

OHHIT Steering Committee Minutes

September 15, 2005

Participants: Bill Hayes, Philip Powers, Richard Moore, Stephanie Jursek, Mary Crimmins, Heidi Gordon, Dennis Swartzlander; *by phone*: Emily Welebob, Dawn Mays, Jon Wills, Chris Knisely, Brian Phillips, Robert Steffel and Jerry Friedman.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Bill Hayes, President of the Health Policy Institute of Ohio, welcomed the group, and all attendees introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2005 MINUTES

Mary Crimmins requested the minutes be amended to change the name of the November meeting to "Invitation Only." A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made. The motion passed unanimously.

INTERVIEW UPDATE

Stephanie Jursek stated significant progress had been made with conducting interviews. A listing of the interviewees was provided to the committee along with information, reflecting which individuals had been interviewed and which interviews remained outstanding. Dawn Mays reviewed with the committee those individuals that have not been responsive to calls to schedule an interview. Committee members offered to facilitate arranging the interviews. Additionally, preliminary findings from the interviews were discussed and will be formally presented at the symposium.

2005 OHHIT SYMPOSIUM AGENDA DISCUSSION

National Speakers

Emily Welebob reported that Hurricane Katrina has created a significant challenge in obtaining national speakers. She has secured Carol Cain, Ph.D. and Susan Christensen, ARHQ senior advisors for Scott Young and Carolyn Clancy. Dr. Cain will present via video conferencing and Susan Christensen will be present for the symposium. Emily Welebob reviewed with the committee the professional experience of Carol Cain and Susan Christensen and noted that both of these individuals are quite familiar with the ARHQ awards and new funding for future grant awards. Additionally, Emily Welebob stated there is still an outstanding request for securing Lori Evans. Bill Hayes commented that if Lori Evans could not attend, Carol Cain and Susan Christensen would be a good choice for providing a national perspective on eHealth.

Ohio Speakers

Stephanie Jursek gave an overview of the composition of the reaction panel for the symposium and a current update of panelists. Jim Pearsol on behalf of the Ohio Department of Health will serve as the public health representative. John Jesser agreed to represent the interests of the private payer. Bill Hayes noted he will follow up with Sharron DiMario to discuss securing a panelist from a member of the Cincinnati region of the Employer Health Care Alliance on behalf of the employer's interests. Bill Hayes also stated that since there are time constraints to add another panelist to address the public payer interest, a possible solution would be to have a moderator for the panel that has a Medicaid focus to intermittently speak on that area during the time segment for the reaction panel.

Invitations

Philip Powers announced that the invitations were sent out to the committee and to the attendees from last year's summit. The agenda link on the invitation will be updated as the symposium planning progresses. He added that there were some challenges with the set up of the bank account for electronic registration; however, he developed a temporary solution so that there were no interruptions in the online registration process.

Poster Session

Philip Powers advised that two abstracts have been received thus far and others have expressed interest in submitting posters. At the Quest Business Centers, there is space to exhibit 20 posters. Quest also has the capability to accommodate electronic displays. Bill Hayes commented that Don Stredney from the Ohio Supercomputer Center indicated a poster for the symposium would be submitted on behalf of their organization. He also recommended that Bob Steffel submit an abstract. Chris Knisley added that there would be two abstracts at the symposium from Ohio University.

Talking Points

Stephanie Jursek reviewed with the committee the talking points document for promotion of the symposium and the “Invitation Only” meeting. She cautioned the committee to be mindful in the promotion of the “Invitation Only” meeting that only a limited number of people will be invited to that meeting. The exclusiveness of the “Invitation Only” meeting could be used as an enticement by the committee for attendance at the symposium.

Publicity

Bill Hayes stated that he plans to solicit the press to engender interest in reporting to the public the purpose and presentations of the symposium. Stephanie Jursek indicated that a promotional brochure was going to be designed prior to the symposium.

eHealth Initiative Regional Meeting

Emily Welebob explained to the committee that the eHealth Initiative regional meeting would be a multi-state event on October 18. It would be held at the Columbus Athletic Club. She also mentioned that eHealth Initiative (eHI) was interested in using the abstracts for the regional meeting. There were inquiries on the process for registering. Philip Powers explained that the link was on the symposium invitation.

2005 OHHIT PROJECT PLAN

Stephanie Jursek and Bill Hayes presented a detailed plan for the OHHIT Project, which included outlining the vision, expectations and role of the steering committee and others for creating the symposium, “Invitation Only” meeting, and the strategic visioning process. Stephanie Jursek stated at the outset that the key for successful implementation of the project was the steering committee. Their role for this project was to work closely with eHI in preparing and reviewing the briefing paper and planning and implementing the symposium and “Invitation Only” meeting. The ultimate goal of the “Invitation Only” meeting would be to form a broad based Advisory Group that would focus on development of statewide strategies for adoption of HIT in Ohio. Potentially the group could form a statewide distinct entity for Health Information Exchange (HIE).

