

**Minutes of Meeting
Health Services Council
Project Review Committee-II**

DATE: 13 July 2006 TIME: 2:30 PM

LOCATION: Health Policy Forum

ATTENDANCE:

Committee II: Present: Victoria Almeida, Esq., (Vice Chair), Raymond C. Coia, Maria Gil, Robert J. Quigley, DC, (Chair), Larry Ross, Reverend David Shire

Not Present: Rosemary Booth Gallogly, Wallace Gernt

Excused Absence: Catherine E. Graziano, Denise Panichas

Staff: Valentina D. Adamova, Michael K. Dexter, Joseph G. Miller, Esq.

Public: (Attached)

1. Call to Order, Approval of Minutes, Conflict of Interest Forms and Time Extension for the Minutes Availability

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 PM. The Chairman noted that conflict of interest forms are available to any member who may have a conflict. Minutes of the 8 and 22 June 2006 Project Review Committee-II meetings were approved with the change to the attendance status of Mr. Coia on 22 June 2006 from “not present” to “excused” absence. The Chairman requested a motion for the extension of time for the availability of minutes pursuant to the Open Meetings Act. A motion was made, seconded and passed by six in favor and none opposed (6-0) that the availability of the minutes for this meeting be extended beyond the time frame provided for under the Open Meetings Act.

2. General Order of Business

The first item on the agenda was the change order request by Bayside Endoscopy Center, LLC regarding the proposed location of the facility of the 7 September 2004 approval of the Certificate of Need to establish a freestanding ambulatory surgical center at 1351 South County Trail in East Greenwich. Staff noted that a letter was provided showing that the net change in space will be 215 square feet. It was noted that the extra space will be used for mechanical and electrical support.

The applicant provided a map of the area showing the approved and

proposed locations. The applicant noted that the proposal is to move from one building to another on the same parcel of land owned by the same landlord. The new location will be on the first floor in a newer building while the previously approved space is on the second floor.

A motion was made, seconded and passed by a vote of six in favor and none opposed (6-0) to recommend that the change order request be approved. Those members voting in favor of the motion were: Almeida, Coia, Gil, Quigley, Ross, Shire.

The next item on the agenda was the application for change in effective control of East Providence Medical Center, Inc. located at 525 Taunton Avenue in East Providence.

Staff asked if one of the co-owners would also be the medical director. The applicant responded that they have a medical director.

Staff requested the applicant to review their charity care policies. The applicant responded that they have never refused treatment to any patient unless the patient is violent. When a patient enters the facility the applicant negotiates a price and if the patient cannot pay then services are provided free of charge. Staff noted that for the proposal to be approved there may be a 1% charity care requirement. Mr. Ross noted that the applicant is a walk in facility and so cannot be expected to meet a requirement of charity care. He noted that the

applicant already performs less than 1% charity care and does not control the number or type of patients that come to their facility.

The Chairman noted that the state is formulating a charity care policy.

He noted that many facilities have a charity care requirement higher than 1% and if the applicant does not provide 1% it could increase outreach into the community. Mr. Ross stated that a condition that the applicant report back to the Health Services Council and present their efforts to provide charity care would be appropriate instead of a percentage requirement until state regulations are approved. Discussion ensued regarding charity care.

The applicant stated that if the proposal is approved they will continue to provide the charity care.

Staff noted that the committee must find the extent to which the facility, as a result of a change of ownership, will continue to provide appropriate access with respect to traditionally underserved populations and if current policies are found sufficient then no condition need be attached.

A motion was made, seconded and passed by a vote of six in favor and none opposed (6-0) to recommend with approval of the application with the condition that the applicant continue current charity care policies, report back annually on the amount of charity care done, and agree to abide by future state charity care regulations.

Those members voting in favor of the motion were: Almeida, Coia, Gil, Quigley, Ross, Shire.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Valentina D. Adamova