companion.

It was determined that speakers would be chosen this year that would be a test for being speakers at conference.

**Legislative:** Steve T. reported that Aaron had given the update regarding rates; and that the federal wage increase was worth monitoring although it doesn't look like an easy pass.

He said that leaders from AZNHA, EPDPA and HCAoA had met last week (Aaron, Zach, Steve and Krystal). They didn't talk about legislative stuff, but did address mentorship programs and finding ways to bring people into the workforce.

Steve also added that the Right to Work Bill passed in the House – it is pro-union and would take away right to work and it would make mandatory arbitration illegal in states that require it.

Lisa M asked the length of time that unemployment was extended. Discussion then occurred regarding payroll taxes, COVID pay, etc. The entire discussion can be heard on the recording.

**Communications:** Zach reported that the Fireside Chats were ongoing and that the January/February video is on the website.

Website is getting rebuilt and we should have a complete one soon.

Surveys were sent re. conference and bed-bound clients. We also sent additional information on testing

**Member Benefits:** Zach's committee meets monthly before the board meeting.

There have been some questions regarding 2021 benefits vs 2020 benefits. We've lost a few, but we also have some new ones as well, i.e., AlayaCare and Paychex. AlayaCare is looking at training resources; Paychex looking into discounts for payroll and more.

Zach is reviving the day care topic and that he will continue talking with CCRR (the government program) on daycare and he will also be looking at training. The group is looking at structure for mentorship. Scott Savel is working to get discounts for tires, Aaron Stough is checking into general automotive discounts (Jiffy Lube, and the like); Steve A is looking at general benefits and is surveying caregivers within his group for their thoughts and ideas on discounts/benefits they would like. And he asks that other board members survey their caregivers and report back to him.

#### **Old Business:**

**TB Testing** – a moot point at this time – leave AZNHA rules the same.

**Homebound Clients and COVID:** Zach said that there were only 2 responses to the survey and he asked for suggestions on how to get these homebound clients vaccinated. Linda and Zach will work on rewording the survey to resend. The reason for the survey needs to be explained with more clarity and that may bring additional respondents.

#### **New Business:**

Lisa Mac reported that she had been talking with Tucson agencies and that they are asking for more information particular about the conference. She also said that Dispatch Health both Tucson and Phoenix offices will become new members. She also mentioned that Dispatch Health could go to the homes of those homebound clients if the J&J vaccine were available.

Keffory asked about board meeting recordings being in the cloud and if the board could listen to the recording, Linda wouldn't have to take formal notes. Linda responded that a paper trail was legally required, however she would put the video file on Google Drive for everyone to have access to.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:54 PM

The next meeting will be virtual on Thursday, April 15 from 11:30 AM to 1 PM.

Respectively submitted by  
Linda Thompson,  
Board Administrator