

**Benefits Focus Group  
Presentation to the City Manager  
(6/14/02)**

Committee members, staff advisors and City Manager at table:

Dolly Gamble  
Pat Horan  
Casey Humpert  
Suzy Milburn  
Dick Minster  
Stacey Monroe  
Andy St. John  
Benita Saldutti  
Rick Winters  
Joyce Dolan  
William Tatum  
Veda Mahadi  
Linda McKinney  
Gib Mitchell  
KayKae Thomas  
Robert Blinch-Edwards

Michael A. McNees, City Manager

The presentation to the City Manager began at 2:00 p.m., June 14, 2002, in the City Commission Chambers, City Hall. Roll Call was taken

Benita Saldutti told the City Manager that the team appreciated his meeting with them. She indicated that Phase II had been difficult as the Group does not have the true costs of Phase I recommendations. The combined effect of Phase I and Phase II recommendations are projected to decrease the City's cost by \$1.1 million dollars. The costs have not been eliminated, but the expense has been shifted from the City to the employees and retirees. Next phase will focus on education and disease management. The only item that did not get the full support of the Group is the dependent rates for PPO - there were two dissenting votes. Ms. Saldutti stated that the Group would take a break from meeting until August.

Mr. McNees said that he appreciated the work of the Group, and agreed that it had not been easy. The flexibility to work with the figures had been taken away as the fund reserves had been used. He now needs to work on the numbers with the Finance Director to ascertain whether they are at a good point to present the budget to the City Commission. He stated that he would still reserve the right to go through the figures. He appreciated the fact that this Group made the decision for the employees to share the cost and not expect the taxpayers to burden the cost. He believes the Group has made a huge difference in the position the City was in before their recommendations. He appreciates the fact that the Group realizes that wellness is the real long-term answer. By September, the City should know how the changes are working.

Ms. Saldutti asked Mr. McNees to meet with the Group in August to give them direction. He told the Group that he would provide feedback to them as soon as he knows where things stand with the budget. His goal would be to accept the figures as presented by the Group, but he cannot promise anything until he and the Finance Director look at the figures.

Discussion was held regarding using The Gehring Group as the City's consultant. Mr. McNees indicated that he and Ms. McKinney would discuss this issue.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Minutes Approved: August 7, 2002

Benita Saldutti, Vice-Chairperson