

The Southbury Training School Board of Trustees Meeting met in Eugene Harvey's Conference Room at Southbury Training School, Southbury, Connecticut, on Monday, February 28, 2011.

Present: Eileen Lemay, Chair
Louis Richards
Ted Walen
Marc J. Taylor, M.D.
Ann Dougherty
Mark Cooper
Philip K. Bondy, M.D., Secretary
Eugene Harvey

Guests: Gregory DeCandia, M.D., Medical Director
Sally Bondy

Eileen Lemay, Chair, called the meeting of the Southbury Training School Board of Trustees to order at 1:06 p.m.

MINUTES

All trustees via e-mail approved the January 24, 2011 minutes on January 31, 2011.

GUEST SPEAKER

Eileen Lemay introduced the guest speaker, Gregory DeCandia, M.D., Medical Director. Dr. DeCandia began his position as Medical Director of Southbury Training School on December 1, 2010. He comes to us from New Hampshire where he served as Medical Director of the Healthsouth Rehab Hospital in Concord, NH. Having lived and worked in Western Massachusetts from 1994 to 2007, he has been a Staff Physician at Mercy Medical Center and Baystate Medical Center, both in Springfield, MA. He completed his Bachelor's Degree from Columbia University in New York, NY; his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Vermont in Burlington, VT. He completed his internship and residency with the University of Connecticut Family Medicine Residency Program at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford, CT. He is currently Board Certified in Family Medicine and has an active Connecticut license. His office is located at the Health Care Unit and he is on grounds five days a week.

Dr. DeCandia was asked about emergency room visits and whether he would continue the protocol developed by the previous Medical Director. Dr. DeCandia said he was in the process of revising this protocol. There was also a concern that when a resident goes to the hospital, there needs to be familiar staff to accompany the resident and that STS physicians have communicated with the hospital physicians all necessary information. Another concern was voiced regarding waiting time in the ER before being evaluated. Dr. DeCandia stressed that it is the protocol of hospitals that when a patient arrives by ambulance, that patient is evaluated immediately, noting that all of our residents that go to emergency rooms always arrive by ambulance. He assured the Board that all their concerns were addressed and that everything is being done to assure proper procedure is followed.

Following further discussion, the board thanked Dr. DeCandia for his informative presentation.

COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Lou Richards reported the council is on stand-by regarding the governor's budget. The appointment of a permanent DDS Commissioner by Governor Malloy is due by March 1, 2011,

but a ten-day extension has been issued. The minutes for this meeting can be obtained by going to the DDS web site: <http://www.ct.gov/dds> clicking on the Boards & Councils link, and then on the Council for Development Services.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Two-Year Plan for STS:

As STS continues to downsize and its long-term future is unclear, it is important to create a short-term plan (2 years) to ensure that the facility continues to operate in an efficient and effective manner.

- 1) Close Boy's Village. This includes all cottages numbered in the 20's. As of this date only Cottages 20, 22 and 26 remain open as residential buildings, and Cottage 24 accommodates a day program. The day program would be relocated to Roselle. The residents in the remaining cottages would be relocated to vacant beds in other parts of the campus or to vacant buildings that currently exist in the Girl's Village, which include Cottages 2, 5, 8, 9, and 11. This will enable our limited maintenance employees to more effectively be used to maintain the remaining occupied parts of the campus.
- 2) Close the Health Care Unit Complex. The Health Care Unit complex is a three-level building occupied by OT/PT Department on the basement level; physicians' offices, a clinic, X-ray, dental and a laboratory on the main floor; and Cottage 37 and the Health Care Unit on the top floor. The building is currently in need of repair and necessary roofing and air conditioning upgrades alone would require over a million dollars in expenditures. The Health Care Unit is currently unlicensed and DDS loses approximately \$900,000 annually in lost billing opportunities. The Health Care Unit and Cottage 37 would move to Cottage 42 and gain ICF Licensure. This also includes moving the residents currently in Cottage 42 to Cottage 7A, which is undergoing renovations. It is anticipated that Human Resources personnel currently located in the Administration Building at STS will be located to the Rowland Building in Waterbury. When this occurs, the physicians' offices would be relocated to the Administration Building along with the Speech Pathology Department currently located in Roselle. The clinic, OT/PT, X-ray, dental and laboratory would then be relocated in Roselle.

The BOT requests a detail map of the STS campus to explain these changes at the next meeting.

Dental Clinic:

Recently during a Health Department Survey, a citation occurred as a result of a resident vomiting into a mask while under anesthesia at the Dental Clinic. Although the resident did not experience any long-term negative effects, this prompted a thorough review of the Dental Clinic and the equipment currently in use. A STS Dental Clinic Committee has been working on the issue of General Anesthesia at STS and in the meantime there will be no dental work under General Anesthesia until further notice.

Commission on Enhancing Agency Outcomes:

A Committee has been set up by the Legislature to make recommendations for the future of Southbury Training School stating, "The Commissioner of Developmental Services, or the commissioner's designee, shall lead a working group that shall develop a plan to deinstitutionalize the residents of Southbury Training School. Such working group shall include the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee, and a representative of (1) the residents of the school, (2) state employees who work at the school or a union representing such employees, (3) an advocacy group for the residents, and (4) a private

provider of services needed by such residents, each of whom shall be selected by the commissioner. The plan to deinstitutionalize the residents of the school shall consider the feasibility to safely move the residents into new settings in the community. The group shall consider the following: (A) the relationships built between the residents and the staff, and (B) whether it is appropriate for state employees to continue to deliver services to the residents or whether private providers should deliver such services, or both. Any recommendations contained in the plan shall be developed using a cost-benefit analysis that considers both financial costs as well as quality of care issues.”

The STS Director is concerned that it is not mentioned in the passage that a parent or guardian be included as a representative in the working group. He will bring this to the attention of the DDS Commissioner.

Cottage Renovations:

Cottage 18 will be re-opening in late March to accommodate the residents currently living in Farm I. The BOT will be invited to the Open House.

DDS Budget:

No details on the budget as of yet, but the DDS Budget looks good. It is expected that at STS several buildings will be closed during this Fiscal Year.

Remedial Expert:

The committee to plan the new staff training at STS will meet next month.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Marc Taylor – CT Farmland Bills Introduced Update:

Of the three CT Farmland Bills submitted by Representative Arthur O’Neill, only #5203 is being addressed at this time:

#5203 That the general statutes be amended to authorize the grant of an agricultural conservation easement on lands that comprise the Southbury Training School, provided such easement is in favor of a nonprofit organization, as defined in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States, as amended from time to time, and such organization’s mission includes the permanent protection of agricultural lands for use as agricultural lands.

Dr. Taylor will inform the BOT the date of the hearing of this bill.

The next meeting of the STS Board of Trustees will be **Monday, March 28, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. in the STS Director’s Conference Room.**

There being no further business, Mark Cooper moved the meeting adjourn at 2:47 p.m., Dr. Marc Taylor seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Webb, Recording Secretary

Philip K. Bondy, M.D., Secretary

Approved by the STS Board of Trustees
March 4, 2011