

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HEALTH SERVICES COUNCIL**

DATE: 27 March 2007

TIME: 2:30 PM

LOCATION: Health Policy Forum

ATTENDANCE:

Council: Present: Victoria Almeida, Esq., (Vice Chair), Edward F. Almon, John W. Flynn, Wallace Gernt, Catherine E. Graziano, R.N., PhD, Robert Hamel, John Keimig, Robert S.L. Kinder, M.D., Amy Lapierre, Thomas M. Madden, Esq., Robert J. Quigley, DC, (Chair), Larry Ross, Reverend David Shire (Secretary)

Not Present: Joseph V. Centofanti, M.D., Rosemary Booth Gallogly, Robert Ricci, Robert Whiteside

Excused Absence: Raymond C. Coia, Esq., Maria R. Gil, Denise Panichas,

Staff: Valentina Adamova, Michael K. Dexter, Joseph G. Miller, Esq., Ana Novais, Jessica Chaput (Intern)

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 2:45 PM. The Chairman noted that conflict of interest forms are available to any member who may have a conflict. The minutes of the 27 February 2007 meeting of the Health Services Council were approved as submitted. 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 a vote of twelve in favor and none opposed (12-0) that the availability of the minutes for this meeting be extended beyond the time frame provided for under the Open Meetings Act. Those members voting in favor were: Almeida, Almon, Flynn, Gernt, Graziano, Hamel, Keimig, Kinder, Lapierre, Quigley, Ross, Shire.

The Chairman introduced a new member of the Health Services Council, Robert Hamel. The Chairman noted that Ray Rusin, Chief, Office of Facilities Regulations was not in attendance and his presentation on 'Resident Centered Care in Nursing Facilities' would be rescheduled.

2. General Order of Business

The first item on the agenda was the Report of the Committee of the Health Services Council on the application of Sun Healthcare Group,

Inc. and Horizon Merger, Inc. for a change in effective control of Harborside Healthcare Greenwood Rehabilitation and Nursing Center and Harborside Healthcare Pawtuxet Village Rehabilitation and Nursing Center. Staff summarized committee deliberations on this matter.

Per Mr. Gernt's request, the Chairman and staff provided the background for the conditions of approval for this application.

Discussion ensued regarding any charity care requirements of the applicant. Ms. Lapierre proposed adding the following language as a condition of approval: that the applicant will continue with its current policy of working in good faith with residents to establish an alternative payor source when another payor source is no longer available. Further, that the applicant will not withhold or discontinue care or discharge the patient while an application for an alternative payer source (such as Medicaid) is pending.

A motion was made, seconded and passed, with thirteen voting in favor and none opposed (13-0) to amend the report to include the proposed condition of approval. Those members voting in favor amending the report were: Almeida, Almon, Flynn, Gernt, Graziano, Hamel, Keimig, Kinder, Lapierre, Madden, Quigley, Ross, Shire.

A motion was made, seconded and passed, with thirteen voting in favor and none opposed (13-0) to recommend approval of the report

as amended. Those members voting in favor were: Almeida, Almon, Flynn, Gernt, Graziano, Hamel, Keimig, Kinder, Lapierre, Madden, Quigley, Ross, Shire.

The next item on the agenda was the presentation by Ana Novais, Associate Director, Division of Community Health and Equity on 'Division of Community Health and Equity of the Rhode Island Department of Health'.

In her presentation, Ms. Novais discussed healthcare disparities and CLAS standards. The Chairman requested that her office provide advisories to the Council on applications.

3. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Valentina D. Adamova