

Alaska Pioneer Home Advisory Board

Wed Sept 28, 2016 - 9 AM

Minutes

Teleconference:

Call in Conference No: 1 800-315-6338

Secondary Conf No to Call: 1 913 904-9376

Access Code: 54784

No passcode required for members

Chairperson Passcode: XXXX

| Attend | Type | Name | Location/Title | Representing |
|--------|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|
| x | Member | Pamela Beale | Anchorage | Alaska Veterans Advisory Council Designee |
| x | Member | Rosemary Hagevig | Douglas | Public |
| no | Member | Hollis Hall | Fairbanks | Public |
| x | Member | Bert Hall | Wasilla | Public |
| x | Member | Mary Shields David Blacketer | Juneau | Alaska Commission on Aging Designee |
| no | Member | Jana Shockman | Anchorage | Public |
| x | Member | Ronald Siebels | Anchorage | Public/Restricted/Veterans representative |
| x | Member, Chair | Robert Sivertsen | Ketchikan | Public |
| x | Division Staff | Vickie Wilson | Director | Central Office |
| x | Division Staff | Georgene Wallin | Central Office; Procurement | Central Office |

1. Attendance
2. Call to Order
3. Discussion and approval of agenda
4. Thanks Bert and Geo while travel.
5. Pam moves to accept, Rosemary seconded. Motion passed.
6. Declaration and verification of any conflicts of interest: none
7. Unfinished Business - none
8. Discuss report to Governor – no response yet. Not sure why. Possible because they are busy with a lot on their plate. Make sure
9. Reports
 - a. Division Director's Report (Vickie Wilson):

- i. Request for Information posting went out regarding the Pharmacy outsource studies; nothing solid to report. Went out. There were problems with the second bidder. No conversation to leadership.
 - 1. Bob: Asked about the problem with second bidder to complete. Vickie: No info, but Jessica told her that they did not meet the minimum requirements. They were from out of state, too. She can ask for more details.
 - 2. Vickie reiterated that this posting was for looking for people to do a study. It was not for the provision of services.
- ii. Jessica's position (Administrative Operations Manager II) has been filled. Hired Clinton Lasley. Vickie will send copy of his resume to the board. He was raised in Circle and Central area of Alaska. Interesting and amusing in that he mentioned being the valedictorian. There was only one student to go from 8th to HS that year, and was the only graduate. He is coming from Public Health as an Admin Officer II there. Worked for a newspaper. References were stellar. A very nice man. He will come to us 10/19/16.
- iii. Losing Wanna Kane (Senior Services Technician). Last day is 10/3/16. Maintains the waitlists. On a personal note: They are going to move to the Kenai Peninsula. Her husband had a brewery in Hoonah, and recently canceled his partnership. They are building a house in the Kenai area and look forward to getting back to living in the same town. We will be posting Wanna's position.
- b. There will be a rate increase of 1.5 percent to go in effect Feb 1, 2017. Already went through the process. As of last Friday 9/24/16, it is posted on website. Not as drastic as the last increase. It shows administration that we are taking our hits, but are also serious about doing all that we can too.
- c. Bob: 3 levels. None of the rates cover the actual cost of care. Vickie: they are about half. Bob: Per month fees:
 - i. Level I New \$2,588 Old \$2,549.75
 - ii. Level II New \$4,692 Old \$4,622.10
 - iii. Level III New \$6,795 Old \$6,694.45
- d. V: We also had to put forward a 10 percent cut for this next year. This is a supposition as to what could happen. Realistically, no program is safe. Up to this point, we have not looked at closing any one of the homes yet. That is something in the far past, that was discussed. The Administrators and I, myself, would like to keep all the homes open in our communities and not look at closing any one of them.
- e. Keep moving forward and keep the positions we have.
- f. The Fairbanks homes are doing well. The Fairbanks Home recently did an art walk where their non-profit organization raised over \$75,000 in 2 hours. Last year they raised over \$35,000 and paid to convert a room to a dental room.
- g. The other homes have been doing all sorts of summer activities, and are wrapping them up for the season.

