

The Southbury Training School Board of Trustees met in the Moser Library at Southbury Training School, Southbury, Connecticut, on Monday, January 26, 2009.

Present: Ann Dougherty, Chair
Eileen Lemay, Vice-Chair
Philip K. Bondy, M.D., Secretary
Mark Cooper
Louis Richards
Mark Taylor, M.D.
Ted Walen

Eugene Harvey, Director, STS

Guests: Sally Bondy
Jeanne Braude-Magi, WeCahr

Ms. Dougherty called the meeting of the Southbury Training School Board of Trustees to order at 1:02 p.m.

GUEST SPEAKER

Dr. Taylor, who is on the Board of the Southbury Land Trust Committee, presented for Mr. Crider, who was unable to attend as guest speaker.

Despite the State of Connecticut's Farmland Preservation Program, more farmland has been lost to development than preserved. Dr. Taylor stated that in the current economy, with high fuel prices impacting the cost of food and with families facing reduced income, it is more important than ever for the state to increase its efforts to protect its capacity to provide for its residents. He added there is a way to preserve a significant amount of farmland at no cost to the state. The Southbury Land Trust has been working with the Connecticut Farmland Trust, the Connecticut Farm Bureau, Audubon, and Working Lands Alliance in urging the State of Connecticut move pro-actively to permanently protect more than 1300 acres of productive agricultural lands currently owned by the state and leased to farmers. A proposal is being put forth that the state maintain ownership of the 1300+ acres, while the development rights on each parcel would be legally transferred to an appropriate conservation organization. This action would permanently preserve these 1300+ acres for agricultural use in perpetuity. The farmland and forestland at Southbury Training School is part of this acreage, and Dr. Taylor asked the trustees for their feedback on this proposal.

Mr. Walen stated he would like to get a sense of what the DDS thinks about this concept. Mr. Harvey replied he would follow up with Commissioner O'Meara.

Dr. Bondy moved that the Board endorse this concept, for consideration by the DDS, for the protection of existing farmland and forestland at Southbury Training School in its agricultural status and would support the efforts of the de-facto group attempting to achieve this endeavor. Mr. Taylor seconded for discussion. After discussion, a vote followed. All in favor.

Dr. Taylor will keep the Board posted .

MINUTES

Dr. Bondy stated the legislature has passed a law that requires minutes of all public meetings to be published within a week of said meetings. A draft of BOT minutes will now be emailed to all trustees for review. Unless one or more trustees propose alterations within 24 hours, the minutes will be considered as approved and may be posted.

Dr. Bondy moved and Dr. Taylor seconded that the November 17, 2008 minutes be approved as written. All in favor.

COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Mr. Walen presented the following highlights of the January 8, 2009 Council meeting:

- Nine DDS Legislative Proposals for the 2009 Legislative Session were reviewed.
- The North Region has completed a healthcare coordination pilot and plan to support nursing students at UCONN in an effort to gain more nurses for the department
- The DDS Trades Meetings (between private providers and DDS managers) are now conducted on the web. The next meeting is on February 9.
- The Program Review and Investigations Committee has selected three of its recommendations for action in the current session of the General Assembly:
 - Waiting List Continuation
 - Care in nursing homes
 - The Commissioner of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Works and the Office of Policy and Management, shall evaluate the feasibility and appropriateness of a continuum of options for Southbury Training School

EXECUTIVE SESSION

For purposes of personnel matters and discussion, Ms. Dougherty requested that the Board go into Executive Session, restricted to the trustees, Mr. Harvey and Ms. Logan, Recording Secretary. Mr. Cooper motioned this request be approved and Dr. Taylor seconded. All in favor. Executive Session began at 1:50 p.m. and ended at 2:20 p.m.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Budget. These are serious and challenging times. The hiring freeze on most positions remains in place. Governor Rell will give her State of the State address on February 4.

Messier. There was a phone conference between Judge Burns, Atty. York and Atty. Shaw on Jan. 23. Atty. Shaw is to submit his request for data by Feb. 8, and Atty. York is to respond by Feb. 20, after which another conference call with the judge will be scheduled.

McCoy. Status same.

USJD. Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Dougherty received a letter from Mrs. Bondy regarding an inaccurate statement made in a recent Waterbury Republican-American article. It was stated that STS is the only remaining DDS residential institution in the state, which is not true. Discussion followed, and the Board agreed that Dr. Bondy would draft a letter for Ms. Dougherty to submit to the editor correcting this inaccuracy.

Ms. Dougherty asked Mr. Harvey about the status of TV service being provided at STS, given that analog TV is ending soon. Mr. Harvey replied that negotiations are underway with a private provider for either cable or satellite service for the entire facility.

Ms. Dougherty also raised the issue of a piece of equipment that had been purchased for a client with the individual's own money. It has been many months now since the specialized chair was ordered, and it still has not been delivered. This vendor has a contract with the state and there is no reason for the such a lengthy wait. Mr. Harvey is aware of the situation and is following up on it.

NEW BUSINESS

There will be no guest speaker for the February meeting to allow adequate time for the Board to review current budget information.

The next meeting of the STS Board of Trustees will be on **Monday, February 23, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. in Moser Library.**

There being no further Old or New Business, Mr. Cooper moved the meeting adjourn at 2:37 p.m. Mr. Richards seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen P. Logan
Recording Secretary

Philip K. Bondy, M.D.
Secretary

Approved by the STS Board of Trustees
January 29, 2009