

Family Council Minutes

Meeting December 15, 2022 at 2:30 pm via Zoom

Attendance: Reg Knudson, Maria Clai, Elinor Utting, Colin Kidd, Donna Kukk, Linda McLennan

Invitees: Lisa Harper, Angela Roles, Sherry Canning

Regrets: Marion Dalley

Welcome:

Reg opened the meeting with a welcome to everyone.

Introduction of Maria Clai to the Council. Maria spoke a bit about herself and spouse.

Agenda Approval:

The agenda was approved.

Old Business:

Minutes from November 17, 2022 Family Council Meeting were reviewed and approved with a correction to the wording in item 2 (How are residents made aware of the opportunity to vote in an election) under New Business. The wording needed to be changed from “not much communication” to no communication.

Moved by Donna Kukk
Seconded by Maria Clai

Revised minutes will be sent.

No other old business noted.

New Business:

1. Maintaining residents’ physical abilities – Physical fitness is very important. How are the residents’ physical abilities maintained? Will look at more activities/fitness, but depends on staffing levels, lots of illness and people off in the life enrichment department. Possibly try to even it out between the resident home areas. Stacie Swayne (supervisor of life enrichment department) is off at the moment, but Lisa will touch base with her. The Lodge is actively searching for a physiotherapist, but there are many challenges in this field. We did have a physiotherapist contracted in, but he recently has made other arrangements.

The goal in the New Year is to enlarge the physiotherapy department and physiotherapy room, bring back mobility bars and other equipment to assist. If residents say “NO”, do they walk away or do they come back and encourage the resident? Lisa will look into this in more detail with the physiotherapy assistants.

Is all physio prescribed by physician or nurses on the floor? It is often the nurses more so than the doctors because the nurses see the residents more frequently and can detect the need faster. More communication was recommended on the residents’ board for the families to be aware the resident is in physio.

2. Resident on-boarding – Onboarding was not very welcoming or private. Recommendation made that the new person has a meeting with everyone in admissions when they arrive with refreshments to give a person feel. Lindsey Smith is the one that does the admission assessment for St. Lawrence Lodge. It can be suggested to Lindsey to do this in a private place. We currently do not have a dietician on site, but the dietary supervisor does meet with the new resident in their room. Doctor is not usually here when the resident is admitted.

How does food allergies get communicated? Sara (Food Services Supervisor) meets the resident in their room and speaks to them regarding likes/dislikes. Comment made that this should have been done sooner than after admitted. Food allergies are dealt with differently than likes/dislikes. Food allergies are dealt with by the Admission Nurse when initially admitted. We will work together to try to get the process better. Covid 19 has made things a lot more challenging for sure.

Directors Report:

Vacancy is down – 18 empty beds, 9 in Isolation unit, 9 in other Resident Home Areas, with 2 residents coming next week.

Medical director – Dr. Mansworth is retiring December 31st. Dr. Dan Dufour has agreed to be medical director. Dr. Steacie will remain as attending physician. Letters going out today to residents/families. Tentative plan is to have rounds every morning, no physicians on Fridays. Increased ability for families to meet with Dr. Dufour. Dr. Dufour will start January 1, 2023.

EMAR is going very well, staff are enjoying it.

Julie Shaw is the new social worker, started November 21st. Julie is a very positive and supportive figure that jumped right into the role.

The new Dietary Manager, Sandy Young, has her hands full. Sandy is making lots of changes, looking at the quality and quantity of the food.

Automated medication machines will be coming in 2023.

Implementing Point of care documentation. Will be more accurate, incidents will be documented at time of incident, not at end of shift.

Lots of things going on for the staff this month as well as a Staff appreciation program starting in 2023.

What would the social worker do? Assist residents if they are having a hard time adjusting, lost a spouse or just time of year. They can suggest resources throughout the community for transportation issues, support, etc. Referrals are going through the ADOC's as of now.

Compliments were given on hiring the Dietary Manager – she is amazing, very impressed.

Maria Gollinger has resigned – have had a few applicants but want the “right fit”. Angela and Lisa will cover for now. Email will be drafted and submitted in regards to coverage.

Roundtable:

1. Suggestion – Put the number of years of service that employees have been at the Lodge on the tv screens.
2. Are there rules that the staff are not allowed to accept gifts? Treats and things are allowed if more generalized, but personal gifts are not allowed. Can do draws for Gift cards that are donated to areas, etc. This has worked well in the past.
3. Any issues or changes to protocol? We are OK as of now, but we are in a suspect Influenza outbreak. Not confirmed yet.

Next Meeting: January 19 @ 2:30 pm.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 3:55 pm.