

Minutes
Long Range Planning Committee
Developmental Disabilities Resource Board
Of
Clay County
June 10, 2014

The Long Range Planning Committee met on June 10, 2014 to explore selling the group homes to Concerned Care. At the meeting were committee members Gary Steinman, Chair, Pat Schoenrade, and Alan Naylor. Other Board members in attendance were Steve Elliott and Bob Boydston. Guests at the meeting included Janet White, Sharlea Leatherwood, Robert Sevier, Jean Elliott, Ron Boney, Cindy Sevier, Pete Hall and Barbara Griggs. Brian O'Malley was also present.

Gary opened the meeting at 5:40 pm and asked everyone to introduce themselves. Bob Sevier had asked for an opportunity to make some remarks so Gary invited him to do so. Mr. Sevier reviewed the history of the tax levy that created the partnership with VSI, Concerned Care and eventually other agencies. He expressed his belief that selling the group homes was a very bad idea as Concerned Care was not able to afford them and the Board was not fulfilling their duty to provide housing.

Gary thanked Mr. Sevier for his comments and assured him the purpose of the meeting was to clarify where the Board was going regarding the group homes. Steve asked for a review of the minutes and asked that two statements be changed regarding the desire of Concerned Care to purchase the homes and the fact that the board had voted to sell the homes. Barbara stated the choice to buy the homes was an option she only learned was available in February. Given the option to pursue developing new homes versus staying in the current group homes they prefer to stay there. Barbara then indicated the choices were not simply about the property but the licensure issues of moving from one site to

another. Barbara also said there is a two year moratorium on developing any new homes in the State. With these clarifications the minutes were amended to reflect these changes.

Bob Sevier then stated that he was not sure the Board was allowed by law to sell the group homes. Gary said that, too would need to be looked into but that still no decision has been made at this point and all the Board were committed to finding the best solution for the residents and no one is being thrown out onto the street. Mr. Sevier said that is the public opinion. Mr. Sevier than asked Brian how much money the Board had in reserve and Brian replied \$4.2 Million. Mr. Sevier expressed outrage at this and said that money should be used and if the newspaper knew of these funds they would be outraged. He then asked if the County Auditor audited the funds and Brian replied we have an independent auditor. Steve interjected that the Board had a policy to reserve funds which was only prudent and that the Board was in a deficit spending practice so the funds were being spent down. Bob thanked Steve for the explanation but insisted Brian could use those funds to purchase new homes.

Alan Naylor then spoke to indicate that he had distributed updated assessments of the conditions of the group homes after the last inspections. Alan went on to express that he had not come to grips with a central question of whether the Board should own the homes or not. And, he could not move forward unless that issue was satisfied. At this point Steve stated that in the past in business that if it is not broke then why try to fix it in such a drastic way. It is always good practice to review all procedures and operations on a regular basis though. At the same time he suggested that a cooperative group of Concerned Care Board and the DDRB Board be formed to explore the many issues that had been raised.

Jean Elliott reported on her conversation with Ms. Gwin, Public Administrator for Clay County who indicated that Concerned Care was a service provider not a housing agency and was concerned about the direction the Board was taking. She indicated that Ms. Guinn had reported that some of her consumers lived in Sherwood House.

Gary asked the group to come to a conclusion regarding the recommendations that had been discussed. Steve then moved and Gary seconded for a vote to further investigate all options regarding our ongoing ownership of the group

homes, including but not limited to their possible sale. The votes of the Committee members were polled 3-0 in favor of the motion. The next motion by Steve, seconded by Gary, was the creation of a joint committee of Concerned Care and the DDRB Board to address a strategic plan for the group homes. The vote in favor of this motion was 3-0. Finally, the minutes from the May 19, 2014 meeting as amended were voted upon and passed 3-0.

Gary thanked everyone for coming and for their interest and asked if the group was ready to go home.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian O'Malley, Administrative Director