



Janet T. Mills
Governor

STATE OF MAINE
Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board
61 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0061

Dr. Noah Nesin
Chair

**Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board
Monday November 27, 2023 @ 10:30 am
Microsoft TEAMS Meeting**

In Person Location: Burton M. Cross Building, Augusta, Maine - Room 600, 6th Floor, ME

Board Members in Attendance: Peter Hayes, Dr. Noah Nesin, Jennifer Reck, Dr. Julia Redding, Rhonda Selvin, Sharon Treat, Kelsie Snow, and Dr. Susan Wehry (Total = 8)

Board Members Absent:
Vacant Seat(s): 0

Others Present:

Advisory Council: Jennifer Kent, Anne-Marie Toderico, Kristy Gould, and Christina Moylan

Employee Health & Wellness: Devon French, Roberta DuPont, Emma-Lee St. Germain, and Charles Luce

All Others: Meg Garratt-Reed, Kevin Bourque, Drew Gattine, Rachel Cottle Latham, Patrick McGary, Amanda Attiya, Matt Seidner, Kelly Memphis, Nicholas Boyer, Patrick McGarry, Terence Lee, and Tim McSherry

Agenda Item:	Discussion:	Action/Next Steps:
I. Call to Order (10:3 am)	Dr. Noah Nesin called the meeting to order.	
II. Introductions		
a. Introductions	Information contained in written reports; highlights and discussion noted below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No items were brought to the board. 	
III. Approval of the Minutes (May 22, 2023 (revised) & September 25, 2023)		Dr. Susan Weary made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for May 22, 2023 (revised) Dr. Julia Redding seconded the motion. The motion passed. Peter Hayes made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for & September 25, 2023. Dr. Julia Redding seconded the motion. The motion passed.
IV. Monthly Business		



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<p>a. Discussion of the Board's future</p>	<p>Information contained in written reports; highlights and discussion noted below:</p> <p>a. <u>Review statutory duties:</u></p> <p>Dr. Noah Nesin states – It's important that we align the Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board's work with the Office for Affordable Healthcare and that we move forward by developing the framework together in some in some strategic and collaborative fashion in order to have more impact than we've had up to this point.</p> <p>Meg Garratt-Reed states – The Statute for this Advisory Board is to look at public payers and set a target for increases in spending on prescription drugs, monitor spending and report back on public payers that are at risk of exceeding the targets, and make recommendations specifically for how those public payers could meet the targets.</p> <p>I think given the complexity of prescription drug costs and many of the ways that spending is unique compared to other expenses in the healthcare system, this this could be a good opportunity to discuss proposals and ideas and in more depth as well as make recommendations in future Legislative sessions.</p> <p>b. <u>Review prior reports and current status of recommendations:</u></p> <p>Meg Garratt-Reed states – I read the annual reports from this board, which talked about expanding the scope, both to be more in line with what some other States that have more tools to use and also to address some of the public consumer facing issues. There are three bills carried over from last session. The first would establish reference-based pricing tied to the Medicare maximum fare price, the second is to contract with Civica RX, which is a nonprofit pharmaceutical manufacturer for the production of</p>	<p>Meg Garratt-Reed states – Jennifer Reck, Dr. Susan Weary, Ronda Selvin, Kelsie Snow and I will draft language for our new charge for the board and will keep Dr. Noah Nesin looped in.</p>
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insulin, and the third one was a measure to and essentially pass on Pharmacy Benefit Manager rebates.

c. Determining next steps:

Meg Garrett-Reed states – Cloture has passed so new bills cannot be introduced this session. The thought would be to work with legislators to include some language around shifting the charge of the board as an amendment to an existing bill.

Sharon Treat states – The thought would be to work with legislators to include some language around amending the charge of the board along with potentially input on other substantive components.

Peter Hayes Suggests – We went down the pathway of getting geared up to testify on bills that already exist, so might be easier taking each one of those conversations at a time instead of all at once because we made them from a very high view down into a very tactical view.

Dr. Noah Negin states – I think that in asking for additional input, I meant on the entire framing of the whole thing and not just the specifics of, for instance, what Sharon Treat had suggested, but what Sharon is suggesting is that if we wish to change the charge of the board, the way we do that is to work with the legislature on one of these three existing bills to add language which does exactly that change the charge of the board to be as Meg Garratt-Reed has suggested, Advisory Board for her office, which would include a broader perspective, including both Rhonda Selvin, Dr. Weary and Dr. Redding have suggested - that we are interested in broadly the consumer impact of pricing and how we might affect that.



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Dr. Noah Nesin asks – What are the first thoughts on whether we wish to stay focused on the on the legislative charge of this board or broadly pursue changing the charge of the board to something that's somewhat more expansive?

Peter Hayes responds – I think we've effectively taken a broader view the past 3 years. We have introduced the annual reports that have that broader view and there hasn't been pushed back from the legislature that we're out of our lanes.

I think in order to change the RX environment, it's going to take all purchasers in the state to be able to do that, both public and private, So I think it makes a lot of sense to continue on that broader path.

Dr. Julia Redding states – I agree that I would also argue that we haven't had pushback because we haven't received any attention. It's not clear that anyone has even read any of our suggestions, so I think it would be nice to have a formal charge that includes this broader perspective that we've already been working on. If we can get on a bill as soon as possible, maybe people will notice.

Peter Hayes responds – I was in Augusta most the last session, especially on the healthcare pieces, and we were sort of represented and they listened and some of them actually referenced looking at the report, at least our annual report was referenced.

Dr. Noah Nesin states – I see a consensus - we want an expanded role while maintaining independence and autonomy while being a resource for Meg's group and there is no consensus on moving this board on to some other entity.



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V. Advocacy		
a. Advocacy	Information contained in written reports; highlights and discussion noted below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No items were brought to the board. 	
VI. Other Business		
a. Legislative Updates – Jennifer Reck	Information contained in written reports; highlights and discussion noted below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Legislative per diem for Board Members (Meg Garratt-Reed) – There is a stipend available for members who are not otherwise compensated for their time and travel expenses. Meg Garratt-Reed will share instructions to anyone who is interested. b. 2024 Meeting Schedule – We will be maintaining the current cadence (Chair) monthly meeting starting 4th Monday in February. January’s meeting will be moved to the 8th. c. Update on MPDAB Membership (Chair) – Dr. Noah Nesin stated 9 months ago he notified the Governor’s Office that he wants to step down as chair but wants to still serve on board if there is an opportunity. 	
b. Open Discussion	Discussion highlights below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No items were brought to the board. 	
VII. Adjourn (11: 52am)		Peter Hayes made a motion to adjourn; Sharon Treat , seconded the motion. The motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: January 29, 2024