

## **COUNTY HOME ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2003**

### **Roll Call**

Chair Chuck Hawley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the County Home.

Present: Emily Muscatello, Cheryl Scheck, Josephine Becks, Chuck Hawley, Brian Feron, Tanya Rodgers, Randy Schmidt, and Randy Bing.

Absent: Laura Kuhl, Ken Miller, and Skip Sipos.

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. Carol Shockley from the County Prosecutor’s Office was also present. (A sign up sheet is attached at Exhibit A.)

Chuck said that if anyone wanted to add an agenda item they could email him at his new address, [chuckh34@zoominternet.net](mailto:chuckh34@zoominternet.net).

### **Approval of Minutes – May 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

There were no additions or corrections, and the minutes were approved as submitted.

### **Report on Progress – Admissions Policy Consultant**

Carol Shockley said that they have come to an agreement with the consultant, Martha (Marty) Sweterlitsch from the Columbus law firm of Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP, plus she serves as the general council for the County Homes Association. She is involved in Ohio legislature so she should be able to assist Carol to better define what a County Home is and look at the protocols and procedures, staffing and financial situation, and whom they can serve. An attorney in the Healthcare Department of that firm, Janet Feldkamp, will be assisting, and she has a background in healthcare. Before becoming a lawyer she was a registered nurse, a director of nursing, and a nursing home administrator. Carol had the opportunity to meet Marty and feels very positive that she will serve their needs quite well with her niche expertise.

Chuck asked Carol when she would expect to have a document in hand, and she did not know at this point. Emily added that Marty and Janet were fast workers.

Emily Muscatello said that she is working with Carol, and they are correlating information that pertains to both nursing homes and County Homes. They want to make sure they are covered and clearly define whom they can and cannot admit. She has worked with Janet Feldkamp on projects for the last 10 years and feels that Medina County could not have gotten any two better people than Janet and Marty as consultants.

Carol said that nursing homes and licensed residential care facilities very clearly define that if they do not have the facility to serve certain types of medical needs they are prohibited from doing it. A County Home is wide open because it is left to the discretion of the County Home

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Administrator. Now they are being challenged by the Fair Housing guidelines on what has comfortably worked for the county in the past but needs to be updated. Prosecutor Dean Holman had Carol ask all of the other 87 counties through the Prosecutor's Association for expertise on County Homes, and no responses were received.

Steve Hambley said that the hope would be that they have something for Council to evaluate at next month's meeting. He asked how they plan to include the Admissions Policy Committee in the process.

Chuck said he would like the report to come back to the whole Council for their review, and if there is anything further the committee needs to do, they could come back.

Steve Hambley said that the other Commissioners have expressed concern that they have not had an Admissions Policy adopted, and that was one of the top things that the Advisory Council identified as a priority.

Carol said she would get the data to the consultants tomorrow.

**Committee Reports**

**Facilities**

Brian Feron said he gave a report last month and Tom Maupin, Maintenance Supervisor, is going to proceed with the plan.

Chuck asked about the status of the need for sidewalks.

Lynn said that they wanted a sidewalk to connect the pavilion to the ball field so those in wheelchairs could watch the ballgame. They are hoping for donations for this purpose.

Chuck said they should get him details and he and others could approach some service clubs.

**Technical Update**

John Stricker said that the new PC's have arrived. The Maintenance Department has run the necessary network wiring, and they will be installed within the week.

Chuck asked where they would be located.

Lynn said she, the nurses' station, the kitchen, and the Activity Director each get a new computer. An old computer will be at the supervisor's desk and another one will be for the residents to use, which will not be on the network.

Chuck asked if there would be any type of computer instructions offered for the residents if they need it, and Brian said it could be an interesting outreach for volunteers.

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Brian said that the cell phones were taken care of, and the only other issue discussed was the overhead page system and its alternatives. An informal study showed that it was used about 25 times a day.

Joyce Farnsworth said that it is an old annoying system that down the road will need to be changed.

Chuck said that perhaps cell phones or two-way radios might work for that purpose, and Emily told them about a new tracker system that works with the fire alarm system. Cheryl Scheck arrived during this discussion.

### **Financial Report**

John Stricker passed around the report that Chris Jakab, Finance Director, prepared for the month of May. He said that the salary expenses were up substantially for two reasons. It was a three-pay month plus the Board of Medina County Commissioners implemented the salary increases that were recommended by the Council, which were done retroactively to the first of the year.

Chuck said that the deficit is less than usual, and John said that it was probably a payment in lieu of taxes from the state. Chuck asked when he expects the figures to be balanced. John said that it is hard to say. They had 18 months of expenses against one year of tax collection so they may not “break into the black” until next year. He will ask Chris to take a look at that.

Chuck asked what the range of payments is from the residents. Lynn said it ranges from zero to \$1,580 per month. The average is approximately \$550 per month.

### **County Home Administrator’s Report**

Joyce Farnsworth reported there are 51 residents at the County Home – 26 males and 25 females. The 4-H Junior Leadership planted 10 flats of flowers at the Home recently. One restroom has been painted. A new whirlpool tub has been ordered. They are working on a payroll upgrade. The maintenance man that used to work at the jail has been hired by the County Home, and he will start in a couple of weeks. They worked with the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) this morning to set up policies for evacuation. The hood of the oven was cleaned today. They had a pharmacy medication inspection on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, and they had 97% compliance because there was some frost on the freezer of a refrigerator. Joyce said that they still need a part-time nurse.

### **Other Business**

Joyce announced to the group that the wedding of Rosie Collier and Al Junke would be taking place at the County Home on Friday.

### **Public Participation**

The meeting was opened to public comment. There was none.

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**Executive Session – Litigation**

At 7:05 p.m., Jo Becks moved to recess into Executive Session to discuss litigation. Tanya Rodgers seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed that all voted AYE. Tanya left the meeting at this time.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Vereb, Secretary