



*The Nathaniel Witherell*  
TOWN OF GREENWICH  
CONNECTICUT

**Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes  
July 27, 2009**

**Present:** David Ormsby, Chairman; Christopher Ann Thurlow, Vice Chairman; Thomas Saccardi, Secretary; David Ayres; Lloyd Bankson; Bruce Dixon; Dr. Frank Scarpa; Paul Toretta

**Staff:** Lynn Bausch, Deputy and Director of Nursing; Ray Augustine, Director of Financial Operations; Jack Hornak, Director of Facility Operations; Linda Marini, Administrative Assistant; Scott Neff, Development Director FNW; Sally Van Leeuwen, Volunteer Coordinator; Frank Walsh, MD, Medical Director; Susan Welsh, Director of Admissions

**Also:** Peter A. Arturi, Board of Health; Allen M. Brown; Karen LaMonica, Commission on Aging; Leslie Tarkington, BET; Kerry A. Weber, Greenwich Post

Mr. Ormsby opened the meeting at 5:40 PM in TNW Board Room.

**REVIEW OF THE MINUTES OF THE 6/29/09 BOARD MEETING**

With two typographical errors noted, the motion to approve the minutes of this meeting was made, seconded and adopted unanimously.

**Chairman's Report – presented by David Ormsby**

Mr. Ormsby introduces and welcomes the newly appointed Executive Director of The Nathaniel Witherell, Mr. Allen M. Brown. Mr. Brown will begin at TNW on August 31, 2009.

Health Dimensions Group, the consultant firm selected by the BET to review TNW's long-range financial projection, has requested enormous amounts of not only financial data but clinical data as well. They will be here to meet with

department managers, key staff and the Finance Committee on August 4, 2009.

Mr. Ormsby comments on a BET communication he received today expressing the budgetary challenges the Town and all of its departments will face in 2011, generated in part from recent retirements. Twenty-two Town and Board of Education employees have accepted early retirement options – 11 out of the 22 are from Nathaniel Witherell. This communication suggests ways that each department may address this staffing issue.

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

To date no resident has had the H1N1 virus. Three staff members were determined to have the H1N1 virus.

There were some inconsistencies noted between the desired physical therapy expected by the Orthopedic physicians and what therapy the rehab patients were receiving. Discussions took place with Dr. Kavanaugh, Dr. Walsh and AiLinh Tu, Director of Rehabilitation Services. These discussions appear to have rectified this situation.

Tandet Center and Edge Hill are no longer owned or operated by the Stamford Hospital. Their utilization staff and Social Workers may now be more inclined to have TNW on their list of suggested/recommended facilities. Ms. Thurlow speaks of her experience with Stamford Hospital and the fact that they did not include Nathaniel Witherell as a rehab facility option.

The number of Admissions from hospitals other than Greenwich Hospital has doubled since last year.

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

Ms. Bausch begins her report by congratulating the entire TNW team for their efforts and hard work resulting in a profit for Witherell for the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year. Also, payroll hours are down and Admissions are up 22% for the year.

#### **Staff Appreciation Events:**

1. Greenwich Chaplaincy sponsored an Ice Cream Sundae and Drumming event.
2. Tommy Reale and his friends from St. Rochs Church gave the staff an afternoon of pizza frita and music in the Rose Garden.

**Person-Centered Care** – a family member volunteer has started a new program entitled “Al Fresco Art”. It is being held in the Friendship Garden location.

Labor Relations – the large number of retirements of TNW employees is proving to be a challenge, especially with regard to CNA 's. The Teamsters are still in Town negotiations with Witherell. Mr. Toretta questions to what extent the TNW Board or Staff get involved with negotiations. Mr. Ormsby notes that our staff is involved with union negotiations because of their knowledge of work rules, etc. having to do with the health industry. Mr. Toretta suggests that removing them from negotiations takes the pressure off of staff members.

