

The Southbury Training School Board of Trustees met in Eugene Harvey's Conference Room at Southbury Training School, Southbury, Connecticut, on Monday, April 27, 2015.

Present: Eileen Lemay, Chair
Ann Dougherty, Vice Chair
Diana Mennone
Louis Richards
Mark Cooper
Drew Morten
Ed Edelson
Eugene Harvey, STS Director

Eileen Lemay, Chair, called the meeting of the Southbury Training School Board of Trustees to order at 1:05 p.m.

COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Diana Mennone, the STS Board of Trustees representative to the Council on Developmental Services, reported the Council met for a special meeting on March 2, 2015 at DDS Central Office and via teleconference call.

Discussion included DDS proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2016 and Fiscal Year 2017. There was discussion also on proposed testimony for Appropriations Committee Public Hearing on the Governor's Proposed Budget (Health and Hospitals Public Budget Hearings).

The Council on Developmental Services met on March 12, 2015 at DDS Central Office.

The Council met the new DDS Commissioner, Morna Murray; Deputy Commissioner, Jordan Schiff and Manager of Special Projects, Katie Rock-Burns. The Commissioner gave the Council an update on how she and the Deputy Commissioner are getting to know the roles of staff at the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and are looking at areas that need improvement. They are ready to implement changes to achieve the utmost efficiency. Goals are to decrease the waiting list and increase the number of people receiving services.

Legislative Update: Appropriations Committee has an April 30th deadline date for committee bills (too many to mention). Legislative Affairs has been focused on the budget hearing, preparation for budget testimony and several bills. They have been working on a list of questions from the Appropriations Committee's Health subcommittee from the Office of Fiscal Analysis.

The Council would like to plan a video conference meeting with Eugene Harvey at a later date.

Diana reported that instead of a video conference, a tour was conducted by Eugene Harvey at Southbury Training School on April 6th. The members toured the grounds and a few of the residences.

To view the minutes from the March 2015 meetings, go to the DDS website at www.ct.gov/dds - on left side, click on **BOARDS AND COUNCILS**, and scroll down to: **2015 MEETING SCHEDULES / MINUTES**. Find dates of **MEETINGS**; see **AGENDA** columns and **MINUTES** columns to the right.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Current Population – 299 as of April 18, 2015. Three residents from Cottage 8 moved to a private group home in Newtown on April 8th.

The Parties Meeting was held on April 17th for the Settlement Agreement. Another meeting will take place on May 8th with Tony Records to attempt to get some agreement on the differences.

The Governor's STS Task Force Committee will reconvene on May 8th at Central Office.

Abatement projects ongoing in empty buildings. The Health Care Unit has been completed with Fleck Hall and Thompson Hall to follow. Potential future use of these buildings is now possible due to the abatement process.

Lainie Jedlinsky, who represents Pierce Hollow Village, met with Eugene recently regarding a time frame to start work on the Personnel Village property. No date can be set as residents still live there.

Eugene discussed the media blitz from the Hartford Courant regarding the publication of a recent review of public records by activists for intellectually disabled people. STS prepared a response to this report and forwarded to the Appropriations Committee.

Eugene met with First Selectman Ed Edelson to discuss gradually transferring all Fire Department services to the Town of Southbury.

A new generator has been installed in Cottage 30 to accommodate Cottage 15 residents while their building is renovated.

Cottages 32 and 36 officially closed April 24th. There is consideration in reopening Cottage 36 with minor renovations to accommodate Cottage 5 residents, due to Cottage 5 has two stories and Cottage 36 only one and, therefore, eventually closing Cottage 5.

Cottage 20 is still on target to open the end of May. The new windows will be delivered May 5th.

Dr. Siva, Senior Physician, will assume the duties of the Medical Director, Gregory DeCandia, as his contract will expire in June. A suggestion was made by Eugene to the Commissioner to have STS physicians and P.A.'s help out at the regional centers to eliminate private contracts.

The Summer Music Concerts on campus will continue this year, as well as the Southbury Celebration.

OLD BUSINESS

Drew Morten shared a report he received from the Deputy Commissioner of New York State regarding facts on their DDS facilities.

NEW BUSINESS

A tour of Cottage 20 will be on the agenda for the May meeting.

The next meeting of the STS Board of Trustees will be **Monday, May 18, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in the Director's Conference Room.** (Memorial Day, Observed is Monday, May 25th.)

There being no further business, Ann Dougherty made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:16 p.m.; Mark Cooper seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Webb, Recording Secretary

Mark A.R. Cooper, Secretary

Approved by the STS Board of Trustees
May 1, 2015