



The Nathaniel Witherell
TOWN OF GREENWICH
CONNECTICUT

**Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
May 26, 2009**

- Present:** Christopher Ann Thurlow, Vice Chairman; David Ayres; Lloyd Bankson (via telephone); Bruce Dixon; Dr. Frank Scarpa; Paul Toretta, Lin Lavery
- Staff:** Lynn Bausch, Deputy and Director of Nursing; Ray Augustine, Director of Financial Operations; Linda Marini, Administrative Assistant; Scott Neff, Development Director FNW; Frank Walsh, MD, Medical Director; Susan Welsh, Director of Admissions
- Also:** Peter A. Arturi, Board of Health; Mary Anne Chiappetta, Family Council; Joyce Jordan, Family Council; Luci Nevin, TNW Volunteer; Christopher vonKeyserling, RTM District #8

Ms. Thurlow opened the meeting at 5:32 PM in TNW Board Room.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES OF THE 4/27/09 BOARD MEETING

The motion to approve the minutes of this meeting was made, seconded and adopted unanimously.

The Witherell Revue – presented by Luci Nevin

Luci Nevin, TNW Volunteer, reviews the preliminary plans for *The Witherell Revue*. This musical event will be performed by the residents, staff, Board members and volunteers of Witherell. Much of this show is based on Project Renew as well as other events and circumstances surrounding life here at TNW. Ms. Nevin previewed the lyrics, which she has written, for many of the songs that will be performed. Ms. Thurlow and Ms. Nevin are hoping for enthusiastic participation from everyone for this event.

Building Committee Report – presented by Paul Toretta

TOG Building Committee:

- Interviews were conducted on Wednesday, May 20, 2009, with 4 Construction Manager candidates
- Met with S/L/A/M - they are in the final phases of programming which they are working out with staff, Family Council and the Building Committee through different levels of meetings. Ms. Bausch states they have discussed with the architects the need for at least 3 more small group meetings. A 4th meeting may need to be scheduled to discuss the Garden room at Ms. Thurlow's request.
- A surveyor was hired and the survey will begin within the next two weeks
- Morrison Senior Dining has been assisting with possible kitchen design specifications
- Project is basically on schedule – a prep/early submission to Planning and Zoning is planned for early June.
- Co-generation possibilities are also being considered.

TNW Building Committee:

- Repair of the steps to the Rose Garden is complete.
- Four of the new large planters are in place on the front walk
- It has been confirmed that there are 27 AC units on site that can be used to replace non-functioning units if necessary.

Medical Director's Report – presented by Frank Walsh, MD

Dr. Walsh reports that our Nurse Practitioner/Physician Extender, Shannon DeSimone, RN APRN is a very positive addition to Witherell and the program is working well. She is doing an average of 16 patient visits a day. Since her start at TNW on April 13th Dr. Walsh has noticed that physician offices have received less minor daily phone calls and faxes. The Nursing Staff is happy that they can call someone who is in the building when a need arises.

Dr. Walsh reports that there has been no H1N1 virus at Nathaniel Witherell.

Patient census is at an 'all time high'.

Executive Director's Report - presented by Lynn A. Bausch, Deputy and Director of Nursing

Ms. Bausch makes note of the increase in Admissions that has taken place over the last year: Current Monthly Admissions for April 2009 = 39 compared to 21 of last year April 2008; YTD Admissions April 2009 = 306 compared to last year YTD Admission April 2008 of 233. This represents an increase of approximately

31% - this has been accomplished with no increases in staffing, notwithstanding the additional demands placed on all departments.

Ms. Welsh states that although most of our referrals are still from Greenwich Hospital, the number of referrals from other facilities continues to increase. She has been executing a marketing strategy which involves her bringing lunch and visiting such facilities as Stamford and Norwalk Hospitals and describing our program to them. Other facilities use Medicare.gov and print out facilities to recommend to their patients through Nursing Home Compare – this too refers many people toward TNW. She believes the marketing testimonials also greatly help to increase referrals.