Quality Improvement – the latest data from medicare.gov is attached to the ED report. Not only has TNW experienced a profit for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row, but also, Admissions are up, payroll is down and our quality of care is still high.

Family Council – TNW is continuously grateful for their support. The new officers were listed in Ms. Bausch's ED Report, but a few were mistakenly omitted: MaryAnne Chiappetta is the Family Council liaison to the TNW BOD; Tommy Reale; Scott Soper. TNW is looking to partner with the Family Council in the fall in a community Alzheimer's event.

Ms. Thurlow announces the Art and Alzheimer's program taking place this coming Wednesday evening, 7/29/09, at the Senior Center.

Mr. Bankson questions whether the Town Diversity training program is still on the schedule. It is currently not budgeted; it will generate a very large amount of overtime hours because it is a 3-hour program for 50 employees (25 in the am and 25 in the pm). Mr. Ormsby would like to know the complete cost of this program.

### **Building Committee Report – presented by Paul Toretta**

#### TOG Building Committee:

- The architects have asked to be on "hold" until a Construction Manager is brought on board. Some issues are being discussed between the TOG and the Construction Management firm.

#### TNW Building Committee:

- The committee did not meet this month.
- Work is currently being done on two roofs of the Administration Building.

Mr. Ormsby asks if the Building Committee has taken into consideration the consequences of Witherell obtaining Historic Building status and applying for historic building income tax credits. Mr. Toretta acknowledges that the Building Committee is focused on the question since large building constraints can be put on buildings that have attained the "historic" status.

## **Finance Committee Report – presented by Lloyd Bankson**

- Total Occupancy for June 2009 at 92.5%
- Payor Mix has been favorable
- Total Revenues for June 2009 YTD at \$22,354,705 which is \$686,720 favorable to Budget
- Revenues from Private Insurance are at 31.3% YTD favorable to Budget by \$805,865
- Revenues from Medicare A June 2009 YTD are at \$4,601,331, \$112,154 favorable to Budget.
- Operating Gain for June 2009 is \$69,360 -- that is \$99,381 below Budget for the Month of June 2009. And June 2009 YTD Operating Gain is \$90,941, and that is \$89,770 favorable to Budget.

Mr. Ormsby requests a motion be made to publish a Press Release announcing the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year of TNW profit. The motion is made, seconded and adopted unanimously.

## **Resident's Life Committee – presented by Christopher Ann Thurlow**

- The Nathaniel Witherell Retirement Ceremony was held for 14 retirees in the TNW Chapel on Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Thurlow compliments all those involved on a very meaningful ceremony
- Our numbers of volunteers continue to grow – we are now over 300. Of the total volunteer hours, our teen volunteers have logged 1,650.
- Ms. Thurlow will meet with Ms. Luci Nevin tomorrow, July 28, 2009, for updates on The Witherell Revue.
- Family Council had their yearly meeting that was attended by approximately 2 dozen members. Mr. Scott Neff discussed the golf tournament coming up in September. Ms. Lynn Bausch, Ms. Justine Vacarro and Rev. Heather Parkinson-Webb reviewed Palliative Care. Officers were elected.
- Twice a month residents attend an outing to the Greenwich Boat and Yacht Club.
- Orange Sunshine provided a Sunday afternoon of song and dance on July 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Coming up next month, there will be an outing to Island Beach, another to the Trumbull Mall, and the annual Luau on August 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Friends of Nathaniel Witherell – presented by Christopher Ann Thurlow**

There will be a Thank You Luncheon held next Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, in the TNW Chapel for the Woman's Club of Greenwich who raised \$15,000 for our Friendship Garden through their annual House Tour event.

Mr. Scott Neff reports that we have 81 confirmed golfers for the September tournament. Ms. Thurlow requests that if any Board members are not playing golf that they volunteer their talents that day in other capacities.

**Old/New Business**

Mr. Ormsby confirms that there is no scheduled Board of Directors meeting for the month of August.

Mr. Ormsby adjourned the meeting at 6:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Saccardi, Secretary  
August 10, 2009