



Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, November 2, 2023
7:00 p.m.
Clinton Public Hospital Site

MINUTES

Present: Steve Hearn, Chair
Gary Austin (virtual), Jim Battle, Barry Hutton, Dr. Chuck Gatfield (virtual), Dr. Ali Kara (virtual), Ron Lavoie, Kathy Lewis (virtual), Joe Looby, Lynanne Mason, Kerri Ann O'Rourke, Dr. Heather Percival, Kim Ross Jones (virtual), Greg Stewart, Tricia Wilkerson, John Wilkinson, Andrew Williams
Mary Cardinal, Ken Haworth, Sue Davey

Regrets: Dr. Kevin Lefebvre, Dr. Nadine Potvin

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Steve Hearn, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m. and quorum was confirmed.

Barry Hutton shared the Land Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by John Wilkinson, seconded by Tricia Wilkerson:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approve the meeting agenda as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There was no conflict of interest declared by any members.

4. Patient/Caregiver Experience

4.1. Patient Story – Seniors Mental Health Program

Members of the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Seniors Mental Health/Mental Health Team attended the meeting - Michael Bannerman, Claudia Braafhart, Rodney Phillips. Patient stories related to the Seniors Socialization Group were shared. This group provides an opportunity for seniors who were isolated during Covid to participate in activities to help reduce social isolation, build confidence and improve overall wellness. It was apparent from the stories shared that the program was beneficial for those that participated.

Gary Austin joined the meeting at 7:45 pm

4.2. Patient & Caregiver Program Update

Jim Battle provided an update on the Patient & Caregiver Program, Qualtrics, current engagement and project involvement. He profiled and highlighted the involvement and dedication of Cathy Bachner, the longest serving patient and caregiver partner, and the valuable contributions she has given to our organization.

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings

5.1. September 7, 2023

It was moved by Joe Looby, seconded by Barry Hutton:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approves the minutes from the meeting held September 7, 2023.

CARRIED

6. Board Education/Focused Discussion

• Huron Perth & Area Ontario Health Team Accreditation

Julie Houben, Director; Mary Cardinal, Vice President; Kathy Lewis, Director

The Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) is one of ten organizations participating in the Huron Perth & Area Ontario Health Team (HPA-OHT) collaborative accreditation with goals to create stronger teams and improve communication, collaboration and quality throughout a persons' care journey. Preparations are underway to prepare internally and externally with partners for the onsite survey which takes place in April 2024. Organizations will work through core standards together and the HPHA will collaborate with the Huron Health System (Alexandra Marine and General Hospital, South Huron Hospital) on hospital sector standards where appropriate. Alignment of policies includes governance policies and these will be reviewed by the HPHA Governance & Stakeholder Relations Committee meeting in January. Kathy Lewis has created a spreadsheet of the governance standards to demonstrate how the HPHA is meeting the governance standards and where there are areas of opportunities. Andrew Williams provided an overview of expectations for governors during the onsite survey where Kathy Lewis will be the lead for the HPHA given her involved with the HPA-OHT Governance Sub-Committee.

Julie Houben left the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

7. In-Camera Session

7.1. Motion to Move to In-Camera Session

It was moved by Tricia Wilkerson, seconded by Ron Lavoie:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance move in-camera at 8:04 p.m.

CARRIED

7.2. Motion to Move out of In-Camera Session

It was moved by John Wilkinson, seconded by Kerri Ann O'Rourke:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance move out of the in-camera session at 8:38 p.m.

CARRIED

7.3. Report from In-Camera Session

During the In-Camera Session the Board discussed organizational structure.

8. Leadership Reports

Chief Nursing Executive

Lynanne Mason provided highlights from her report on the benefits of the clinical scholars supporting all four sites and the internal launch of the Mental Health Stepped Care Program. The Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance recently hosted an Emergency Department Education Program for Rural Emergency Department Nurses for Ontario Health West over five days in Seaforth. The HPHA Educators were commended for supporting this training program for the 39 nurses that attended from across the region and feedback has been positive.

