

**COUNTY HOME ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 2004**

Roll Call

Chair Brian Feron called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the County Home with the following Council members present:

Present: Emily Muscatello, Cheryl Scheck, Ken Miller, Brian Feron, Skip Sipos, Randy Schmidt, Randy Bing, Tanya Rodgers, Phebe Simpson, and Craig Enoch.

Absent: Jo Becks

The following Ex-officio members were present: Commissioner Steve Hambley, John Stricker – County Administrator, Joyce Farnsworth – County Home Administrator, and Lynn Remington – Assistant County Home Administrator.

Brian introduced and welcomed new member, Craig Enoch, who works at the Social Security Administration.

Approval of Minutes – 3/31/04

The minutes had been emailed in advance. Brian asked if there were any additions or corrections and there were none. Brian approved the minutes as presented.

Committee Reports

Finance

John Stricker passed around and explained some reports provided by Chris Jakab, Finance Director, with the current budget figures. He said February and March expenses were similar and very much in line. The summary sheet on the third page shows where they stand at this time after the new fire alarm system expense of \$32,500.

Upon questioning about any other large expenses to expect, Joyce and Lynn said they still needed to do the parking lot expansion/repair, hood for the stove, railing, shower floor, and carpeting.

John said he would have the Maintenance Supervisor do an updated capital improvements priority plan. They usually like to get three quotes on everything.

Brian said they are still running at a deficit overall because the levy money has not kicked in, and the General Fund will carry them until the first payment.

John agreed and said the tax levy proceeds have been collected and are sitting in the Treasurer's coffers at this point. The Auditor will do a distribution before the first half of the year is over. There will be two general property tax distributions plus the state reimburses 12-1/2% twice a year. He noted in September 2003 there was a payment of \$287,000 for example, which would put them in good shape.

COUNTY HOME ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 2004

Admissions

Carol Shockley said she and Emily Muscatello made the modifications to the draft "Medina County Home Resident Admissions Agreement". They were emailed out in advance with the Board packets. She also provided a copy of the Admissions Policy and a copy of the Ohio Revised Code 3721.13 that governs the Residents' Rights Act. She said there is a great deal of deference to Emily's expertise in putting together the Admissions Agreement. She asked if there were any questions or comments.

John Stricker commented that Lynn and Joyce would need some time to go through the entire document word-for-word and make some recommended changes and Carol agreed. She said they definitely need some administrative input, and resident insight from Randy Bing would be appreciated because they are at the Home on a day-to-day basis.

Steve Hambley asked if the ORC Residents' Right #17 was included - "The right to consume a reasonable amount of alcoholic beverages at the resident's own expense, unless not medically advisable as documented in the resident's medical record by the attending physician or unless contradictory to written admissions policies".

Carol said that it was on her list to ask the group if they would permit hot toddies or not.

Tanya Rodgers said it has been her experience in places that she has worked that they do not ban alcohol. It is usually kept someplace where it is not accessible.

Joyce said they had a woman that enjoyed an occasional glass of wine so they would provide it. They stored it in the office for her.

Cheryl Scheck made a suggestion for paragraph "H. Property and Lien" on Page 4 of the draft Admissions Policy. She would like to see something added that residents should report any newly acquired income or resources within a reasonable amount of time. Carol agreed that it was a good idea. Skip Sipos arrived during this discussion.

Joyce Farnsworth said the County Home offers more services than are listed under "V. Services" on Page 4.

Carol said they should probably have a list that they could incorporate by reference saying it includes, but is not limited to something attached.

Carol also asked the group to consider a "Risk Agreement" because not everybody likes to do what is in their own best interest. For example, a doctor may tell someone not to smoke, but an individual smokes anyway. Another example would be if someone were told they should take the elevator, but they still take the stairs. This way the person would sign the document

**COUNTY HOME ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 2004**

acknowledging that there is risk involved in their behavior. She said it is probably a good idea as long as people understand the risk they are assuming.

Carol said another new issue to consider is weapons on the premises since the concealed weapons law just went into affect. Weapons are not permitted in public buildings. Lynn showed Carol what the Commissioners have posted on county buildings.

Skip Sipos pointed out they need to define it in the definitions because the statutory language for the concealed carry law is different from a concealed weapon such as a pocketknife.

Carol asked the group if they would allow a pocketknife, and they said the policy should be specific to firearms not being permitted. Carol said another option was to make it specific to deadly weapons. This is something the administration needs to review with the Commissioners.

John Stricker said the Commissioners have asked the Human Resources Department to prepare a policy saying that employees also cannot carry weapons on the job outside public buildings.

Other items briefly discussed were allowing residents to perform what is called resident's labor to help out with daily chores. Keeping a maximum amount of unspent allowance on hand for the resident is up to the Administrator's discretion. "Superintendent" was changed to "Administrator" throughout the document. On page 7 in #1 under "VIII. Termination", the word "met" should be at the end of the sentence.

