1. Meeting Materials

Documents:

JULY 27, 2015 BOARD MEETING AGENDA.PDF
JULY 27, 2015 BOARD MEETING MINUTES - APPROVED.PDF
JULY 27, 2015 BOARD MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT.PDF
AGENDA

1. Medical Director’s Report – Frank Walsh, MD
2. Review/Approval - Minutes – June 22, 2015 – Chairman
3. Chairman’s Report – David Ormsby
4. Executive Director’s Report – Allen Brown
5. Committee Reports:
   a. Building Committees
      i. TNW Building Committee – Jack Hornak
      ii. TOG Building Committee, Project Renew – Steve Soler
   b. Finance Committee – Lloyd Bankson
   c. Resident Life Committee – Lynn Bausch
6. Friends of Nathaniel Witherell – Karen Sadik-Khan
7. New Business
8. Adjournment

Beverages and light refreshments will be served

Note: There is no Board of Directors Meeting in August.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 28, 2015

cc: Town Clerk
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
July 27, 2015

Present:  David Ormsby (via phone), Chairman; Thomas Saccardi, Secretary; Lloyd Bankson; Louise Puschel; Larry Simon; Steve Soler

Staff:  Christopher Alexander, Director of Financial Operations; Lynn Bausch, Deputy and Director of Nursing; Allen Brown, Executive Director; Jack Hornak, Facilities Director; Linda Marini, Admin. Asst.; Frank Walsh, MD, Medical Director

Also:  Mary Anne Chiappetta, Family Council; Steve Katz, Commission on Aging; Scott Neff, FNW Development Director; Art Norton, BET

Mr. Saccardi opened the meeting at 5:35 PM in the TNW Board Room.

Medical Director’s Report - presented by Frank Walsh, MD

Dr. Walsh reports that the proposal he reviewed at last month’s Board meeting has been put in place. It specifies that if a consulting physician to our facility does not comply with proper visitation/consultation procedure as required, Dr. Walsh will perform the necessary schedule of visits. This proposal was accepted as policy at the Medical Staff meeting in June.

Ms. Bausch reports that the anti-psychotic usage rate for TNW is down in the last year from 18.8% to 15.3%, below both state and national averages.

Ms. Bausch reports that there is a new classification system for diagnoses. We will be transitioning, both clinically and financially, from ICD-9 to ICD-10. This will create a sizable project on the clinical side. Matrix will handle some of the changes somewhat automatically, but we will still have to modify a substantial amount of the diagnoses ourselves; the codes are much more ‘patient specific’. We have been told that there will be no financial denials for 1 year.

Review/Approval of Minutes of June 22, 2015

After review by the Board, a motion to approve the minutes of June 22, 2015 was made, seconded, and the minutes were adopted unanimously by the Board.
Chairman’s Report – presented by David Ormsby

Mr. Ormsby reports that contrary to the original advice Mr. Simon received from the Town when he first joined the TNW Board of Directors, the Law Department has now concluded that Mr. Simon may not serve on both the Greenwich Town Retirement Board and the Nathaniel Witherell Board simultaneously. There is a provision that if you are a member of the Retirement Board, you may not be an official of any other board in Town. As a result, he will need to resign from the TNW Board promptly. Once he receives the letter from the Town Attorney, he will officially resign, making this his last meeting as a Board member. Mr. Simon’s Retirement Board tenure is over June 30, 2017; but, he plans to leave that board following either the October ’15 or December ’15 meeting. He will need to again go through the RTM process of being re-appointed to the TNW Board. In the interim, he hopes to continue the Rehab vacancy analysis he’s begun, as a volunteer.

Mr. Ormsby asks Mr. Brown if we have heard from the State DSS regarding the effective increase in Medicaid reimbursement rate? Mr. Brown has made multiple inquiries to DSS. He was asked for an accounting of the Project Renew report, which he submitted to them. He has followed up several times since then with no response. He notes that the rate letter is usually received late August or early September, and that the rate will be retroactive to July 1, 2015. Mr. Ormsby requests that Mr. Brown make inquiry to DSS once more.

Executive Director’s Report – presented by Allen Brown

Mr. Brown reported on 4 building issues:
1. A request for proposal (RFP) for the Café deck, to be funded by a gift from Hortulus Garden Club through FNW, has been issued by the Purchasing Department with an August 12th due date for submission of bids. Wednesday will be the pre-bid conference. Mr. Hornak hopes construction will begin late August or early September. Design specs will be sent to DPH.
2. Preliminary drawings for the 5 new rooms on the Garden level have been received and were reviewed at today’s TNW Building Committee meeting. These preliminary drawings will be sent to DPH for review and approval.
3. The security system upgrades are progressing smoothly. Lock-down buttons were installed, the closed circuit system will be enhanced, and the wander guard system upgraded.
4. 2nd floor room renovations - a new contractor, Onel Construction, has been selected, and work should begin within the next couple of weeks.

