

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

DATE: 22 May 2007

TIME: 2:30 PM

LOCATION: Health Policy Forum

ATTENDANCE:

Committee I: Present: Victoria Almeida, Esq., (Vice Chair), Edward F. Almon, John Flynn, Robert Kinder, M.D., Amy Lapierre, Thomas M. Madden, Esq., Robert Quigley (Chair)

Excused: John Keimig

Not Present: Joseph Centofanti, M.D., Robert Ricci, Robert Whiteside

Other Members: Present: Larry Ross, Reverend David Shire

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 the conflict of interest forms are available to any member who may have a conflict. 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 seven in favor and none opposed (7-0) 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, Kinder, Lapierre, Madden, Quigley

2. General Order of Business

Per request, the Chairman agreed to change the order of the agenda and review, first, the application of Home & Hospice of Rhode Island for a Certificate of Need to relocate an existing 10-bed inpatient hospice unit from Elmhurst Extended Care Facility in Providence to 1085 North Main Street in Providence and expand it to 24 beds.

The first item on the agenda was the applicant of Home & Hospice of Rhode Island for a Certificate of Need to relocate an existing 10-bed inpatient hospice unit from Elmhurst Extended Care Facility in Providence to 1085 North Main Street in Providence and expand it to

24 beds.

Staff noted that the applicant provided response to follow-up questions. Staff noted that based on the result of a survey they prepared a memo on the utilization of hospice care in Rhode Island. Staff stated that Dr. Patricia Nolan and Anthony Panzera from Brown University will not be able to make a presentation to the Committee. Staff's memo stated that Rhode Island has had a large growth rate in the number of patients utilizing hospice services of approximately 87% over a 5-year period from 2002-2006.

A Committee member asked the applicant as to their ability to shift from a 10 to a 24-bed facility. The applicant stated that there is a waiting list and provided that data. The Vice Chair noted that Saint Antoine's nursing home in Smithfield had recently completed one hospice suite. The applicant stated that the suite is used for patients in the community that don't want travel to Providence. The applicant noted that the level of care that they are asking for is a general inpatient unit.

A Committee member asked the applicant to comment on the length of stay. The applicant explained that in Rhode Island the length of stay is very short on a comparable level in the US. The applicant noted that they hope to expanded length of stay for hospice overall. There was discussion regarding the projected number of days.

Staff asked the applicant to explain why there is such variation in the capacity numbers provided and why they are not consistently increasing as inpatient utilization is increasing. The applicant stated that the 2006 numbers are historical and the 2009 numbers are projected. The applicant stated that staff had asked them to adjust the number of patients that they were using in their projections and that they would look into this and give them a more detailed answer. The applicant described types of people currently on their waiting list.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed by a vote of seven in favor and none opposed (7-0) to recommend that the application be approved. Those members voting in favor of the motion were: Almeida, Almon, Flynn, Kinder, Lapierre, Madden, Quigley.

The next item on the agenda was the application of Bradley Hospital for a Certificate of Need for new construction of a two story 44,486 sft addition on the west side of the existing Laufer Building to accommodate the hospital's 60 licensed inpatient acute care beds and expansion of outpatient programs.

Staff noted that they received a follow-up letter to the 4 May 2007 letter from Dr. Nelson, Director of MHRH. Staff read the letter in to the record. The letter recommended that a condition of approval include that Bradley Hospital shall provide the State of Rhode Island with technical assistance with the purposes of assessing and

recommending improvement in the process of transitioning youth with developmental disabilities and mental illness from the children's system to the adult system. The applicant accepted the condition.

Staff noted that Dr. William Hollinshead, Medical Director of the Division of Family Health, with assistance of others and Bradley Hospital developed a Memorandum of Understanding. The Chairman requested that the parties meet and come to a resolution with regards to the Memorandum of Understanding.

Staff noted that the applicant provided responses to follow-up questions. Staff noted the report by Danna Mauch titled 'Assessment of Need for Renovation of Beds at Bradley Hospital prepared for the Health Services Council and Department of Health Systems Development'. Ms. Mauch delivered a PowerPoint presentation to the Committee based on her report.

A Committee member asked Ms. Mauch if she believes Bradley meets the recommendations presented in the report. Ms. Mauch stated that these recommendations are special considerations and she recommends that they become conditions of approval. The applicant stated that this is consistent with what they want to do.

With regards to the applicant's capacity for providing services in languages other than English, the applicant stated that they have at least one Spanish-speaking psychiatrist and they call in interpreters if

they have to.

Dr. Nelson stated that this is an opportunity to work with Bradley Hospital and Rhode Island Hospital. She noted that she would be please with meet with Bradley to work on an action plan and collaborate.

The applicant reviewed responses to follow-up questions.

Questions and concerns were raised by the Committee with regards to the change in amount of equity contribution. The applicant discussed their plans for the fundraising campaign. The applicant stated that they had about an 80% level of confidence of raising between \$4-5 million.

Staff asked the applicant if they would accept a condition that if their capital campaign is more successful, that they will take the excess amount off of the debt. The applicant agreed. A Committee member stated that it is important to add in the incremental interest expense and that he noticed that interest was below the line in the original application. A Committee member requested Medicaid payor mix information. The applicant agreed to provide that information. Staff stated that it would be helpful if question number 50 was revised with regards to the Medicaid information. The applicant agreed to provide the requested information.

Staff noted that the application is going to go over the 120-day review time frame and the applicant is scheduled for a meeting on 12 June 2007.

Dr. Nelson stated that they would like to pursue an agreement between Bradley and MHRH. Staff stated that it would be in addition to the agreement being developed by Dr. Hollinshead.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Valentina D. Adamova, MBA