It was moved by Tricia Wilkerson, seconded by Ron Lavoie:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance receive the report of the Chief Nursing Executive.

CARRIED

President & Chief Executive Officer

The report was circulated at the meeting.

It was moved by John Wilkinson, seconded by Joe Looby:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance receive the report of the President & CEO.

CARRIED

9. Governance

9.1. Board Committee Reports

9.1.1. Governance & Stakeholder Relations Committee

The Governance & Stakeholder Relations Committee met on October 23, 2023 and highlights from the meeting were pre-circulated for informational purposes. The committee held a lengthy discussion regarding the development of a Community Council to replace Local Advisory Committees.

9.1.2. Medical Advisory Committee

Dr. Percival presented the reports from the meetings held on September 28th and October 26th for informational purposes. It was noted that there will be 4 placements of family medicine residents in Stratford and area which is beneficial for recruitment to the area. The hospitals in Huron Perth are discussing destination protocols with Perth and Huron EMS to redirect patients needing specialty services to the most appropriate site to ensure timely patient care and improve system efficiencies. The hospitalist program is being standardized across all sites. The Emergency Department physician funding support from Ontario Health has been extended to end of March 2024 and shift coverage has improved with this funding support.

9.1.3. Quality Committee

Kim Ross Jones presented the reports from the meetings held September 27th and October 25th. She highlighted the updates/presentations that the committee received on accreditation, the Mental Health Stepped Care Project, the Sensory Room on the Obstetrics Unit and Qualtrics.

Gary Austin left the meeting.

9.1.4. Resources & Audit Committee

Joe Looby presented highlights from the Resources & Audit Committee meeting held on October 26th. As at September 30, 2023 the organization had a year-to-date deficit of \$10.5m, forecasted to be \$22m at year-end. Results are impacted by the union contracts, reopeners and non-union salary adjustments. Ken Haworth noted that one-time funding was received the day after the Committee met, to support the retroactive payments related to the ONA arbitration awards for a total of \$16m. Capital expenditures year-to-date total are \$5.5m with a forecast of \$25.3m, primarily related to Pharmacy, Chemotherapy and St. Marys Memorial Hospital Patient Room Refresh projects. Non-committed capital expenditures are being deferred until funding clarity is available. Capital credit facilities are \$11.9m and forecasted to be \$17.5m by year-end.

It was moved by Joe Looby, seconded by Barry Hutton:

THAT the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors approves the Quarter 2, September 30, 2023 financial statements and associated reports.
CARRIED

The Committee received the Workplace Health report noting improvements in recruitment and retention, less turnover of and more external hires of nurses, and reduced reliance on agency nursing resources. Increased student placements are beneficial for future recruitment. Compensation enhancements have helped with recruitment and retention. A new part-time option for CUPE and ONA is attractive to staff providing greater flexibility.

9.1.5. HPHA Proposed Amalgamation Update

Andrew Williams provided an update on the proposed amalgamation to include stakeholder engagement undertaken with internal and external stakeholders, feedback and observations. Next steps and strategies for consideration were discussed with details outlined in the slide deck circulated. This includes the formation of a Community Council to replace Local Advisory Committees and strengthen community engagement, solidifying communication with Foundations, and enhancing the Board recruitment process. Developing an annual Engagement Plan for the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance is a priority going forward.

10. HPHA Commitments to Our Communities – 2023/2024

- **Corporate Quarter 2 Review**

Detailed Quarter 2 status updates were pre-circulated for informational purposes for the strategic plan priorities for 2023/2024.

11. Directors Comments/Roundtable

None.

12. Next Meeting

- Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) Board of Directors
 - December 7, 2023 @ 7:00 pm – HPHA St. Marys Memorial Hospital Site

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a MOTION by Tricia Wilkerson at 10:07 p.m.