

**Cheshire County Delegation  
Maplewood Sub-Committee Meeting  
Minutes of January 30, 2105  
Commissioners Meeting Room  
12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431**

**PRESENT:** Representatives Mann, Robertson, Emerson, Chase, Ames, Berch, McConnell, and Bordenet, and Commissioners Rogers and Weed; and Assistant County Administrator (ACA) Bouchard.

**ABSENT:** Rep. G. Johnsen

**GUESTS:** MNH Administrator K. Kindopp, Cheshire County Commissioners Weed and Rogers, Task Force chairman John Hoffman, former Keene Sentinel editor and president James A. Rousmaniere Jr, and other distinguished individuals and members of the public

The meeting was opened at 9:00am by the Chair Rep. Mann. A discussion started concerning the need for standard minutes and for access to the digital audio recordings being planned for upcoming meetings. It was discussed that draft minutes would be produced for review at the meeting following the taking of the minutes and that the draft minutes would be reviewed by the committee and then voted on for approval or amendment. Once approved the minutes will be posted on the County website.

Reps. Mann and Ames gave informal reports of Maplewood visits, which were described as thorough; facility organized into 4 units to deal with different levels/types of impairment; mechanical plant is impressive. A comment was made that “nursing home” is a complex subject. Rep. Ames proposed that we hear information from Task Force work while sub-quorum groups visit regional New Hampshire and Green House and Hybrid facilities as well as Maplewood.

Maplewood Director Kathryn Kindopp distributed reports providing information about acuity levels and other demographic information about Maplewood current residents and anticipated future residents. Rep. Mann pointed out a report on demographics produced by the Congressional Budget Office and Rep. Chase distributed a New York Times article from January 17, 2015 about unfriendly cliques and other negative interpersonal behaviors in elderly housing.

ACA Bouchard discussed creating and posting the Sub-Committee Proceedings on the County Website. Here: <http://co.cheshire.nh.us/> and here: [http://co.cheshire.nh.us/Delegation%20Sub-Committee/Proceedings of Maplewood Delegation Sub-Committee.htm](http://co.cheshire.nh.us/Delegation%20Sub-Committee/Proceedings%20of%20Maplewood%20Delegation%20Sub-Committee.htm) and here: [http://co.cheshire.nh.us/Delegation Sub-Committee/MNH Sub-Committee Links Page.htm](http://co.cheshire.nh.us/Delegation%20Sub-Committee/MNH%20Sub-Committee%20Links%20Page.htm)

Rep. Robinson discussed the impact of relocating residents in the existing Maplewood building if it were rehabilitated while construction was in progress and spoke of re-hashing the same issues that the Maplewood Task Force had already covered.

Rep. Ames spoke of the need to have a complete understanding of the work that has already been completed and said that hearing from the former Task Force members and others on what has been looked and examined was extremely important.

Rep. Berch discussed trying to figure out the existing nature building and then determine what the next steps would be. He said that more information was needed on the cost of the rehabilitation of the existing building and the full-in costs of what a Green House project would be.

He said that a mixed campus environment with Green House buildings on the existing Maplewood campus should also be explored and that a possibly completely different model should be considered after reflecting on their scheduled Green House and other facilities visits, further investigations by the committee, and input from the Commissioners and staff.

A short discussion of the costs and impact on staff to assemble and present financial and build out costs on construction options ensued.

Rep. Mann discussed the question of what the Sub-Committee is charged with presenting to the full delegation and stated that we need to determine what the necessary components (data, subject areas, etc.) need to be included in the recommendation, so that we can plan activities toward the completion of those components. This determination will be done after visits to facilities and after hearing from Task Force.

The committee briefly discussed the need to understand costs and options for Maplewood building, including constraints related to American Disabilities Act (ADA).

Rep. Bordenet discussed the importance of the members reviewing the information in the Compendium and the Task Force report.

Maplewood Administrator Kindopp was then recognized and presented a report on the Demographics of the residents at Maplewood. (Here): <http://co.cheshire.nh.us/Delegation-Sub-Committee/Proceedings-of-Maplewood-Delegation-Sub-Committee.htm>

Kindopp discussed the length of stays at Maplewood, the CASPER Report (a Federal report for age averages) and a report called the Silver Tsunami (Here): <http://www.nhpolicy.org/report/nhamp39s-silver-tsunami-aging-and-the-healthcare-system> from the New Hampshire Center for Public Policy Studies (NHCPPS).

Kindopp then discussed the significant increases in behavioral issues and the longer lived residents coming in from the baby boomer generation and impact that both have on staffing needs. She noted in her report the large and growing disparity in New Hampshire State Medicaid payments which results in a downward cost shift to Counties and local tax payers.

Rep. Emerson raised a question regarding the rights of residents and specifically residents that are covered by Powers of Attorney or who may be under guardianships. Kindopp reviewed the numerous options that a resident has to control their personal and health wishes and cited additional support that is offered through the State Ombudsman's Office.

Rep. Ames asked about residents that are admitted to the nursing home who are not covered by Medicaid when they are admitted. A discussion began regarding asset transfer problems caused

when residents have transferred money or assets to family members within the five (5) year Medicaid look-back period and the problems and penalties that are imposed on residents and by default on the nursing home when this occurs. Also discussed were the residents who come in with no assets or have total assets under \$2,500.00 which qualifies them for Medicaid assistance. Also covered was the slow and sometimes expensive Medicaid determinations that are made by the State Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in determining resident eligibility for Medicaid. Kindopp said that many private nursing homes will refuse to accept residents that are not pre-qualified to receive Medicaid despite urgent care needs. This population only option is often acceptance at a County facility.

Rep. Mann pointed out the document he had distributed of the fifty-three (53) Green House operations and suggested that a cursory review of some or all of them to include funding, affiliation with VA or a religion, integration (or not) with a spectrum of other facilities, etc. might be interesting and useful.

Commissioner Rogers then spoke and discussed helping to coordinate Sub-Committee trips to Green House and other facilities in Chelsea MA, Cohoes NY, Carroll County and Merrimack Nursing homes, and possibly Alden Homes in CT.

At 10:47AM there being no further business to come before the Cheshire County Delegation Maplewood Sub-Committee, the meeting was suspended until the next meeting to be held on Friday February 13, 2015 at 10:00AM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Mann