Ms. Bausch brings everyone's attention to the CANPHA State Legislative Call-In Day scheduled for tomorrow, Wednesday, May 27th. This concerns making senior services a priority in our State Budget. She urges everyone to find the time to call in. Mr. Bankson urges Board members to personally contact State Representatives to express our concerns - there is legislation proposed by Governor Rell that Medicaid will be frozen for 2 years, including CON's as well. This would not prevent us from submitting the CON, but no increases would be given even if in the middle of construction. Mr. Dixon will call Livy Floren; Mr. Bankson is in contact with Lyle Gibbons; and Ms. Thurlow will contact Livy Floren, Lyle Gibbons and Fred Camillo.

Ms. Lavery suggests again, as she had in a prior meeting, that contact be made with Mr. Jim Himes' office from someone on the Building Committee to discuss the availability of Stimulus monies.

Finance Committee Report – presented by Lloyd Bankson

- Operating Gain for April 2009 is \$74,860, favorable to Budget by \$44,065
- Operating Loss YTD is (\$86,481) – this positive trend is totally due to the Payor Mix
- Revenues continue to grow and expenses, specifically salaries, are under control
- April 2009 Actual Salaries of \$614,365 favorable to the Budget of \$657,939; Salaries YTD for 2009 are now ahead of Budget - Overtime is now on Budget and under control
- June 8, 2009 RTM - The Nathaniel Witherell has 2 items on the Call:
 1. 400K additional appropriations request – appropriation to come from surplus revenues generated by TNW and deposited into the TOG General Fund
 2. To have TNW present its financial position and results of operations on a Revolving Fund basis in order to provide for greater transparency of its operations and to improve the quality of its various financial reports. This is subject to formal review by the BET, June 15th meeting date.

Chairman's Report – presented by Christopher Ann Thurlow

Executive Director Search Committee – Ms. Thurlow reports that 15 (out of 83 responses) returned the required TOG employment application. Currently the TOG expects that 8 candidates will be interviewed by the Search Committee.

Family and Resident Picnic will be held on Saturday, June 13, 2009, from 12:00 NOON until 2:00 PM “under the big white tent”.

Mr. Ormsby would like to remind Board members to review the TNW website for updates and modifications.

Ms. Thurlow wishes to extend our gratitude to the Greenwich Women's Club for the House/Garden Tour Fund Raiser benefiting our new garden project. They also shared with Ms. Thurlow that this was the most publicity they have ever had for this event.

National Nursing Home Week was May 10 – 16, 2009 – this year's “Americana” theme included bowling and Eskimo Pies, Wall Street Bingo and Rock-n-Roll with White Castle hamburgers and Root Beer, just to name a few events

The Mother's Day Tea was held on Saturday, May 9, 2009 with approximately 250 residents and their guests in attendance.

Lynn Bausch, Susan Welsh and Ms. Thurlow participated in a Morrison Senior Dining sponsored event at Masonicare, “*A Voice to the Silent Generation, Part 2*”

David Ormsby, Lynn Bausch, Susan Welsh and Ms. Thurlow taped a segment on Nathaniel Witherell for GCTV, Channel 79. This 30 minute special on life at TNW will air repeatedly throughout the month of June 2009.

Friends of Nathaniel Witherell – presented by Christopher Ann Thurlow

The FNW Golf Tournament scheduled for September 21, 2009 currently has 20 participants. An informational mailing regarding the tournament is scheduled for June.

Mr. von Keyserling commented on what a wonderful event the Volunteer Luncheon was on Wednesday, May 20, 2009

Old Business:

Ms. Thurlow would like to pursue two programs:

1. "Volunteer of the Month"
2. "Employee of the Month"

New Business:

A motion to approve a Resolution which states Lynn A. Bausch, as Acting Director of the Nathaniel Witherell, is empowered and authorized to execute Student Education Affiliation Agreements on behalf of the organization was made, seconded and adopted unanimously.

Ms. Thurlow adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas Saccardi, Secretary
June 12, 2009