

CONNECTICUT CONTINUING CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Masonicare at Ashlar Village, Wallingford, Connecticut
Minutes of the Meeting
April 17, 2015

Attendance

Mag Morelli presided and the following members were present: George Thomas for Jonathon Fink, Jennifer Rannestad, Rodney Rolett, Marjorie Sullivan, Jon-Paul Venoit, and Maureen Weaver

Also present were Rich Wysocki, Principal Cost Analyst of the Department of Social Services and Georgia Erickson, President of the Connecticut Continuing Care Residents Association (ConnCCRA).

The meeting was open to the public and several CCRC residents were in attendance including residents from Elim Park, Pomperaug Woods, Ashlar Village, Edgehill, and Stoneridge.

Not attending: Billie Alban, William Thompson, and Keith Robertson

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes

The minutes of the October 17, 2014 meeting were approved.

Department of Social Services Comments

Mr. Wysocki commented on the work that was done by the Legislature on House Bill 5358, An Act Establishing a Bill of Rights for Residents of CCRCs. He characterized the bill as a compromise and a combination of two bills, one proposed by the Department to update the CCRC statutes and one proposed by ConnCCRA to establish a CCRC Residents Bill of Rights.

Legislative Update

Ms. Erickson provided an overview of the development of House Bill 5358. She reported that ConnCCRA representatives testified in support of the bill in the Human Services Committee and that individual CCRC resident groups have been meeting with their local state legislators. She informed the Advisory Committee that the sponsor of the bill, Representative D'Agostino, would be speaking at the May 14th ConnCCRA meeting.

Attorney Weaver then provided an overview of the bill and explained each section.

Ms. Rannestad raised concern with one provision of the proposed bill which would place a two year time limit on the entrance fee refund. She suggested a five year time limit. Ms. Morelli also reported that she has heard from CCRC providers not in her membership that this was a concern for them. Ms. Morelli observed that this appeared to be the only issue that was bringing opposition to the bill at the State Capitol. A thoughtful discussion ensued on the topic and the Advisory Committee engaged the residents in the discussion.

Concern was also raised at the meeting about the aggressive effective date of the bill. The bill currently contains a proposed effective date of July 1, 2015 which may be difficult for providers to comply with if the bill is not passed until later in the session. The concern was specifically related to the sections of the bill which require the modification of new resident contracts.

Discussion of Best Practices when Implementing Changes to a Campus

This agenda item was requested by Ms. Alban and was tabled until the next meeting.

New Business

Ms. Erickson thanked the Advisory Committee for including the ConnCCRA President and announced that Dick Clarke from Stoneridge will be taking on that position.

Audience Comments

Members of the public were provided the opportunity to comment.

Next Meeting

The next meeting date will be July 17, 2015.

Adjournment

Ms. Morelli extended her thanks to Masonicare at Ashlar Village for hosting, and the meeting was adjourned.