

Family Council Minutes

Meeting September 21, 2023 at 2:30 pm

St. Lawrence Lodge Boardroom & Zoom

Attendance: Reg Knudson, Linda Eyre, Colin Kidd, Peri Howlett, Judith Hart, Elinor Utting

Invitees: Lisa Harper, Angela Roles, Sherry Canning

Welcome:

Reg opened the meeting @ 2:33 pm with a welcome to everyone.

Agenda Approval:

Agenda was approved.

Moved by Colin Kidd

Minutes Approval:

Minutes from July 20, 2023 Family Council Meeting were reviewed and approved. Peri Howlett offered to do a review of the Admission packages during last meeting, but was not mentioned in minutes.

Moved by Linda Eyre

Old business:

Comparison of number of deaths annually – from last meeting.

This was a question from a previous meeting. Lisa had prepared some numbers, but the question was meant to be in regards to the length of time that residents reside in the Home prior to passing away. This will be readdressed at the next meeting.

Can families request an autopsy and can this be prearranged? Yes, the doctor of the Home can arrange.

New Business:

1. COVID Policies and protocols for this fall/winter – Public Health declares when there is an outbreak and when it is over, and if events can still take place. The IPAC lead handles all of the outbreak information for the Lodge.

If only one unit is on outbreak, it will be business as usual for the remainder of the Home. Only one visitor per resident will be permitted on the unit in outbreak.

Residents that have COVID will be isolating in their rooms, but other residents of that unit can move about on the unit. Staff should be attempting to ensure the residents have tvs or radios turned on, or one on one time with the residents while isolating in their rooms.

Signage will be posted on the units and the building entrance, notifying every one of the outbreak and what is required (masks, gowns, limitations of visitors, etc.).

Not all planned activities are happening on weekends due to activation staff filling in for the nursing staff.

If an isolation ends on a weekend, staff are aware. Notes are sent out, stating who may come off of isolation and when. Lisa will review process with IPAC. If any issues on weekend, ask to speak to the Manager on Call.

RN's call the doctor and can request Paxlovid for a resident if the parameters have been met, but ultimately the decision is up to the doctor. Lab work is done annually, some would prefer it more frequently, but it is based on MediSystem requirements.

Vaccinations will be offered to residents by IPAC, we are waiting for the newest vaccine that covers the most frequent strain to be released. IPAC will be making calls for consent for residents to receive the COVID vaccine. The recommended time frame is 6 months for the residents to have COVID vaccinations.

2. Staffing – The loss of Betty Van Beek as ADOC of the 2nd floor is a loss for St. Lawrence Lodge. Angela Roles will be ADOC in the interim.

Everywhere is in staffing crisis. Repeated issues are straight days, return to school, compensation, or leaving the health care sector. More funding is required, as RN's and RPN's are underpaid, compensation needs to increase in order to retain the staff.

Family Council offered to write a letter to Advantage Ontario on behalf of St. Lawrence Lodge. There was an incentive given to the PSW's in form of \$3 wage increase by the Ministry, but nothing was given to the RPN's or RN's.

A lot of our staff are tired and are on the attendance program. Staff morale seems to be low. More cameras are being installed in the facility and staff are upset. The cameras are used for safety and protection of both staff and residents. There have also been changes regarding the staff consuming food prepared for the residents. This is was permitted in the past, but is no longer allowed.

Administrator's Report:

Vacancy – 9 empty beds 95.98% occupancy rate

The blanket warmer has been received for the First floor. A plaque is being prepared to mount on it as recognition to the resident family that made the donation.

We will be doing some fundraising in the fall in hopes to obtain more blanket warmers.

Safety medication practice survey has been completed – 77 % this year compared to 72 % last year.

Staff break room is now located in the staff hallway.

Resident activities will be resuming in the Town Hall.

Library books will be moving to all units.

Physio may be moving into the library.

Chapel is coming back together, renovations are underway.

Roundtable:

– Permission given to Peri Howlett and others to go ahead with moving the books from library to the floors.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be determined and sent via email. Lisa has suggested moving the monthly meetings to another day other than the third Thursday. We are very busy preparing for the Committee of Management meetings at that time of the month.

It was agreed to carry over the remaining items from the agenda to the next meeting due to time.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 4:16 pm.