OHHIT Symposium

Stephanie Jursek indicated that the purpose of the symposium was multi-faceted and included creating a forum for the convening of Ohio stakeholders to collaborate on eHealth activities and policy issues, stemming from findings of the briefing paper, establishment of principles and priorities for HIE through breakout sessions, and opportunity for statewide networking. The specific roles of the committee in addition to assisting eHI are to identify panelists for the reaction panel, proactive promotion of the event and to serve as a facilitator if necessary.

“Invitation Only” Meeting

Bill Hayes provided an overview of his vision for the “Invitation Only” meeting and stated that the goals and objectives of this meeting entail analyzing the symposium findings and preparing a strategic plan for the coordination of a state effort to promote and enhance HIE. In that regard, the

invitees would discuss priorities and identify financing needs and options to secure the appropriate funding for supporting the strategic visioning process. Expected outcomes include establishment of a foundation for ongoing collaboration and a road map for forward movement within the state. He further remarked that the invitees would be selected Ohio representatives from diverse sectors. Key roles of the steering committee are to recommend potential invitees coupled with guiding the work of the Advisory Group. The chosen invitees should be senior level executives of organizations. Identifying invitees will be a prime goal for the next steering committee meeting. Several dates for this event in early November were presented to the committee, and the committee decided it would be held on November 10.

Steering Committee Work Timeline

Bill Hayes reiterated the role of the steering committee with a detailed work time line for their involvement in the completion of this project and his vision for the strategic visioning process. Debriefing sessions will follow the symposium and the “Invitation Only” meeting. Additionally, as part of the debriefing session for the “Invitation Only” meeting, the steering committee will ensure the Advisory Group work moves forward.

Formation of State HIT Strategic Planning Process

Bill Hayes informed the committee that he envisioned the time frame for this process would be one to two years. He noted also that to provide financial support for this phase of the project, eHI was drafting a boiler plate grant proposal, which will be tailored for this project to secure funding. eHI suggested that the estimated cost to execute this phase of the project would be \$250,000. The final proposal would be completed before the “Invitation Only” meeting. Bill Hayes further outlined the strategic planning goals, including addressing barriers for eHealth, holding additional summits, creating work groups, cataloging HIT initiatives, promoting the value proposition for adoption and use of HIT, and creating potentially a distinct entity.

Advisory Group

Bill Hayes indicated the primary implementer for the strategic planning process would be the Advisory Group. He reported that the estimated number for this group would be 50, and he reviewed with the committee the proposed diverse composition of the group. He added that the steering committee may become incorporated into this group depending on the outcome of the “Invitation Only” meeting.

OHHIT “INVITATION ONLY” MEETING AGENDA DISCUSSION

Emily Welebob elaborated on the overview of the OHHIT project, along with the goals and objectives of this meeting. She emphasized that the primary goal is to establish principles and priorities for investment of HIT in the state. She also informed the committee of suggested types of invitees for this meeting. She outlined a proposed agenda to discuss next steps for coordination, communication, and collaboration of a multi-stakeholder statewide HIE forum. An in-depth discussion by the committee ensued.

There was an inquiry whether other states after extensive discussion abandoned a coordinated effort to move forward with HIT. Emily Welebob responded there were other states that did not support a coordinated effort. However, the concept of a coordinated effort was viewed favorably, but there were concerns regarding the implementers for the initiative.

The Committee advised that key issues must be addressed to establish a coordinated effort for HIT deployment in the state. It was noted that there are existing disparities between the rural and urban regions in the state. The rural areas have challenges, keeping up with the technology and may provide resistance to this effort. Additionally, there are financing and competition barriers. Bill

Hayes commented that the Advisory Group may be able to address those issues. In support of the effort, a comment was added that failure to move forward may have financial consequences as well.

The suggested protocol for these discussions should be based on enlightened interests and not the self interest of each represented special interest group. Bob Steffel recommended establishing agreed upon guiding principles for the basis of the discussions. Some examples would include agreement not to compete, moving forward on the basis of taking into account the benefit of all interests of the participants, and a willingness to invest over time in proactive collaboration.

OTHER BUSINESS

Rick Moore reported he had contacted Eric Burkland of the Ohio Manufacturers' Association. Eric Burkland expressed interest in this project. Dennis Swartzlander reported on his meeting with Frank Samuel, Science and Technology Advisor for Governor Taft and Christine Oliver, Executive Assistant for Health and Human Services. Based on the discussion, there were suggestions for use of potential state communication assets for this type of effort. Bill Hayes stated that he and Stephanie Jursek met with Marc Cloutier, Ph.D. from the Ohio Department of Development and a meeting with Frank Samuel is being arranged.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Stephanie Jursek announced that the next meeting date will be September 29.