Upon questioning, Lynn said that five days is usually enough time for personal items to be picked up after a resident is transferred or discharged. They can call her and make arrangements for her to hold the items if they need a bit more time.

Phoebe Simpson said the definition for Nursing Care on Page 2. is an awkward read so she suggested "Nursing Care: Care that is commonly employed and provides for the physical, mental, and emotional needs of the ill or otherwise incapacitated, and that involves procedures that require technical skills and knowledge beyond those the untrained person possesses." Lynn said this is what they refer to as a "Hospital Aid".

Carol said she added late charges in the payment policy for Council's consideration on Page 3, although she feels it is somewhat mean.

John Stricker asked what they would do if Social Security mailed something to them late. They normally do not send out a monthly bill. Joyce added that late payment is not a problem.

Steve Hambley questioned Number 5. on Page 3, "In the event any charge is not paid in full, or in the event that payment is not remitted as due under the itemized statement, the Home may, solely at its option, discharge the Resident, in accordance with Ohio laws and regulations". He

**COUNTY HOME ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 2004**

said if the family has the money they typically will go after the family, but not discharge the resident.

Carol asked Lynn and Joyce to think about it. She also asked them to review the “Bed Hold” policy and “Leave of Absence” policy and how they want to treat them.

Skip Sipos asked how a resident could be responsible for getting their payment to the County Home by the 15th of the month. He asked if they are told the amount of dollars they are to pay and Lynn said some are (self pay) and some are not (Social Security).

Craig Enoch said that Social Security payments would not necessarily be received by the 15th because Social Security now has payment cycling. Due to the age of most of the current residents, they are paid on the 3rd of the month. As the younger generation starts coming into the Home, the payment cycling could be either on the first, second, third, or fourth Wednesday of the month. There is a good chance payments on the third or fourth Wednesday of the month would arrive at the County Home after the 15th of the month.

Skip asked if the check goes to the individual at the Home. Lynn said the checks go to the office and the residents sign off of them. They get their personal allowance and the rest goes to the County Home.

Brian said everybody should email his or her suggestions to Carol Shockley by May 14th. John Stricker suggested that Carol and Emily set up a meeting with Joyce and Lynn before the next meeting.

Marketing

Ken Miller said the Committee has come up with three ideas they would like to submit for consideration and discussion to improve exposure to the County Home. The first one was for a video showing the Home and its activities that would show people their tax dollars at work. This could also feature some of the groups that come to the Home and it could be a good public relations piece. The video could be shown on the three city cable stations plus be a portable item that the staff could take for presentations. They could contact the Career Center to see if it is possibility that a student could take it on as a project. He offered to contact the instructor at the Career Center to get some free help. Everyone said that it was an excellent idea.

The second idea was to contact the county Webmaster to work along with the Career Center to put together a visual presentation for the web and computers. If there is going to be equipment needed they can plan to put it in the budget now for next year. The video would talk about what the County Home is and educate the community about what there is to offer and attract more residents.

**COUNTY HOME ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 2004**

Craig pointed out that not very many potential residents of the County Home would be surfing the web but Ken said their family members might be looking for places to place them. The County Home being on the Internet could be a resource for agencies in the county that have need for that information at their fingertips. It would be another public relations tool as well as an information opportunity.

The third thing they are proposing is regular exposure in the Gazette - possibly featuring a "Resident of the Month" or something of that nature. It would give instant exposure to the human side of the County Home and who these folks are. Council felt they were all great ideas.

Skip suggested an Open House for the social service network to become familiar with the Home so they can make referrals and Joyce will look into it. Ken will contact the Career Center to see what they can come up with and report back next month.

Industry Information: Ohio Access Success Project (Plain Dealer 3/24/04) follow up
Brian said he emailed the Plain Dealer reporter for clarification, but he never heard back from him. Emily Muscatello said that all the Nursing Home owners are fighting the project. They do not want someone coming in and saying their resident does not belong in their Nursing Home.

Administrator's Report

Joyce Farnsworth reported that there have been two inquiries, and they have 52 residents now. There have been many recent repairs: ice machine, cooler, dishwasher, shower, and front steps. They purchased a new small washer. They had a fire inspection, and a very good food inspection. They are getting bids for carpet, fixing the shower area, railing, exit door, parking lot, restroom floors, and cupola. Joyce is grateful to the Sheriff's crew for mowing the lawn. They are looking into getting the crew to rip up the old carpet in order to save money.

Other Business

None

Public Input

Carole Feron, Friends of the County Home, reported that the annual Medina County Kids Cares Horse Show fundraiser would be at the Fairgrounds this Sunday. She encourages everyone to attend. All of the proceeds go to the County Home.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 26th, 6:30 at the County Home.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Vereb, Secretary