

CONNECTICUT CONTINUING CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Masonicare at Ashlar Village, Wallingford, Connecticut
DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting
August 19, 2016

Attendance

The following members were present: Mag Morelli, Maureen Weaver, Jennifer Rannestad, Marjorie Sullivan, Keith Robertson, William Thompson, Jon Paul Venoit, Rich Wysocki, Jonathan Fink and Dick Clarke.

The meeting was open to the public and several life plan community/CCRC residents were in attendance including residents from Elim Park, Ashlar Village, StoneRidge and Watermark at 30/30.

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m.

Minutes

The minutes of the May 20, 2016 meeting were approved as amended.

Department of Social Services Comments

Mr. Wysocki reported that he has observed that interested parties in other states are proposing modifications to their continuing care statutes similar to those enacted by Connecticut in 2015. It was stated by members of the committee that the goal of regulation should be to protect residents while allowing the model to grow.

It was noted that often the source of concern for an individual resident is related to a lack of understanding of their contract. There was a discussion regarding how to provide more resources and information to consumers and to those who advise them on their contracts.

NaCCRA National Meeting Panel Discussion

Ms. Morelli reported that she has been asked to participate on a panel discussion at the NaCCRA meeting to be held in Indianapolis in October. The panel will be discussing how consumers can gain information to choose the right life plan community and Ms. Morelli was asked to speak on Connecticut's collaborative efforts on the consumer guide and the resident rights legislation.

New Business

Mr. Robertson reported on the bankruptcy proceedings for the Westchester Meadows life plan community in Westchester County, New York. He provided background as to what led to the bankruptcy and reported on the recent court decision to sell the community to Bethel Methodist so that it could maintain operation as a life plan community. This decision was in the best interest of the residents.

It was pointed out during the discussion that New York is one of the most highly regulated states for life plan communities and that even with strong regulation and oversight, good business practice and transparency is of utmost importance. Mr. Wysocki mentioned that it had been over ten years since such an issue has occurred in Connecticut. A discussion ensued about what consumers can do to review the financials of life plan communities.

Public Comments

It was announced that committee member Jon Paul Venoit was recently named the incoming President and CEO of Masonicare.

Following up on a topic from a previous meeting, there was a discussion of the current culture shift and emphasis on aging in place. The legal aspects of allowing someone to bring long term services and supports into their home, which in this context would be their life plan community campus apartment or cottage, were explained and discussed.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on November 18, 2016. The agenda for that meeting will include discussion of how to provide consumer resources to prospective life plan community residents. The meeting date calendar for 2017 will also be established.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.