- h. Bert: Question to Vickie: Can we afford a face to face meeting for possible February? Vickie: Can put a request to the Governor now, so we can find out.
 - i. Rosemary to Vickie: Glad to see we have the notice out now for the 1.5% increase. The public will have a better understanding for smaller incremental increases, Kudos. I've received complaints from those who are in waiting of beds, and are unhappy about the budget being the reason why more beds cannot be available.
 - j. Vickie: Thank you to Rosemary for this discussion item. It does come down to a budget decision. We've got full guns loaded, but it is a reality. We have very good level of care. It is happening in a lot of places where more beds are taken off the market. We may find that we may come to the same point where more beds may need to be taken off the market, due to personnel vacancies. We are being very cautious about this.
 - k. Bob: We have to be very careful how we manage.
 - l. Member: Have you seen a change to our bottom line since the Medicaid Expansion has been increased?
 - m. Vickie: No change seen from the Medicaid Expansion. It is a hard one to see. We also have many residents on payment assistance. We are watching. The Dementia Waiver has not happened yet, which should have an effect.
10. Veterans Representative's Report
- a. No report
 - b. Bert: The requirement 75 percent would be filled with Veterans. For the first time, we reached this level and it has been stabilized. It's been 7 years since it became a requirement. Lowering the bed count availability affects the numbers.
 - c. Pam: Pam is our vet rep. Has not been provided information.
 - i. Natl assoc Now have Bertie Bowen. (there was more discussion)
 - d. Bert: Encourage our folks from communities to visit the homes. Bert will bring it up at the face to face.
 - e. Bert: Asked Vickie about change information. She agreed to provide change information to the board.
11. Policies and Procedures: No discussion.
12. Alaska Commission on Aging (ACoA) Report
- i. David Blacketer: Mentioned reappointments, Mary, Banarsi, Denise, etc.
 - ii. Report: Governor signed 8 year report. President signed it. Helps all the seniors for all Alaska and all of AK. They met on Sept 15th. We're in the planning stages. Will have outreach. Ready to go and be ready to assist the pioneer homes.
 - iii. Bert: How many face to face: David: One. Like you we were cut from quarterly meetings. I'm new to teleconference. I miss the face to face, where you can see body language, talk with folks off meeting. We do the best we can, but a lot gets discussed when you're face to face.
13. Board Chairman
- a. Bob: Board report: Open discussion. case by case basis.
 - b. There will be a senior and disabilities fair where we will have a table there.

- c. It is fairly difficult to get the last face to face coordinated. With the present budget, I don't know how efficient it will be to have the face to face at the capitol. The workshops and meetings with the administrators were very beneficial. And I feel the workshops are more efficient than the meetings in Juneau during the legislative session. I've got to give it to the Commission on Aging. They have it ratcheted down. They even spoke in behalf of the APH. We are part of each other. The timing is in question as is, if Juneau is the right venue. If in Anchorage, we have more access to our administrators.
- d. Rosemary: I too have been thinking about that. The best meeting was the one we had with all the staff in Anchorage. There are other ways to get together. There are more things tied to the legislative process. We are one more cog in the wheel when we are in Juneau at that time.
- e. Ron: I see what you are saying. I had a real good tour of the APH and the Pharmacy. I think it would be good for all of us have the tour. The pharmacy is very valuable. I was very impressed with its operations.
- f. Rosemary: The pharmacy is amazing.
- g. Bob asked Vickie: Do we have many face to face with the administrators? Vickie: We don't have anything planned at this time. Due to the budget and not being able to travel. It's a good thing how connected you stay when you are in and out of the homes. You get a better view of issues, and understanding of the residents and services. Site visits help to stay grounded. Anchorage would be compatible for a workshop meeting there.
- h. Bob: Put money towards actual care. Meeting off legislative time. Going through this process this past couple of years makes me rethink what we want to do this next period.
- i. Bob: Many legislatures can be found in the Anchorage and Palmer areas, outside of the Legislature session, where meeting there would be better.
- j. Bob: I recommend having collaboration of Rosemary, Bert and Vickie to work out the details to possibly meet there and not during the legislature.
- k. Bert: Consensus is building strongly. We have 4 in Anchorage, Vickie and Hollis are in Fairbanks. We can coordinate 3 or 4 different activities at both the Anchorage and Palmer facility.
- l. Rosemary: Wondering about early December.
- m. Vickie: Election on the 8th. Before or after the election.
- n. Bob: We're making this selection for this year. Possible next year that we'll decide to meet in Juneau, where it may make more sense at that time.
- o. Rosemary: This year; if we can get our message to the legislatures before the actual legislative sessions, they'd have time to really listen, and review what we bring to them, and digest what they've learned.
- p. Member: We are appointed by the Governor. More discussion...
- q. Bert: Looking at the calendar, the obvious week is Nov 14th. If we could lock it in now for us, then Vickie can try to lock it in from her end.