BET Issues:
1. a $400K appropriation to fund the remaining 4 items included in the STEAP grant (greenhouse replacement, re-pointing of the Administration building, repaving of the employee parking lot, and courtyard landscaping) was approved by the BET at their July 20th meeting. Mr. Simon notes that the Greenwich Land Trust recently took over property on Round Hill Road and installed a greenhouse. He suggests Mr. Hornak
Executive Director’s Report – (cont’d)

contact Ms. Ginny Gwynn for information on suggested greenhouse contractors, etc. Mr. Simon will email contact information to Mr. Hornak.

2. BET also approved a $585K object code transfer for FY ’15 to fund an unfavorable variance in salary/overtime and rehab contract costs by using a favorable variance in benefit costs.

MDS Position recruitment – We’ve retained a recruiter to complete a search for qualified candidates. Approvals to proceed were provided by TOG HR Directors, Town Administrator, and the Purchasing Director. Mr. Brown does not believe we need a Nurse recruiter, but we do need more aggressive recruitment than the Town’s normal process. We hope to be interviewing candidates within the next few weeks.

McKnight Article – Mr. Brown included with his written report to the Board, a copy of an article for their review from McKnight’s Long Term Care News, entitled “Nursing Shortage to Challenge Operators”.

2nd Quarter Satisfaction Survey results – Mr. Brown included with his written report to the Board, a copy of the most recent quarterly report, covering April – June of 2015. The results continue to be extremely favorable. These results were also presented at the QA Committee meeting last week.

Building Committees Report

TNW Building Committee – presented by Jack Hornak

Jack Hornak reported that the TNW Building Committee met today and reviewed the following items:
- Café deck – discussed in Mr. Brown’s earlier report
- Garden level rooms – discussed in Mr. Brown’s earlier report
- The cornice for the Admin. building is being fabricated. Mr. Hornak hopes that it will be complete within the next 1-2 weeks.

Town Building Committee, Project Renew – presented by Steve Soler

Mr. Soler reports that S/L/A/M has signed the agreement (8 days after our last meeting). On July 17th the Building Committee met and approved the revised document - currently awaiting Mr. Fox’s signature. Following that, there are only a couple of minor items to be addressed: Rocco D’Andrea; and the information needed to obtain the energy rebate from Eversource (which could be as much as $400K).
Finance Committee Report - presented by Lloyd Bankson

Mr. Bankson reports:
- Year End Net Operating Loss of $6,124,414 Vs. a Budgeted Net Operating Loss of $3,797,221, resulting in a Variance of $2,327,193.

Mr. Bankson reports that the Finance Committee discussed the decline in Private Pay Revenue.

Mr. Brown speaks to the decline in Private Pay revenues:
- Many people are going to residential alternatives to Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs), primarily Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs), and some to private home care.
- The ALFs have a more desirable model, i.e. private apartments, and very often at half the cost of a SNF. The ALFs can also provide some level of support services.
- People are spending their money in ALFs and home care first, so by the time they consider an SNF, their funds have been depleted and they are applying for Medicaid.

Mr. Bankson reports that Admissions last year were 556, compared to 315 the previous year, a phenomenal increase.

Mr. Bankson also reports that, for the first time, Nursing was significantly over budget in Salary and in Overtime. Ms. Bausch and her team compiled a data package to help determine what caused these overages, including some possible anomalies that occurred during the year.

Also reported, Maintenance was approximately $300K over Budget for the year. Town In-Kind Services were surprisingly favorable to Budget this year, by approximately $94K.

Special Task Force - Mr. Soler proposed the formation of a special committee, with Mr. Bankson as Chair, to study the issues involved with, and possible solutions to, the decline in private pay. Mr. Saccardi and Ms. Puschel agreed to join this committee. Mr. Ormsby believes this committee should also have BET representation – Mr. Art Norton has agreed to participate.

Resident Life Committee – presented by Lynn Bausch

Lara Spencer, of Good Morning America, her daughter, and her daughter’s friend, provided an hour of pet therapy to our residents as part of a TV spot on volunteer opportunities for children. This spot will air this Wednesday on ABC, Good Morning America.

Music & Memory – We now have 14 residents participating in the program. Recreation is beginning to turn some of the equipment over to nursing (on 2 of 4 units); it’s becoming a shared program between departments.
Resident Life Committee – (cont’d)

Next week, on August 3rd, at 2 PM, Dominick’s Ice Cream Truck will make its annual summer appearance. The Brennan family has been the generous benefactor to this wonderful event for many years.

Friends of Nathaniel Witherell - presented by Scott Neff & Louise Puschel

The Friends will be hosting a fall luncheon at the Round Hill Club to benefit The Nathaniel Witherell on Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015, to feature Jane Brody, Personal Health columnist for the New York Times.

Mr. Neff reminded all to spread the word of the golf outing planned for Wednesday, September 16th, which will be held at The Griff, tee time 1:30 pm. We are currently still looking for golfers.

New Business - No new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 PM.
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- Year End Adjusted Net Income/(Loss) of ($4,914,841) Vs. a Budget of ($2,624,462), resulting in a Variance of ($2,290,379).

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