

**Winchester House Advisor Board  
Meeting Minutes  
January 24, 2019**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Mayer called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Present** 4: Julie Mayer, Steve Carlson, Julie Simpson, Carol Calabresa, Michael Knight  
Attendance via conference call 2: Jeff Bieschat and Ric Olson

**Absent** 1: Mary Hillard

Others present:

Amy McEwan, Interim County Administrator

RuthAnne Hall, Purchasing Manager

Denise Norman, President, Transitional Care Management

Jackie Prestel, Winchester House Administrator

**2. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Steve Carlson to approve the minutes of the WHAB from July 26, 2018 and seconded by Amy McEwan. The motion was approved with 6 ayes and 0 nays.

**3. Chair's Remarks**

Chair Mayer thanked everyone for attending the groundbreaking ceremony for the replacement facility on Tuesday, December 4, 2018.

**4. Member Remarks**

There were no member remarks.

**5. Old Business**

There was no old business discussed.

**6. New Business**

**6.1**

**Update on Transitional Care of Lake County's (TCLC) Winchester House Milestone, Regulation and Financial Report – October through December 2018.**

Denise Norman provided an update on the Phase III milestone of the contract - the new Mundelein facility. The groundbreaking was held on Tuesday, December 4, 2018. The current construction schedule has the slabs for the foundation being poured on or before March 28, 2019 depending on weather. On site meetings will occur once framing begins.

Jackie Prestel reviewed the PowerPoint presentation covering the status for the regulatory and staffing updates. Most recent survey was the annual survey conducted in September 2018. All tags have been addressed through a desk review and there were no findings. Member Knight commended the staff on the recent Star Rating that was shared with the members of WHAB. A recommendation was made to work with County communications to include a write up for Board Member newsletters. A staffing update was provided for October through December.

Denise Norman provided an overview of the TCLC finances for the months ending October 31, 2018 and November 30, 2018.

Ms. Norman also provided a brief update on the census. The Winchester House census had increased to 124.87 in October but decreased to 120.97 by December 2018. Winchester House saw a decrease in Medicare during that time, but there was some increase in Managed Care and Medicare MMAI that offset it. Staff is hopeful with the groundbreaking that the census will continue to increase. Member Carlson reiterated that staff should promote the fact that all residents living in Winchester House at the time of the transition will be guaranteed a spot at the replacement facility. Member Simpson inquired as to the difference in capacity of census for existing facility versus the replacement facility. Ms. Norman responded that the current facility capacity is licensed for 224 beds and the replacement facility is licensed for 185 beds.

The remarks for the prepared presentations concluded with highlights for the therapy program and activity highlights for the facility since September 2018. Ms. Prestel indicated that they were planning a groundbreaking event for current residents in March 2019.

## **6.2**

### **Discussion of the future of the Winchester House Advisory Board**

Chair Mayer led a conversation regarding the future responsibilities of the WHAB. A question was raised by Member Carlson based on the existing mission of serving the underserved elderly population and history of the WHAB what value can they bring to the next 18 months? Ms. Norman replied that TCM values the input of the professionals on the WHAB and encouraged them to participate in the hard hat walkthroughs of the new facility and promote the opening of the facility. Member Olson stated he wants to see this to the finish line and that the replacement facility and partnership with TCM is a model for the County and is raising the level of elder care. Member Biesczat echoed the comments and agreed that the WHAB is moving more toward a community relations role that may expand to all senior care rather than facility based. Member Calabresa stated that Lake County residents need the WHAB to focus and protect the mission and investment made through the special levy. Chair Mayer questioned if the WHAB had the ability to direct the levy funds in the future. Member Biesczat stated that may require a referendum. Ms. McEwan agreed and stated that a discussion will likely need to happen in late 2019 or early 2020. Member Knight referenced a recent successful campaign that was conducted in Cook County that wrapped the needs of the senior population under a broader umbrella.

## **6.3**

### **Update on the Health Dimensions Group (HDG) Settlement**

Ms. Hall provided a brief update on the settlement agreement between Lake County and HDG and assured the members that the issue had been closed.

#### **6.4**

##### **Update on Winchester House Operations**

Ms. Hall provided a brief update on upcoming facility repairs to the structure and a project to cap the plumbing on the vacant third floor. Ms. Hall invited any interested members to tour the facility at the close of the meeting with representatives from the County's Department of Facilities and Construction.

#### **7.**

##### **Other Business**

None.

#### **8. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Carol Calabresa to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Steve Carlson. The motion passed with 6 ayes and 0 nays. Chair Mayer declared the meeting adjourned at 5:00p.m. Next scheduled meeting is April 25, 2019.