- r. Vickie: I have to request approval. The Commissioner is in Anchorage during that time, so we could meet with her. She primarily is in Anchorage until the session starts.
 - s. Vickie: This would be our one face to face for the fiscal year.
 - t. Vickie: People can stay at the Home if needed. A few said they were interested.
 - u. Rosemary: That would be a cost savings.
 - v. Vickie: I stay at the basement when I'm in Sitka and NANA provides meals, to reduce per diem costs.
 - w. Rosemary: Anything that improves the meetings and also provides a savings, I'd be for.
 - x. Vickie: I'm for more contacts with the homes and the administrators.
 - y. Vickie: Duration: 3 days total. Board and Administrators: Meet one day with defined purpose. The board can set own times to meet with legislators separately, and go out to Palmer. The administrators could meet for their own business.
 - z. Bob: Meet and greet, and educate legislatures about home details.
 - aa. Dave Blacketer: I would pay for own meals, and someone could pick me up at the airport. No problem staying at the home.
 - bb. Vickie: We can pick you up. We'll work out the details as we get closer to the time.
14. New Business
- a. Bert: I was going to volunteer for someone from Anchorage to work on setting things up.
 - b. Pam: I will.
15. Bob: Is there any other issues or other folks that have input, support? (Bob went around to all with this question.)
- a. Pam asked for the request in an email. She will follow-up.
 - b. Rosemary can incorporate..... More discussion.
 - c. Georgene: I would like to send out the minutes in draft form first for review, edits or additions. There were moments where it went too fast to keep up and I'd like to get input from everyone before finalizing them. I appreciate it. I'll also send out a message to Dave requesting his contact information. Once I get the last of the responses, I'll send the completed spreadsheet to everyone.
 - d. Dave: Thanks. I'm the new kid. I'm happy to serve. More was said...
 - e. Bob: With the city of Ketchikan, there are certain requirements. I know that we've gone to recording those meetings, which works out good. Question to Vickie: Is that something we can do?
 - f. Vickie: I will look into it.
 - g. Bob continued going around asking the question if anyone else had anything to add?
 - h. Ron: I am enjoying this. Thanks. My thanks to each of you for a great meeting today. I view it as cordial, informative, and professionally orchestrated. Nice to be part of a dedicated team efficiently pulling together in harmony and devotion.
 - i. Rosemary: No more to add.
16. Bob: Entertain to adjourn.
- a. Bert: Move to adjourn.

- b. Rosemary second
- c. Bob: Meeting adjourned.

Follow-up to meeting:

- 17. Hollis Hall: Sent 9/28/16 9:44 pm email message: Georgene---I am so sorry to have missed the meeting after specifically saying I would attend. The date change did not get to both of my calendars. I would be able to attend a face to face the week of Nov. 14th.
- 18. Ron Siebels: Sent 9/28/16 10:24 am email message: My thanks to each of you for a great meeting today. I view it as cordial, informative, and professionally orchestrated. Nice to be part of a dedicated team efficiently pulling together in harmony and devotion. Best always to each of you and your loved ones. Ron Siebels, Anchorage