

Minutes  
Baron's South Committee  
August 19, 2011

The meeting of the Baron's South Committee was called to order by Marty Hauhuth at 9:30 AM.

In Attendance:

Marty Hauhuth, co-chair  
Steven Daniels, co-chair  
Yvonne Senturia  
Sharon H. Rosen  
Ken Bernhard  
Barbara Butler  
Jack Klinge (RTM representative)  
Shelly Kassen, Selectman, Ex Officio

Recap of RTM meeting last week

Reviewed with RTM how we have arrived at certain conclusions regarding housing and long term care. Presented to the RTM some of the results of the visits to 14 facilities and their best practices. Some of the consistent findings among the facilities is that the more desirable facilities include, management and/or ownership by non-profits organizations, exposure to the environment, multiple gathering places and care coordinators for services on site. How far we go with the types of services provided is still to be discussed. The presentation focused on housing and a discussion of the small house model for long term/short term care allowing for flexibility as needs of the community change.

Visit to Mary's Meadow, Holyoke, Massachusetts - 8/8/11

Four houses – one short term, two long-term and one reserved for the religious order of sisters who built the facility. Originally the houses all had de-centralized scheduling but it didn't work. Ordering of supplies is done centrally. It is not a franchise of the Green House Model. Issue with the short term rehab house is that it depends on reimbursement from Medicare and private insurance and the census fluctuates depending on the surgeons referring to the short term house for care post-op. The small house model permits flexibility regarding the diagnostic case mix. The case mix effects reimbursement.

Visit to Masonic Care, Charleton, Massachusetts – 8/8/11

Meeting was held with Judy Raebeck a pioneer in the small house movement. Masonic is building a small house for assisted living to prove that the government should reimburse for this level of care. Critical items from the meeting with Ms. Raebeck

1. Think about outcomes- what do we want to see?
2. Independent Housing with services – service provider on site, not exclusive but if there is on-site provider must be qualified and highly regarded with experience in senior care.
3. Financial issues regarding land use, taxes, affordability

There will be further discussions with Ms. Raebeck and Masonic Care.

Change in the housing/long term care focus – Initially the focus was 66 housing units, now we will look at the possibility of minimum 66 units and maximum 100 housing units. Regarding the long term care

facility the shift is from 84 beds to 55 beds. This is a big shift in thought process that is the result of the committees many site visits, meetings with professionals and extensive research into the future of service to seniors.

Scheduled call with Dawn Lambert, DSS/Money Follows the Person held on 8/10/11

There was a scheduled conference call with Ms. Lambert, head of Money Follows the Person. MFP is a demonstration grant focusing on moving institutionalized individuals back to the community with home care services. The project has been evolving and will continue to evolve as the philosophy of the State of Connecticut moves away from long term care in facilities to long term care at home. Ms. Lambert was very optimistic about the town's project. Yvonne explained how MFP works and its connection with housing. The impression received by those on the conference call is that we are moving in the right direction regarding housing and long term care. A meeting has been scheduled with the State of Connecticut Commissioner of Human Services in Hartford on August 31, 2011 at 2 PM. A member of the Office of Economic Development will be in attendance. At this point we have no commitment to do anything with the State we just want to understand the vision and explore all of our options. The State likes our project because of the emphasis on aging in place.

RFP – RFP is in progress and revisions being made. According to Steven Daniels, at this time there is a focus on determining what “services” means. The preliminary RFP needs to go to the RTM for review and comments. It is expected to be finalized by the end of October.

RTM Committee Report – Yvonne has summarized the meetings in a report attached to the minutes.

Minutes from 8/4/11 were approved by the Committee.

Next meeting scheduled for September 2, 2011 at 9:30 AM

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM