

Grand Bend Area Community Health Centre
Board of Directors Meeting
November 21, 2011 5:30 pm Community Room

MINUTES

Present: Max Morden, Jamie Kneale Fanning, Patrick Shum, Doreen McHarg, Larry Walls, Bryan Beattie, Dr. Glenn Bartlett (ex-officio)

Regrets: Dawn Butler, Richard Faber, Susan Moore

Recording Secretary: Susan Cordell

Staff Observers: Heather Klopp, Kim Killens

Guest: Paul Brown, Health Systems Manager, Erie St. Clair LHIN

1. Call to order: 5:30 pm

2. Adoption of Agenda:

RESOLUTION Moved by: L. Walls 2ND: D. McHarg
THAT THE BOARD adopts the agenda as presented.

Carried

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None declared

4. Collaboration with South Huron Hospital

M. Morden

M. Morden introduced Paul Brown, Health Systems Manager for the Erie St. Clair LHIN. Paul was asked to consult with the board regarding a formal collaboration agreement with South Huron Hospital (SHHA) and Grand Bend Area Community Health Centre (GBACHC).

M Morden explained that Dr. Bartlett took over as CEO of SHHA a little over a year ago. The Board is interested in exploring opportunities for collaboration in keeping with the board's strategic goal, to establish linkages and partnerships with SHHA and in the interest of local residents who feel that SHHA is their local hospital for acute care. There are already a number of shared staff positions in programming and administration between the two organizations. The board is now considering a more formal affiliation agreement which would be based on separate boards and budgets but would serve to:

1. Support changes already going on
2. Facilitate joint recruitment process in the future

Dr. Bartlett explained that when he came to Grand Bend five years ago as Executive Director, he soon realized that it was not a full-time position. In May of 2010, the SHHA board chair approached Dr. Bartlett to become the CEO of SHHA on a half-time basis.

Since then, there have been a number of vacancies that have been filled by shared staff, creating synergies between the two organizations and serving to fill gaps in staffing without increasing the budget. This sharing of staff gives the staff opportunities for personal growth. The over all intent is not cost avoidance, but rather to enhance service provision within very tight budgetary constraints.

P. Brown explained that the goal of the LHIN was to provide an integrated health system. He gave an overview of integration, as defined in the Local Health Integration Act, and included a number of examples. The role of the LHIN, he said, is to encourage the growth of services through an integrated system.

Paul confirmed the view of the LHIN that our Board is moving in the right direction. There are many complementarities between GBACHC and SHHA that create opportunities for collaboration and integration activities. Paul has spoken to the senior management of the Erie St. Clair LHIN as well as the South West LHIN (which directs SHHA), and has found support for the synergies that have been developed between the two organizations and the administrative strengths that have resulted. He also pointed out that our Multi Service Accountability Agreement that is signed by both GBACHC and the H-SAA signed by SHHA protects the service volumes already in place.

Paul described two approaches to integration: voluntary and facilitated by the LHIN. He felt that the voluntary approach – moving ahead on our own and then informing the LHIN of our actions - would result in better success. He said that by strengthening our affiliation with SHHA, we are positioning ourselves for the future. In the present economy, the need for partnerships is very evident. He said we would be creating a positive, progressive image with both The Ministry of Health and the LHIN. We are already respected by the LHIN for our governance and leadership and would be setting examples for new models that could be used by others.

To move forward on this initiative, P. Brown suggested that we further develop our relationship with SHHA Board by working together to establish agreed-upon principles and create a Memorandum of Understanding. P. Brown will provide Dr. Bartlett with a checklist of suggested steps for the process. The Board can also consult with any other LHIN staff, if needed.

RESOLUTION Moved by: L. Walls 2nd:B. Beattie
THAT THE BOARD continue to explore an affiliation agreement with SHHA, based on principles mutually agreeable to both organizations. Carried

5. Review/acceptance of minutes from October 17, 2011: M. Morden
RESOLUTION Moved by: D. McHarg 2nd: J. Kneale Fanning
THAT THE BOARD accepts the minutes as presented. Carried
It was suggested that any issues from previous minutes needing follow-up should be put on the agenda for the following meeting.

6. Report from the Chair:

Health Services Foundation Board will be hosting GBACHC Board on Dec 12th at 6 pm at the home of Bruce Hough, HSF Chair. This will primarily be an informal evening with food provided. There will be a brief presentation on immediate needs of GBACHC, primarily hardware for Electronic Medical Records (EMR) which is estimated to cost not less than \$26,000. A HSF appeal letter has been developed to ask for EMR donations.

Prosper Van Bruene, one of the original local citizens involved in the development of the the Gill Road Medical Centre as well as our current GBACHC building, has recently passed away and the family have asked for donations to GBACHC.

M. Morden reported on an AOHC South West Constituency meeting. Several AOHC workshops are coming up and any interested board members wanting to attend can get more info from Max.

An Advocacy Committee was struck at our last board meeting, consisting of B. Beattie, L. Walls, M. Morden and Dr. Bartlett to put together a more comprehensive advocacy document which is entitled, Walk-In and Acute Care Clinic (WIAACC) & Waiting List Relief with the assistance of H. Klopp.

Board members are asked to review the document and give input, before the next step of meeting with the LHIN. It was also suggested as a further step that an invitation be issued to our new area provincial politicians, Lisa Thompson, Huron-Bruce and Monte McNaughton, Lambton-Kent-Middlesex to visit our facility and hear about our plans.

- 7. Treasurer's Report** (B. Beattie)
B. Beattie reviewed the Financial Summary Sheet for 7 months to October 2011 with the Board. Complete financial package was e-mailed to the Board. Current financial picture is on target.

RESOLUTION Moved by: B. Beattie 2nd: P. Shum
THAT THE BOARD accepts the financial report as presented. Carried

- 8. Report from the Executive Director** (Dr. G. Bartlett)
The software vendor for EMR will be announced by the AOHC on December 7 in Toronto. AOHC would like us to be one of the first to convert over which will no doubt come with many related frustrations. H. Klopp explained that being first would be to our advantage as we are not currently using the same Purkinje system as others and necessary BIRT reporting would be made possible once we are on EMR.

A Diabetic Nurse Educator has been hired to replace Aileen Knip. She comes highly qualified and will starting on Monday, November 28, 2011

RESOLUTION Moved by: L. Walls 2nd: D. McHarg
THAT THE BOARD accepts the report as given by the Executive Director. Carried

- 9. In-Camera Session:**
RESOLUTION Moved by: B. Beattie 2nd J. Kneale Fanning
THAT THE MEETING will move to an in-camera session Carried

RESOLUTION Moved by: P. Shum 2nd: B. Beattie
THAT THE BOARD accepts the In-Camera Minutes from October 17, 2011 as presented. Carried

RESOLUTION Moved by: D. McHarg 2nd:B. Beattie
THAT THE MEETING moves out of the In-Camera session. Carried

10. New Business: None

11. Next Meeting: January 9, 2012 (as well as HSF meeting Dec 12, 6 pm). It was noted that B. Beattie would not be able to attend the January meeting but will supply a Financial Summary with an accompanying narrative explanation.

12. Adjournment: 7:30 pm