



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT VALLEY HOSPITAL
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

MEETING MINUTES

In Person meeting: Connecticut Valley Hospital (CVH) Conference Room 365
December 1, 2023

Present Council Members:

Lawrence McHugh, Chairperson; Lakisha Hyatt, CVH/Chief Executive Officer (CEO); Nancy Navarretta, Commissioner, Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services (DMHAS); LT Erik Costa Chief of Police, Middletown Police Department; Dr. Edwin Renaud, Division Director General Psychiatry Division; Richard Bush, CVH Chief Operating Officer; Mr. Harry Burr, Community Member; Kevin Elak, Director, Middletown Health Department; Justin Sleeper, CVH Chief Quality Officer; Ben Florsheim, Mayor of Middletown

Absent/Excused Council Members:

Mehadin Arafah, Community Member; David Bauer, Community Member, Chris Iovene, Middletown Police Detective; Emilio Magnano, (Alt) Middletown Police Detective; Dane Semper, Middletown Police Dept; Phillip Pessina, Councilman

Call to Order: Mr. McHugh called the meeting to order at 8:06am.

Review of Minutes: September 2023 meeting minutes approved.

Achieving Excellence Together

Our Mission: Connecticut Valley Hospital provides trauma informed gender responsive treatment that empowers individuals to manage recovery, improve quality of life, and return to the community.

Our Vision: To promote recovery through collaborative, compassionate, and culturally competent treatment in a safe, healthy, and caring environment.

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Topic	Discussion	Responsible Person
Commissioner Update	Collaboration between OOC and the Facility CEO's looking access and train employees on cutting edge treatments. Need to go back to basics and retrain on basics i.e. risk assessments retrain on situational awareness. Core need growth in supervision. Training areas considered: • Evidence based modalities • Clinical Supervision • Risk Assessment Team from Medical Director Office and Commissioners Officer inventory all levels of care across the state and evaluating most effective use of services with the least restrictive care. Meeting held both state operated and PNP operated across the State. Harm Reduction conferences and MOUD Assisted Treatment at Skilled Nursing Facilities, providing education on discharging patients. Governor's Office hosted a retreat that was beneficial to share with the Governor of what is going on. Reviewed the MOCK emergency, was very well run. OPIOID committee has approved \$500,000 to go to DPH to assist with Harm Reduction devices.	Commissioner Navarretta
Safety and Security Report	An overview of the Safety and Security of Connecticut Valley Hospital was provided. Performance Report review of AWOL report for Jan through November 2023 provided. Review of patients that leave the premises or one step off the unit. Incidents are reviewed, incidents are taken very seriously. Discussion from Chair and Board around: • Change in rate of AWOLS • Difficulty leaving the Hospital • Board was advised of the following: ○ One patient left for a minimum of 24 hours Mr. McHugh – inquired what is the comparison from last year. Numbers of AWOLS are not increasing. Mr. Burr – inquired how difficult is it to leave the property or leave a building. Dr. Renaud response – minimum of two locks, must go through three to four locks to prevent an elopement occurring. • Many of the numbers are repeat occurrences from one or two patients. • We have a very rapid response plan in action.	Dr. Ed Renaud, Division Director GPD

	- Cameras are in all public areas of the hospital for review. Which provides us another tool to for future planning to prevent elopement. - Camera monitoring occurs for all clinical inpatient areas. Ms. Hyatt recognized our Quality department for level of thoroughness to have multi data to review trends and have the tools to provide the data tracking reports. Mr. McHugh – how many individuals does the report from Dr. Renaud list. Dr. Renaud to provide that information to Advisory Council.	Ms. Hyatt, CEO
CEO Update	- Introduced Mayor Florsheim and members of the Advisory Council. - Reminded Advisory Board requesting a modification to the Connecticut General Statutes regarding modification of Board Members. Membership is appointed by the Commissioner or Mayor. If Council has persons in mind to please relay information to Ms. Hyatt. Volunteer Information Mr. Burr mentioned Education workshops are available from Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Weldon Russell, from the Chamber, provided a very successful workshop regarding “How to handle addiction during the holidays”. Workshops are advertised on the CVH campus. Add Workshops for business owners, how to identify employee who are struggling. CVH is re-expanding our rehabilitation services by early Q 1 2024, 30 additional beds. By end of Q4 2024, returning to total of 110 beds, which is full capacity. CVH recognizes the Community has a great need, and CVH is committed to assisting individuals within the community. CVH will continue to be involved with the community of Middletown and continue to publicize the great work that happens on the campus. CVH Executive Planning Session reviewed. CVH is in collaboration with the Middlesex Community Health Center to provide vaccinations.	Ms. Hyatt, CEO Mr. Burr, Member

RVS update	Very excited to announce hiring of Clinicians, Licensed Social Workers, for third shift which has been very challenging starting in January 2024. RVS will continue to work with Middletown Police Department. RVS is increasing community involvement. The Warming Center opened today, December 1, 2023, there is a large need in the community. The Warming Center is managed by St. Vincents De Paul and runs until April 1, 2024. Mr. McHugh gave kudos to Ms. Hyatt and Ms. Gadsby to show their involvement in the community.	Ms. Gadsby, Member
Adjournment	8:42am motion to adjourn.	Mr. McHugh, Chairperson
Next Meeting	March 8, 2024	

Transcribed by: Marguerite Griffin