

TOWN OF MIDDLEBORO RETIREES INSURANCE GROUP (MRIG)
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MAY 2022

HELLO AGAIN!!

It has been a long time since the Executive Committee has been able to meet and we are back at it, at last! A meeting was held on April 25th at the Middleboro Library with the following committee members in attendance: Charlie Armanetti, Chairperson, Gene Turney, Mary Cook, Susan McCusker, Barbara Hadsell, Madeline Davern, Gail Twomey, Marsha Brunelle, and Betty Wainwright.

HEALTH INSURANCE UPDATE

The GIC has sent out a Request for Proposals (RFP) to health care providers for the next contract period. We have been following the GIC meeting information regarding this process and will keep you posted on upcoming proposals as we are made aware of them. The details should be available by the end of the year at which time the Town will be able to decide on continuing with GIC or finding another provider.

As promised we have done some research on the Medicare Buy-in program. This is being done by a few towns in GIC but few if any have opted in for this since Covid began.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Most new retirees will qualify for Medicare at age 65 and the list of non-Medicare retirees will soon only consist of those retiring prior to age 65. We have been asked if there is anything we are or can do to address the cost of coverage to retirees between retirement and qualifying for Medicare. The question was brought about because the least expensive health insurance provider (Fallon) is no longer participating in GIC. All other plans carry a large increase in cost over Fallon.

So we are asking for new members to serve on this committee especially those who fall into the age group not covered by Medicare. We would hope this would broaden the perspective on the issues as most of the committee members are covered by Medicare and a supplement plan which provide very different levels of coverage, co-pays and deductibles

We will still be continuing to postpone the annual meeting until a further date. This is subject to further information from the Town and GIC regarding health insurance. We are also omitting the dues coupon at the end of this newsletter as we haven't any issues that require more cash than is currently in our treasury.

The WEP legislation is still in Washington and there has been growing support across the nation but no substantial progress to report. At this time it seems there is general agreement among most that something should be done to change the WEP regulation but no agreement on time lines of implementation and costs.

If you are able to volunteer some time to serve on this committee please contact us at our email:

MIDDLEBORO.RETIRES.INS.GROUP@GMAIL.COM

or feel free to contact any of the committee members.

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