

Takoma Park Health Services Impact Committee

Minutes: October 4, 2006

Adopted November 2, 2006.

The meeting convened at 7:00 pm at the Takoma Park Community Center

Present were committee members Joan Clement, Trevor Delafield, Seth Grimes, Frederick Hoeflinger, Pat Loveless, Andrew Sommers, and Joanne Wu and City liaison Venita George.

The group discussed **Montgomery County's Request for Proposals for a Washington Adventist Hospital Relocation Study** per a notice sheet circulated at the meeting. The group discussed getting a copy of the RFP – Venita will look into this – and possibly getting city staff involved with the project.

Venita distributed an agenda, draft minutes from the September 20, 2006 meeting, and short profiles of the committee members drawn from their applications to the council for committee membership.

Fred read the **September 20 minutes**. The group corrected them by adding WAH and “and other locations” to the list of possible meeting venues and then voted to adopt them. The group discussed how meetings would be publicized, how minutes would be published, and the intention to hold a meeting in each of the city's wards/neighborhoods. Routine meetings will be publicized in the city clerk's weekly agenda, and the committee will take additional steps to publicize meetings that involve community outreach. The clerk would keep a copy of the minutes at the Community Center for public inspection.

There was a motion to **defer a vote on co-chairs** until the next meeting because of the absence of three committee members. Drew related a message from Lois that she'd be willing to serve as co-chair and that she'd nominate Drew as the others. The group discussed that there'd be no formally designated secretary. The motion was accepted by consensus.

The group discussed quorum requirements for meetings. Venita will look further into city rules or conventions.

The group discussed a mission statement. This would start from the council's resolution establishing the committee, although members viewed the council's mandate as vague and somewhat passive. It could use points from the county's study (mentioned above), for which the contractor would assess 1) community healthcare needs, 2) WAH services, 3) the impact of WAH relocation, and possibly 4) unreimbursed services county-wide.

Other/particular study/investigation points raised included

- Non-duplicative services provided by WAH.
- Need for data on the hospital's catchment area.
- Feasibility of school- or church-based clinics.
- Having a WAH representative to talk about the timeline for creation of the Long Branch urgent-care center and whether WAH had withdrawn its application for a certificate of need

for that center; whether it would be possible to get the hospital's certificate of need applications for relocation and for the urgent-care center; the possibility of getting financial information from the CON application from the Maryland Healthcare Commission.

- Resident discussions such as those by the “Pond Group,” which convened at Howard Kohn's house and included Drew Sommers, with WAH before and after their relocation announcement.
- A possible Columbia Union College health sciences facility and the workings of the Columbia Union Conference, a 9-state entity that sits over both the college and the hospital.
- The need for a sobriety center.

Venita will look into the information-gathering points.

The group closed by focusing on the **need to determine a workplan** for the next nine months, through June 30, and the need to think about how it will conduct its work: who's going to take charge of workplan tasks, financials, outreach, programs, etc., whether subcommittees or individuals.

The committee then adjourned its second meeting.

Prepared by Seth Grimes.