

**TOWN OF GREENWICH  
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION  
NATHANIEL WITHERELL STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, September 5, 2019  
Mazza Room

Committee: Arthur D. Norton, Chairman; William Drake, Andreas Duus, Elizabeth K. Krumeich, Jill Oberlander, Nancy Weissler

Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller

BET: Leslie Moriarty

RTM: Mariam Kreuzer, D-7, L&R; Danyal Ozizmir, D- 5, Finance, LCC; Sharon Shissler, D-9, Appointments

Public: Russ Barksdale, President, CEO, Waveny LifeCare Network; Laura Erickson, Candidate, 2010 BET

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 P.M.

Committee Chairman Norton changed the Order of Business to move Item # 2, Presentation by Russ Barksdale, to Item # 1 on the Agenda.

**2. Presentation by Russ Barksdale, President and CEO, Waveny LifeCare Network**

Mr. Barksdale introduced his background in healthcare management prior to joining Waveny LifeCare Network in November 2018 as CEO and spoke about his healthcare consulting experience in hospital and skilled nursing facilities(SNF).

He provided an overview of upcoming changes in Medicare/Medicare reimbursement methodology and its challenges for Connecticut SNFs. He described initiatives taken since arrival at Waveny to reverse the facility's financial issues: renegotiate contracts (e.g. pharmacy), outsource services (e.g. Laundry and housekeeping), support development of a higher functioning management and departmental teams, enhance Waveny's marketing presence to increase referrals and control Waveny's re-admission rate. He provided specifics on CT star-rating measurement criteria and how Waveny maintains its 5-star ranking.

Chairman Norton asked attendees for the feedback at the conclusion of the presentation.

**1. Approval of the BET Nathaniel Witherell Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes June 19, 2019**

- Approval of the June 19, 2019 Minutes is postponed until the Committee's next meeting on Thursday, September 24 awaiting definitive clarification of whether TNW employees have or will receive information directly before mandatory implementation of the Social Security(CMS) cyber security "exclusion reporting" on vendor and employee private financial transaction delinquency commences on October 1, 2019.

- **Approval of the BET Nathaniel Witherell Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes of July 10, 2019**

Upon a motion by Mr. Drake, seconded by Mr. Duus, the Committee voted 3-0-0 to approve the Meeting Minutes of July 10, 2019 as amended.

### **3. Next Steps: Sub-Committees' Reports**

- **Maintain current TNW status** – Ms. Krumeich and Mr. Duus commented that their Sub-Committee Report would be ready for the next meeting.
- **Sell, lease to a 501(c)3** – Ms. Oberlander and Ms. Weissler reported on a discussion with Mr. Simon about what implications the FY2019 Yearend Actuals would have on FY2020 budgetary revenue and expense projections. Ms. Oberlander indicated that the Sub-Committee would meet with the newly appointed TNW CFO and a review of the FY2020 budget is planned.
- **Sell, lease to a For-Profit entity** – (Ramer, Drake) Sub-Committee Report would be available for next meeting.
- **Reduce TNW size, close and create a trust** – (Ramer, Drake) Sub-Committee Report would be available for next meeting.

The Committee discussed the timeliness of preparing an RFP to identify potential for-profit and non-profit buyers or operators as proposed in the Committee's 2018 Report and the impact it might have on TNW operations.

### **4. Legal Issues**

- The need for clarification of whether TNW employees have received information directly on (CMS)'s cyber security "exclusion reporting" directive mandating employee private financial transaction delinquency information.
- The need for clarification of TNW property ownership from the Greenwich Law Department.

### **5. Schedule of Future Meetings**

September 24, 2019 – 2:00 P.M. (Agenda: Sub-Committee Reports)

October 17, 2019 – 2:00 P.M. (Agenda: Status Update of TNW implementation of HDG & O'Connor Davies recommendations by Laurence Simon, Chairman, TNW Board of Directors)

November 7, 2019- – 2:00 P.M.

December 4, 2019 – 2:00 P.M.

### **6. Adjournment**

Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to adjourn at 4:00 P.M. The Committee voted 3-0-0. Motion carried.

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Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary

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Arthur D. Norton, Chairman

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL