



Minutes #12

Adopted July 1, 2020

Northwest Hospital Standing Advisory Committee (SAC)

Monday, March 18, 2019

6:00 – 7:30 PM

Northwest Hospital & Medical Center – Medical Office Building Suite 202

1560 N. 115th Street

Seattle WA 98133

Members and Alternate Present:

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| Joan Hanson | Scott Sheehan | Susan White |
| Shawn MacPherson | Keith Slack | Chris Yeager |

Staff and Other Present:

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| Maureen Sheehan – DON | Pam Renna – Northwest Hospital |
| John Shaw - SDCI | Cindy Hecker – Northwest Hospital |
| Wes Phillips – SPD | |
| Tom Van Bronkhorst - DON | |

1. Welcome, Introductions & Housekeeping

Mr. Scott Sheehan opened the meeting. Brief introductions followed.

There was a motion to adopt the January 12, 2017 and November 27, 2018 minutes as amended, and it was seconded. The Committee voted and the motion was adopted.

Mr. Sheehan addressed the chair and vice-chairperson positions for the Committee. He noted that the two positions are open for renewal. He opened the discussion to the rest of the Committee members for any nomination.

The Committee decided having Mr. Scott Sheehan to continue his role as the chairperson and Ms. Shawn MacPherson as the vice-chairperson for the Committee.

2. 2018 Annual Report (07:24)

Mr. Sheehan introduced Ms. Cindy Hecker, Executive Director of Northwest Hospital to provide an update on the 2018 Annual Report.

Ms. Hecker mentioned that NWH provided a report last November and tonight's presentation is an update on where the campus is at and answer any questions.

She talked about some of the major projects that were discussed in the past including the Childbirth Center, 2 East Remodel and Behavioral Health.

NWH is planning on remodeling and expanding the Childbirth Center, and it will be a three phased construction to be completed by summer of 2021. She noted that for the size of this community hospital, the goal is to have 2,500 births or more this year. She added that the hospital spent their resources in building infrastructure and hiring physicians. One of biggest impediment was the physical location of the campus. With the current population, the public is looking for quality and providers that they could bond with and a physical location to continue to be competitive and this campus was lacking.

NWH partnered with UW Medicine and was able to acquire funding to begin the work. The work has started, and it is moving along well. The goal is to have a very modern-day Childbirth Center that would attract many customers to the campus and bring a positive and halo effect as a community hospital.

The 2 East Remodel is significant because of all the moves that needs to take place to accommodate the Childbirth Center. There will be renovations in order to accommodate the bed volume that is in the way of the construction of the Birth Center. The all remodel work will be internal, and the unit is an older unit that needs a remodel.

Ms. Hecker mentioned about the changing dynamics of the community that affects the emergency room and the types of patients being admitted. The hospital is seeing more patients that are behavioral challenged. The campus is preparing its emergency room to be able to care for these patients in a safe manner. The hospital is adding three safe rooms and appropriate place the patients in rooms that are appropriate for their psychiatric and behavioral issues. The plan is to have these rooms available by end of Spring.

She mentioned about the Geropsychiatric area. NWH has been a Geropsychiatric area for years. Currently, there are 27 beds in the area, and it is located at the oldest part of the building. The hospital is looking at remodeling and evaluation. As the campus is exploring the Geropsychiatric, the state legislative session began and there was an interest with partnering with UW Medicine to be able to augment behavioral health services in the state. Beginning at the educational level, the campus' Department of Psychiatry is nationally recognized for their skills in managing and training psychiatric providers and has the largest residency program in the country. Nationally and locally, the campus does not have enough psychiatric providers.

From a state perspective, how does the campus augment using and leveraging the program that exist in University of Washington as one component. She noted that even with the providers, there is a belief that there is a need to look at services in a different way. There will be not enough providers in the rural area to meet the need of the emergency rooms in the sate and farther with the expertise required to be able to treat the patients that come in the hospital.

NWH was approached in helping set up a tele-health psychiatry program in order to be able to help a psychiatric patient a physician to physician consultation and having a non-specialist trained psychiatrist to reach out and gain insight and help develop a care plan for the patient. They are also looking at the potential of expanding the psychiatric beds within the health system and approached UW Medicine if they would contemplate doing it.

Since the campus already have a Geropsychiatric unit that needs to be remodeled, NWH could be an option. Having NWH as a potential option requires capital funding dollars, since the campus could not afford it. There is an interest now from the both the Governor's office and the legislative to pursue capital dollars to assist in the building additional psychiatric beds. Ms. Hecker commented that there have been high level preliminary discussions, bit she was not sure where it will lead into.

She emphasized that most of these patients are already in the hospital. They are not in a psychiatric bed, they are on hold in the medical and surgical units because they are no psychiatric beds to hold them. From this perspective, this project could assist the campus to place these patients within UW Medicine on longer holds.

A comment was about the security measures around the Geropsychiatric unit, and Ms. Hecker responded that it is a lock unit with codes, alarms, cameras, visualization from nursing staff, etc. A person needs to have a badge to get in and out of the unit.

A comment was made that if you noticed or observed a patient wearing a hospital gown that is outside the perimeter of the hospital is to contact the hospital security or the switchboard first since they may not be the situation before the Seattle Police Department.

Ms. Sheehan commented that if the Geropsychiatric project continues to progress, the role of this Committee is to review the design of the building. It will be a bigger conversation between the hospital and the community about its use. The Committee will be looking at the conditions and guidelines of the institution's Master Plan about the proposed design and if the institution is adhering to the requirements of the Master Plan. She added that she will continue the conversation with Ms. Hecker and Ms. Renna about any updates or traction of this project.

Ms. Sheehan mentioned that if the Committee members hear of any rumors or have questions about any projects that is happening at the hospital is to send her an email or reach out to Ms. Renna and Ms. Hecker to get an accurate information.

Ms. Hecker mentioned that the integration is progressing well. NWH will be integrated with UW Medicine effective January 1, 2020, and there will be several naming in signage changes that will take place.

Ms. Hecker noted that the hospital continues to work diligently to consistently meet the goals of the Transportation Management Plan (TMP). The hospital is looking and evaluating at raising the parking rates on campus to discourage Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) drive to campus and take more public transportation.

She briefly talked about having a strong charity care program during the fiscal year of 2016 and mentioned that there was no new construction on campus or leasing activities outside the Major Institution Overlay (MIO) in the previous year.

3. Safety & Security on NWH Campus (38:38)

Ms. Sheehan commented that at the last meeting there were questions and concerns raised about the security and safety related to the campus and the neighborhood. She introduced representatives from the City, NWH, and the Navigation Team about the current work that is being done and provide tools and resources to be advocates for safety and security of the campus.

NWH Security mentioned that Ms. Mary Amber of the Seattle Police Department Crime Prevention came to the campus and did a tour around the campus to look at the security issues for the hospital. From the walkaround tour, she concluded that there were no significant security issues. She noted some findings that include a shrubbery area that could be a potential hiding place for trespassers. There were concerns in the

ED about camera locations, and the hospital added new cameras. There were also issues about the signage and that was taken care of. The biggest concerns that the security is getting calls at is the homeless camp on 120th street and motor homes that were parked for a long time on 115th. SPD is assisting the campus about these issues. There was no uptick in crime on campus from people that are camping. Some of the calls are trespassing and finding an area to sleep on campus. NWH Security noted that they are also doing routine patrols around the campus.

A comment was made that one of the security measures was done because of the different clientele that visits the ED is locking certain bathrooms. NWH Security mentioned having a panic button installed in the front desk of the ED to alert and pages Security if there are any issues.

Ms. Sheehan introduced Mr. Tom Van Bronkhorst of the Department of Neighborhoods. He works with communities that experiences impact on homelessness and activates neighborhoods to assist them resolve these issues. Mr. Van Bronkhorst had the Navigation Team introduced themselves and the current work that they are doing around the City.

The Navigation Team is a team of 12 officers including field coordinators, sergeants, and lieutenants that visits site locations and do outreach and clean up of the homeless camps for the entire City. The outreach officers that connects the community with the housing community, shelters and steering the homeless for case management. The team also works with a contracted outreach team.

The team comprises of a three-prong team from the Human Services Department (HSD), Seattle Police Department (SPD) and the outreach team. The main role of the team is to do homeless camp clean up for 72 hours as posted and an outreach is provided to connect them with services. The team also works on prioritization of camp clean-ups, referrals to services, fill in complaints from communities that advocates certain sites for security and public health reasons such as near schools or sidewalks.

The Navigation Team mentioned that in cases there maybe homeless camps near the sidewalks or right of way, there is an accessibility team that responds to make sure the sidewalks are cleared as much as possible and does not need a 72-hour notice and they will offer the residents of the campus shelter or transportation to a shelter.

Mr. Von Bronkhorst asked the Navigation Team their experiences within the neighborhood, and one responded that the team have not seen any major problems within the NWH campus unless a crime is committed.

A comment was made about the plan on 120th homeless camp since it has been there for six months and have seen prostitution and drug dealing. The Navigation Team responded that one of their challenges is prioritization in going to these camps. Since the team is comprised of a very small team, the team goes to camps that are considered problematic and experiencing severe conditions.

The team will go to that camp first to assess the situation and provide temporary relief and outreach. Oftentimes, the team will visit the camp and pick up garbage, but due to limited resources, the team could not address the issues in a timely manner.

The team mentioned as they received complaints from the neighbors especially complaints about having the campus close to school, the elderly, hospitals, etc., these are the situations were the priorities are bumped up.

A comment was made that they have been contacting and reporting the situation to officials and felt that there was nothing being done. The team responded that they hear and understand the complaints and encourage the neighbors to continue to call and report the issue especially if they witness any crime happening at the camps or any safety concerns.

Mr. Von Bronkhorst mentioned about ways the community and the community councils can do is to activate the space in different ways through improvements that would deter the homeless in camping there. He also mentioned about working with SDOT for ideas of improvement along the sidewalks, right of way, etc.

The Navigation Team mentioned that they hear and understand the concerns of the neighborhood, and they suggest continuing expressing their opinions about their concerns and issues to their City representatives so they could address these issues through policy decisions.

4. Public Comments (1:21:40)

Mr. Sheehan opened the discussion for public comments. There were no public comments.

5. Committee Deliberation/New Business

Mr. Sheehan opened the discussion for committee deliberation and new business. There was no new business to discuss and deliberate.

6. Adjournment and scheduling next meeting

Ms. Sheehan mentioned at the last meeting, there was a request made to have a conversation regarding safety and security around the campus and the surrounding neighborhood, and she asked if the Committee would like to have a follow up conversation or wait until the next annual report review in 2020.

She added that she will be on maternity leave until mid-November and if there are any follow up meetings before she comes back, she will have a conversation with the chair and vice-chair of this Committee, and her temporary replacement, and Ms. Renna or Ms. Hecker about any discussion items.

No further business being before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned.