

Gracedale Advisory Board
June 9, 2016
Minutes

Members Present: Deborah Jean DeNardo, J.D.; Rosemarie Fehr; James Irwin; Susan L. Lawrence; MaryAnn McEvoy; Maryann Schmoyer; Kenneth Sun, MD; Honorable Robert Werner

Members Absent: Ann Terres

Public Present: Jack D'Allessandro, Judy Ryan

Staff Present: Catherine Allen, Susan Edwards, Jennie Repsher

Call to Order/Welcome:

The meeting was called to order by J. Irwin, Chair. He extended a welcome to the visitors.

Approval of May's Minutes:

A motion was made by M. McEvoy and seconded by B. Werner to accept the minutes from the May meeting. Motion carried.

Courtesy of the Floor:

By Guests:

It was mentioned that the water will be shut off at 10:00pm this evening, and will be turned back on at 6:00am tomorrow. S. Edwards stated that there was a major issue in the sewage pipe in the clinic room last Friday. HT Lyons assessed the situation, and tonight they will shut the water off in the entire Tower Building. The Social Service Coordinators contacted all family members to inform them of the issue. Administration met with both unions to make them aware.

This will be a complete shutdown, but the toilets can still be used by filling buckets with water and then dumping the water into the toilets. There are wipes on the floor, along with igloo coolers with water and ice. All residents will be given fresh water and ice by 9:30pm tonight.

This is Phase I of the project. HT Lyons is installing shutoff valves in the Towers so that all resident rooms will have working toilets when we move to Phase II. Provided everything goes well tonight, we will move to Phase II on Monday morning. During that time two toilets, five sinks, and an ice machine on each unit will be shut down. Staff will have to either use the toilets and sinks on the blue/green side in the shower hall, or they can use the toilets in Administration or in the main building. This will be an inconvenience for staff, but residents will still have access to bathrooms on their units. The work should take eight business days; they will start on Tower 10 and work their way down to Tower 3.

The Department of Health, family members and unions have all been notified of the water shutdown. It was asked if we were cited or fined on anything regarding this work. S. Edwards stated that the work was unexpected and due to a leak that started last week. We have had this week to plan the water shutdown and notify everyone.

By Committee Members:

None.

Chair Report:

None.

Director of Human Services Report:

A. Frantz is in Harrisburg, and has nothing to report at this time.

C. Allen noted that Gracedale was awarded a \$50,000 grant to build a secured therapeutic garden. We are in the process of having the agreement signed by the appropriate people, and it will be included on the agenda for the next finance committee.

Gracedale Assistant Administrator's Report:

S. Edwards stated that our census continues to stay at 667-668. There has been no significant change in the rest of the data. C. Allen stated that last year, we averaged 600 sick callout a month. This year, we are averaging less than 600 callouts a month, even when the FLMA/IFMLA days are included.

S. Edwards noted that our use of antipsychotic medications will always be elevated. We are now working with Dr. Rifai from Easton Hospital, who will be working with a nurse practitioner to help with behavioral residents. Dr. Rifai also expressed an interest in doing telemedicine, even though he would not be paid for it. He could "see" residents via computer on evening shifts and weekends and possibly 302 (involuntary commitment to a hospital) a resident without physically being in the facility.

It was asked if the water tower emergency was addressed. C. Allen stated that the valve, which was over 40 years old, was remanufactured and replaced by HT Lyons. They also gave us extra pieces to use, if needed. The entire repair was under \$5,000.

S. Edwards stated that the RFP for the management company went out and responses are due no later than June 24, 2016. Recommendations should be made to County Council by mid-July. There is a non-mandatory pre-bid meeting scheduled for next Friday, June 17, 2016.

Other Business:

J. Ryan stated that Dining Services is working on accepting credit cards in the cafeteria. She met with Lafayette Ambassador bank and is waiting for Information Services to put in a network drop. Customers will be able to use credit only, not debit, and all four major credit cards will be accepted (Discover, Visa, MasterCard, and Amex).

C. Allen stated that NTT Data has been running slow lately. NTT Data is in the process of transferring to a bigger infrastructure, which should help performance.

A motion was made by D. DeNardo and seconded by S. Lawrence to suspend the Advisory Board meetings in July and August, and then reconvene in September. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting:

J. Irwin reminded Advisory Board members that the next meeting will be held on September 8, 2016, at 4:30 PM.

A motion was made by S. Lawrence and seconded by M. Schmoyer to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 4:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennie R. Repsher