

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

**Attendance**

Maureen Weaver presided (for Mag Morelli who could not attend) and the following members were present: Jonathon Fink, Jennifer Rannestad, Keith Robertson, Marjorie Sullivan, William Thompson and Jon-Paul Venoit

Also present were Rich Wysocki, Principal Cost Analyst of the Department of Social Services and Dick Clarke, 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, Ashlar Village Edgehill, and Stoneridge.

Not attending: Billie Alban, Mag Morelli and Andrew Ness

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

**Committee Composition**

Ms. Weaver reminded the Committee that Georgia Erickson had stepped down as President of ConnCCRA and that Dick Clarke, the new ConnCCRA President was taking her place on the Committee. In addition, she reported that Rodney Rolett of HJ Sims had retired from his company and that Andrew Nessi of HJ Sims would take his place on the Committee. Finally, she pointed out that the new CCRC law, Public Act 15-115 requires that, as of October 1, 2015, the Commissioner's designee will serve as a member of the Committee. Ms. Weaver reported that Ms. Morelli sent a letter to the Commissioner asking him to approve changes in the Committee structure. A motion was approved to thank Ms. Erickson and Mr. Rolett for their service on the Committee.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the April 17, 2015 meeting were approved.

## **Department of Social Services Comments**

Mr. Wysocki commented that Public Act No. 15-115 made many changes to the CCRC statutes. Some language in the proposed bill called for the Department to get involved in matters for which it had no expertise and therefore the Department worked with the bill's legislative sponsor to revise certain language. In the end, the Department was willing to support the bill. Mr. Wysocki observed that the bill received tremendous support among legislators and credited the hard work of the bill's proponents, as well as the Committee's feedback on the bill, in the bill's successful passage.

Mr. Wysocki also reported that he has an appointment for the week of July 20th with an attorney and client interested in either acquiring or establishing a CCRC in Connecticut. He will keep the Committee informed of any non-confidential information that may emerge from this meeting.

Finally, Mr. Wysocki indicated that the Department had received several requests for information about the date, time and place of this meeting and discovered that information about meetings may not be readily accessible. A few CCRC residents in attendance as members of the public commented that they had difficulty finding this information. Mr. Wysocki indicated that the Department will work with LeadingAge Connecticut to ensure that information about upcoming meetings is posted in an accessible location.

## **Legislative Update**

Ms. Weaver provided an overview of Public Act No. 15-115, which takes effect on October 1, 2015. Ms. Rannestad inquired as to how the new law will affect existing Department regulations governing CCRCs, which appear last to have been amended in 1996. Mr. Wysocki explained that statutory language supersedes any conflicting regulations, but it is possible that some regulations that do not conflict with the statute as amended by the new law will remain in effect. A question was raised as to whether the Department should repeal the regulations since they are so outdated and significantly changed by the new law. Mr. Robertson commented that, based on his experience, Connecticut's CCRC statutes are comprehensive and contain the type of information that many states include in regulation. Ms. Weaver volunteered to analyze the regulations in light of the new law to determine what, if any, regulations will remain in effect (i.e. not be superseded by statute). She will report back at the next meeting.

A discussion ensued about the process surrounding passage of Public Act No. 15-115. Ms. Rannestad pointed out that some for-profit CCRCs that are not members of LeadingAge CT were not aware of the legislation until very late in the process, but they had concerns about proposed language, including the time limit

on making refunds to residents. She raised the question about whether the Committee has the responsibility to inform all CCRCs of matters that may affect them. Mr. Fink pointed out that CCRC providers have the opportunity to attend the Committee's meetings if they wish to do so.

### **Discussion of Best Practices when Implementing Changes to a Campus**

This agenda item had been requested by Ms. Alban. Since she was not in attendance, it was tabled until the next meeting.

### **New Business**

Mr. Wysocki suggested that the Committee may want to consider not holding the meeting during the first month of each quarter to avoid meeting in January and July where weather and vacation schedules may affect attendance. He proposed targeting dates in the second month of each quarter for 2016 meetings. It was agreed that the Committee will establish the 2016 schedule at the next meeting.

### **Audience Comments**

Members of the public were provided the opportunity to comment.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting date will be October 16, 2015.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.