

ARLINGTON COMMISSION ON LONG-TERM CARE RESIDENCES

c/o Agency on Aging, DHS

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MEETING SUMMARY

January 14, 2015

Approved on February 11, 2015

PRESENT: Cyndy Schneider (on phone), Joy Nathan, Stephen Carfora, Lynda Carlson, Claire Jacobsen, Steven Jennings, Alice Paxton, Lynwood Sinnamon, Susan Xu

ABSENT: Joe Briglia*, Hale Montgomery*, Judith Villasenor* *Excused

STAFF: Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield, Glenda Blake, Susan Lane

I. Call to Order 6:30 p.m.

II. Presentation: Final Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Arlington County Health Center Commission (HCC), Arlington County Manager, and Medical Facilities of America (MFA) – Ms. Libby Garvey, County Board Member and Liaison; Ms. Betsy Herbst, Department of Environmental Services, Real Estate Specialist

Ms. Nathan introduced each of the speakers and gave some background on the HCC, the formation of the Commission on Long-Term Care Residences (CLTCR), and the Commission's concerns over quality of care issues.

- Ms. Garvey asked Ms. Blake to summarize the reasons behind creating an MOU. Ms. Blake noted that the CLTCR has had concerns about care at Cherrydale nursing home (owned by MFA). The renewal of their ground lease on the county-owned property where Cherrydale nursing home is located provides an opportunity to develop metrics around quality of care for Cherrydale. The CLTCR sent a letter to the County with 15 recommendations they wanted to be considered in conjunction with the signing of a new ground lease, which MFA requested to get funding for modest renovations.
- Ms. Garvey explained that she and Mr. Fisette, then County Board Chair, met with the County Attorney, the MFA CEO / President, and the Cherrydale Administrator. She noted it was very helpful to have the CLTCR's letter to outline specific concerns. Ms. Garvey commended all involved for the solid information given to them that provided the background for these discussions.
- Ms. Herbst and the County Attorney did most of the negotiation on the ground lease. This is a lease for the use of the land. The building is owned by MFA as long as they continue to use it. The reason for the MOU is that the ground lease, as a financial document, was not the appropriate place for putting conditions on quality of care, as that would have made it impossible for MFA to get financing. The new ground lease extends the term for 10 years from the date of signing to December 31, 2024 and gives MFA the option at the end of the term to extend for five more years. Ms. Herbst noted other ground lease information, such as the base rate and the amount the rent goes up each year. It also includes the condition that MFA may terminate the lease early after six years, but must give a two-year notice to do so. At least 60% of the beds must be Medicaid approved. The Community Advisory Board (CAB) is required in the ground lease and described in more detail in the MOU. Ms.

Herbst said that the ground lease was basically the same as the previous one, but it includes new clauses now standard in county leases.

- Ms. Blake noted that the MOU created new, positive energy and formed a separate relationship between the County and MFA around quality of care. Ms. Bah-Duckenfield reviewed each item from the CLTCR's recommendation and explained where each item of concern was handled: in the ground lease, the MOU, and/or the Implementation Plan. She gave details of how the CAB and meetings between DHS and MFA will work.

III. Minutes Approval The December 2014 meeting summary was approved with no changes.

IV. Chair's Report (Joy Nathan, Vice-Chair)

- A co-liaison for Cherrydale is needed to work with the CAB. If interested, please let Ms. Schneider know.
- The Commission still has some vacancies. More outreach is needed.
- Introduced Ms. Susan Xu, the new member who was present, and asked her to give some of her background and why she wanted to be a member of the CLTCR.
- A volunteer is needed to monitor the Hunter's Park crosswalk situation.
- The Commission on Aging is going to Richmond on January 27 to meet with legislators about the NVAN Legislative Platform. There is room for one more to join. Anyone interested, please let Ms. Schneider know.
- Ms. Schneider would like feedback from commissioners on the article she had distributed about the use of cameras in residents' rooms in nursing homes.
- Ms. Schneider and Ms. Nathan have discussed whether or not it works well to hold committee meetings right after the monthly commission meeting or if it would be better to let the committees schedule them at other times. Please give feedback to Ms. Schneider.
- Ms. Nathan engaged Ms. Marsh and Ms. Keller in a discussion about the calls distribution sheet distributed and the new program to reduce non-urgent transports.
- Ms. Schneider attended a budget review meeting. The FY16 will be a tight budget year.
- The inclement weather policy was reviewed.

V. Announcements and Public Comment

- Ms. Carlson asked how to get volunteers to visit The Carlin to read to and chat with residents.
- Mr. Sinnamon asked for comments via the Volunteer Arlington survey for the committee that is looking at whether Arlington Volunteers should continue to be recruited by the County or a non-profit.
- Mr. Sinnamon noted that the committee is reviewing how to handle volunteer recruitment in Arlington and is trying to find a distribution list to reach older residents.
- Mr. Sinnamon attended a presentation on Goodwin House at Home and was asked if they might present at a CLTCR meeting. They are already on the presenters' list for future meetings.
- Ms. Bah-Duckenfield highlighted the 1/16/15 Steering Committee meeting at which overlaps and differences among depression, delirium and dementia will be discussed by a panel of experts from ADSD staff.

VI. Adjournment 8:30 p.m.