

**Benefits Focus Group Minutes  
(12/01/04)**

**(In attendance, alphabetically listed)**

**Note: Names listed are BFG members; non-members may attend but are not always listed.**

<u>Regular Members</u>	<u>Alternate Members</u>	<u>Staff Advisors</u>	<u>Recorder</u>
Gil Fernandez	Joyce Dolan	Robert Blinch-Edwards	Diane Vanderwest
Dolly Gamble	Nancy Meskimen	Kurt Hoverter	
John Glanden	William Tatum	Linda McKinney	
Jim Godshall			
Pat Horan			
Bill Gaines	<u>Also Present</u>	<u>Guests</u>	
Dick Minster	Capt. Al Woodle	Mark Wilkerson-HRA Consultant- AIG VALIC	
Stacey Monroe		Carolyn Garvey-AIG VALIC Rep.	
Benita Saldutti			
Louise Van Pelt			
Ed Whitehead			

**Call to Order- Chairperson**

Benita Saldutti called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m., Wednesday, December 1, 2004.

**Roll Call**

Diane Vanderwest called the roll.

**Approval of Minutes**

Benita Saldutti called for approval of the minutes from the last meeting. The minutes from November 3, 2004, were approved.

**Change in Agenda Order**

The agenda order was changed to have the guests give a presentation on VEBA's start the meeting.

**VEBAs (Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association) - Mark Wilkerson and Carolyn Garvey, AIG-VALIC Reps.**

Mark Wilkerson, HRA Consultant gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled, "Introduction to Health Reimbursement Arrangements "HRAs". Carolyn Garvey of AIG VALIC was also present. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available in HR and plans are to have it available on the City's website as well.

Post-retirement medical savings options, pre-tax for medical expenses only, were presented. Various employer-funding sources were discussed. This program would benefit those hired post-'93 with no post retirement medical options as well as pre-'93 to help with medical costs after retirement.

VEBAs have been the subject of past BFG meetings. Due to the need to meet more frequently on this topic and not just once a month at the BFG meeting, a sub-committee of members from this group will be meeting in the near future to further discuss VEBAs to make recommendations for this to move forward. The sub-committee members will be: Benita Saldutti, Stacey Monroe, Pat Horan, Ed Whitehead, and Jim Godshall.

**Monthly Cost Review – Linda McKinney**

Linda handed out and reviewed the monthly cost sheets for August. The medical costs were slightly higher than July and just below \$700,000 and the pharmacy costs were \$110,000. Our use of generic drugs has helped keep the figures from going even higher.

**Health-Wise Handbook – Linda McKinney**

Linda presented a Health-Wise handbook to be made available to employees after the American Health Holding presentation at the January BFG meeting. Further information on this book or the availability of it online will be forthcoming. This handbook, similar to past employee handbooks offers suggestions for home care and when to call the doctor or seek further medical treatment.

**Other Business**

None

**Adjournment and Next Meeting**

Benita Saldutti adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m. There will be a presentation on American Health Holding wellness program at the next meeting which will be *Wednesday, January 5, 2005, 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers.*

/dv

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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John Agen, Chairperson, or  
Benita Saldutti, Vice-Chairperson