

**The Southbury Training School Board of Trustees
Met in Eugene Harvey's Conference Room at Southbury Training School,
Southbury, Connecticut, on Monday, April 25, 2016.**

Present: Eileen Lemay, Chair
Ann Dougherty, Vice Chair
Diana Mennone
Louis Richards
Ed Edelson
Mark Cooper
Jackson Pierre-Louis, Assistant Regional Director

Excused: Eugene Harvey, STS Director

Guest: Helena (Lainie) Jedlinsky

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 on the DDS Council Meeting of March 17, 2016.

Legislative Liaison, Rod O'Connor, gave the legislative update. Senate Bill 294 (Raised) Public Health, 'An Act Concerning Services for Individuals with Intellectual Disability', relates to STS as it requires the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to consult with stakeholders on a plan to close facilities operated by the department.

Deputy Commissioner, Jordan Scheff, updated the Council on how agencies will be considering layoffs, as the Governor, in his budget address, cited reductions of employees through attrition and other means. Consequently, agencies are preparing staff reduction contingency plans. Savings will come from retirements, restructuring and other possibilities, including a hiring freeze and layoffs while continuing to maintain focus on reducing overtime spending.

To view the minutes from the Council meetings, go to the DDS website at www.ct.gov/dds - on left side, click on **BOARDS AND COUNCILS**, scroll down to:

2016 MEETING SCHEDULES / MINUTES. Find dates of **MEETINGS**, see **AGENDA** columns and **MINUTES** columns to the right.

Guest, Helena (Lainie) Jedlinsky, presently the Secretary on the Board of Directors for Pierce Hollow Village, Inc., presented an update on the progress of the Pierce Hollow Village Project. The DDS Commissioner has written a letter to the First Selectman of Southbury to convey the Personnel Village property to the Town of Southbury, but with more approvals and additional funding yet to be made before work can commence on the property. This project will consist of three two-story buildings, with sixty units in each building. Most units will have only one occupant. All units will be handicapped accessible, with 5% of the complex designed for totally disabled residents. There is a wait list of 300 at Grace Meadows, and about 240 people will eventually live at Pierce Hollow Village, with an age of sixty-two years or older to be able to qualify for residency. The first stage of this project will start as soon as possible on one of the two-story buildings. It is predicted most residents will come from local areas who want to be near family and familiar surroundings.

The Board thanked Lainie for her informative presentation.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Submitted by Jackson Pierre-Louis, Assistant Regional Director

Current Population – 261

Budget

This fiscal year's budget that ends on July 1st is stable unless there are further rescissions. Next year's budget is still undecided, but we expect it to be extremely difficult. The possibility of layoffs exists. The Board members will be notified if they occur.

Cottage Changes

To remain within budget next fiscal year, additional cottage closures are anticipated. It is likely that there will be two closures with one in the early summer and one later in the summer. Once again, the Board members will be notified.

Renovations

Bathroom renovations continue in both Cottage 40 and 41. Renovations to Cottage 7 are expected to be complete by mid-summer. It has not been determined yet who will live there.

Retirements

STS has experienced a considerable number of both actual and planned retirements. It is expected that between May 1st and August 1st STS will lose thirty-eight staff.

Placements

It is anticipated that there will be nine additional placements before the end of 2016.

OLD BUSINESS

Senator Kane's and State Rep. Arthur O'Neill's Presentation to the BOT Meeting in January

Since the last BOT Meeting, Eileen Lemay, Chair, has made two requests to Senator Kane and State Rep. Arthur O'Neill regarding any progress they have made toward recruiting their legislative counterparts on coming for an open house/ tour of the STS campus. No response has been received.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominations for STS Board of Trustees Member

Ed Edelson made a motion to nominate Helena Jedlinsky to be considered for the vacancy on the STS Board of Trustees due to the passing of Drew Morten. Mark Cooper seconded, with discussion to follow. After a lengthy discussion, Ed Edelson withdrew his motion to nominate Helena Jedlinsky. Mark Cooper accepted the withdrawn motion.

Additional nominees for the vacant position will be presented for review at the next meeting.

The Board requested a tour of the newly renovated Cottage 36 to be included in the agenda for the May 23rd meeting and will ask the Director to make arrangements.

The next meeting of the STS Board of Trustees will be **Monday, May 23, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. in the Director's Conference Room.**

There being no further business, Ed Edelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:25 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 9, 2016