

**Benefits Focus Group Minutes
(10/2/02)**

Committee members, alternates and staff advisors present:

Benita Saldutti
John Glanden
Gil Fernandez
Andy St. John
Veda Mahadi
Kevin Stiff
Dick Minster
Dolly Gamble
Pat Horan
Linsley Pietsch
KayKae Thomas
Karen Lusk
Stacey Monroe
Casey Humpert
Joyce Dolan
Ed Whitehead
Teri Weber
April Bryan

Benita Saldutti called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m., October 2, 2002. Roll was called.

Will wait until next meeting to approve minutes of September 4, 2002 meeting.

Also at next meeting will review draft of wellness plan that Robert Blinch-Edwards sent out to everyone. The Group needs to address criteria to develop a system of incentive awards/points. A method to measure results to make sure that points are awarded fairly to those who improve their health as well as those who maintain their level of health. Ms. Saldutti suggested that people write down their comments or questions to make it easier to address them.

Ms. Saldutti recently attended a benefits conference and has some names of companies who have wellness plans in place. They could be contacted to get a copy of their plan. Dick Minster suggested contacting the companies to see if they would make presentations. Ms. Saldutti said she would try to contact some of them to see if that would be possible.

Teri Weber passed out copies of a health assessment form "Personal Wellness Profile Questionnaire" for information as to the kind of questions that are asked and the risk levels that are assessed. This form is used by Sarasota County to assess general fitness and risk levels. It is similar to the screenings done for some City employees. She also passed out a draft "notice of privacy practices".

Gil Fernandez said that Robert Blinch-Edwards had said he would provide the group with a copy of the County's plan. The Group would still like to have that made available to them. Ms. Weber will ask him to provide it for the next meeting. Mr. Fernandez asked her who pays for the program. Ms. Weber said the County actually pays a per employee charge for that program.

Ms. Saldutti wanted to make the Group aware that the spousal surcharge for plan year 2003 has been pulled. Linda McKinney had told her that many employees had complained that they did not have sufficient time to prepare their family budgets for that extra charge so she had asked the City Manager if it was okay to pull it and he agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m. Next meeting is November 6, 2002, 1:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers.

Items for next meeting:

- Robert Blinch-Edwards to provide copy of Sarasota County's Wellness Program.

Items pending from last meeting:

- Robert Blinch-Edwards to report on effort to include Desoto County in HealthCare Sarasota network coverage.
- Mr. Blinch-Edwards to find out cost of utilizing Sarasota County's Health Risk Assessment Program
- Mr. Blinch-Edwards to provide cost estimate of health assessment screenings
- Linda McKinney will provide a copy of survey to be distributed to employees regarding the health assessment screenings.

Minutes Approved: November 6, 2002

Benita Saldutti, Vice-Chairperson