

**County of Cheshire
Maplewood Nursing Home Sub-Committee
County Hall Building
Commissioners Conference Room
12 Court Street
Keene, New Hampshire
May 13, 2016**

Sub-Committee Attendees: Representative Chairman John Mann, Daniel Eaton, Michael Abbott, Richard Ames, Paul Berch, John Bordenet, Susan Emerson, Jim McConnell, Timothy Robertson

Commissioners and Staff: Commissioners Stillman Rogers and Charles Weed, Cheshire County Administrator Chris Coates, Assistant County Administrator Rod Bouchard, Maplewood Administrator Kathryn Kindopp, Finance Director Cheryl Trombly

Chairman John Mann opened the meeting at 10:06AM by outlining the purpose of the meeting, to plan for the Public Hearings to be held in the near future. At these meetings, proposed options for the future of Maplewood Nursing Home will be presented. These options are the result of professional studies and much research, comparative study, and work of the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee stresses the importance of public input and will be setting a schedule for meetings in various county locations.

A subgroup of the Sub-Committee met and summarized concerns. They published slides delineating major concerns. Among those are the needed repairs of current Maplewood building. Items outline included removal / repair of waste plumbing, the potentially disruptive work to repair whole vertical sections of the building, the addition of air conditioning, the need to increase electrical capacity, and window space, overall energy costs, and bathroom rehabilitation that will meet current American Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

Chairman Mann mentioned that in 2014, the Maplewood Task Force studied these problems and recommended a Green House model facility at that time. The report was accepted by the County Delegation as ‘informational’ and the current Subcommittee was then formed. The slides also addressed the commitment to the Maplewood Nursing Home, its provisions and special nursing home care. The needs of Maplewood residents’ were addressed and the services that must be offered in any future options were reviewed.

One of the slides displayed the options that have been offered through the studies by EGA Architects and Associates. These options were represented on a slide entitled “Summary of EGA Scenarios (Excluding Assisted Living)”

In discussion it was suggested that a comparison be made of the need for immediate maintenance at Maplewood Nursing Home as compared to a new building not having urgent maintenance need.

Rep. Berch noted that a move to Keene means there will be no assisted living residents at the current Westmoreland facility, and that “move or not” the discussion of what happens for those

who reside in Assisted Living at Westmoreland currently is necessary as it has present and future impact on people.

Rep. Eaton added that the cost to “mothball” the Westmoreland facility buildings when not in use will cost an estimated \$350,000.00 - \$400,000.00 per year.

There was discussion of how public meetings should be arranged to be the most effective and useful to the public. A motion was made by Rep. Eaton and seconded by Rep. Ames, that there should be another meeting of the Sub- Committee regarding the potential impact to Assisted Living and to set-up time and locations for Public input meetings in June. Administrator Coates took responsibility to arrange this schedule. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Rep. Berch asked about addressing the possibility of a Drug Rehabilitation Facility and that the members of the Delegation be kept informed as to any options that might developed. The intent of the Sub-Committee to reach some finite decision in July to be presented in mid-August to the full Cheshire County Delegation was discussed and verbally agreed upon.

The meeting was recessed to the date of May 23, 2016 at 10:00AM

Respectfully submitted,

Jane B. Johnson