



Department of Health

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MINUTES OF MEETING
HEALTH SERVICES COUNCIL
PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE-II

DATE: 17 April 2014

TIME: 2:30 PM

LOCATION: Department Operations Center
Rhode Island Department of Health

ATTENDANCE:

Name	Present	Absent	Excused
Committee-II			
Victoria Almeida, Esq. (Chair)	X		
John J. Barry III	X		
Raymond C. Coia, Esq.	X		
Steven DeToy	X		
Joseph L. Dowling, MD		X	
Catherine E. Graziano, RN, PhD	X		
Robert Hamel, RN	X		
Jeanette Matrone, RN, PhD	X		
Daniel Orgel, MPA	X		
Denise Panichas	X		
Reverend David Shire (Vice Chair)	X		

Staff: Michael K. Dexter, MPA, Sarah Mancone, Joseph G. Miller, Esq., Steve Morris, Esq., Krista Sevigny (Intern)

Public: (Attached)

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

The meeting was called to order at 2:32 PM. The Chair noted that conflict of interest forms are available to any member who may have a conflict. Minutes of the Project Review Committee-II meeting of 27 March 2014 were adopted as submitted. A motion was made and passed by a vote of nine in favor and none opposed (9-0) that the availability of minutes for this meeting be extended beyond the time frame as provided for under the Open Meetings Act due to the increase

in administrative burdens on staff. Those members voting in favor were: Almeida, Barry, Coia, DeToy, Graziano, Matrone, Orgel, Panichas, Shire.

2. General Order of Business

The next item on the agenda was the applications of **MinuteClinic Diagnostic of Rhode Island, LLC [CVS Caremark Corporation]** for initial licensure for 7 Organized Ambulatory Care Facilities at: 1054 Cass Avenue in Woonsocket, 681 Reservoir Avenue in Cranston, 120 Eddie Dowling Highway in North Smithfield, 1285 South County Trail in East Greenwich, 799 Hope Street in Providence, 11 Main Street in Wakefield, and 151 Franklin Street in Westerly. Reverend Shire, Vice-Chair, chaired the meeting on this matter as Ms. Almeida, Chair, recused. Mr. DeToy recused. Staff reviewed the information distributed for this application and noted the letters of support from the Rhode Island Free Clinic, Ethan Berke, MD, Tod Podl, MD, OU Physicians, and Virtua Health System and opposition from Elizabeth Lange, MD. Staff also noted letters offering comment from the Rhode Island Health Center Association.

Representatives of the applicant made a presentation and responded to the Committee's questions.

Comments were made in support of this applicant by Laurie White, President of the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce.

Comments were made in support of this applicant by Lynn Dunphy, PhD, a nurse practitioner and Associate Dean of External Affairs at the University of Rhode Island.

Written and oral comments were made in support of this applicant by Donna Policastro, Executive Director of the Rhode Island State Nurses Association.

Comments were made in opposition of the application by Elizabeth Lange, MD, a primary care physician in Rhode Island.

Comments were by William Hollinshead, MD, a primary care physician in Rhode Island and Vice President of the Rhode Island chapter of the Academy of Pediatrics. Dr. Hollinshead did not express support or opposition to the application.

Comments were made in opposition of the application by John Solomon, MD, a primary care physician in Rhode Island.

Comments were made in support of this applicant by Marie Ghazal, RN, MS, CEO of the Rhode Island Free Clinic.

A motion was made by Mr. Coia, seconded by Sen. Graziano and Dr. Matrone, and passed by a vote of eight in favor, none opposed, and one recusal (8-0-1) to recommend that the application be approved subject to the conditions of approval. Those members voting in favor included: Barry, Coia, Graziano, Hamel, Matrone, Orgel, Panichas, Shire. Those members recused included: Almeida.

As part of the vote, Ms. Panichas stated, *“I believe that the character, competency, standing in the community... I believe they have met that except for the pediatric care piece. I believe that in the future they could create a protocol that would be consistent with whatever the American Pediatric Association has, but I think that we have done a really good job of asking the questions. I am not necessarily sure I got all of the answers I wanted, but I see where the future role of all of this will be on the medical community to educate their patients about the difference between the care they provide and the care provided in a retail center. Traditionally we have done it the other way around, but now it’s time to step up and educate your patients.”*

Mr. Coia stated, *“Based upon the criteria necessary to be met by the applicant, by the evidence submitted, I feel that, or I am of the opinion that, the review criteria have been met by the evidence put forth. I do take into consideration the comments by the doctors and all of those that may be opposed, and/or have questions relative to it, but after affording due weight to all of the evidence before this sub-committee, my vote is yes to approve.”*

Reverend Shire stated, *“First of all, I am concerned about fragmentation to the patient care, having served on multiple ethics committees I don’t feel that question was answered, at least to my satisfaction. I accept the fact that this is not a physician’s office, and as I weigh all sides, I feel I have to come down on a yes, but I certainly hope the Director will consider the questions that are raised in my comments – the fragmentation and the ethics of the owner-operated facility.”*

3. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael K. Dexter". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Michael K. Dexter
Chief
Office of Health Systems Development