

Simcoe Manor Family Council

Minutes of Meeting January 11, 2023

- **Present:** Rosa Athanassoulis – Programs and Support Service Supervisor, Susan Calder, Linda Sherman, Deborah King, Diane Huntley, Veronica McCarren, Stacey MacKenzie – Director of Care, Marilyn Hutchinson – President of Sunset Manor Family and Friends Council
- **Welome** – Susan Calder
- **Sunset Manor, Family Council President Marilyn Hutchinson** – Thank you once again to Marilyn for attending this meeting and giving so much information based on questions from our members
 - as a separate attachment, Marilyn has kindly supplied the written information that was discussed
- **Questions for Consideration** – Stacey Mackenzie-Director of Resident Care
 - an email was sent to Stacey regarding this question from Linda Sherman
 - How are doctors selected for Simcoe Manor? Is there a different doctor for each unit? What is the best way to get doctors' reports and feedback, i.e., bloodwork, physical exam, etc.?
 - Thank you to Stacey for providing the following answer:

Doctors at Simcoe Manor go through an application process. Once they have signed the contract they take over a unit. We currently have 4 physicians that cover the home. The best way to get information is from the nurse that works the unit. They can deliver the information to you and should you wish to speak with the physician on their next visit, you can have the nurse add it to the doctors book.

- **Additional Funding from Ministry of Long Term Care for Social Workers** – Melody Irwin who is Social Worker for Simcoe Manor, will speak with us at our meeting in February/23
- **Approval of Minutes December 7, 2022** – Approved by Diane Huntley and seconded by Linda Sherman
- **Treasurer's Report** – Linda Sherman
 - \$201.42 in account at end of December/22
- **Educational Training Presentation Topics** throughout the year – Rosa Athanassoulis

- Rosa has suggested a possible list of educational presenters from various community organizations, for Council and all interested family members and staff
- could Family Council take a lead role in encouraging workshops for family members? – could Family Council direct their funds toward encouraging presentations for family members?

- Alzheimer's society
- Mathews house / hospice - Compassion Fatigue
- Parkinson's society
- Osteoporosis society
- The hearing society
- Family Council of Ontario
- Residents council of Ontario
- Gentle persuasive Approach
- Montessori for Dementia
- Fraud and your safety
- Lifemark - PT company any topics they suggest i.e., falls prevention
- Ontario society of senior citizens
- Diabetes association
- Canadian mental health association

- we will discuss our sponsorship of educational presentations further at our next meeting in February/23

- **Resident and Family Safety Training, *Skin and Wound Care*** – Rosa Athanassoullis
 - pressure sores may occur as part of constant use of wheelchairs
 - roho cushion is available for wheelchairs – layering on top of the cushion should be avoided in order to maximize the effect of the roho cushion – physiotherapy can assess for pressures on chairs
 - there are also special mattresses on beds to relieve skin pressure
 - there will be a training session about use of wheelchair cushions on February 8th and February 11th
 - **Review of Whistleblower Policy** – Rosa Athanassoullis
 - privacy of whistleblower is protected from first point of contact
 - as supplied by Donna Short (ADOC) – from Rosa – discussion of the following information will continue in February's meeting
- Ministry Correspondence: Review of the New Long Term Care Act: Fixing Long Term Care Homes Act and Regulation Changes

Whistle Blowing Protections: Expanded WB protection to include:

- a. An inspector or the director
- b. Any other personnel from the Ministry
- c. Residents' Council

- d. Family Council
2. Includes evidence given or may be given in a proceeding
3. Intended to alleviate fear of retaliation for residents/families that complaint could result in care or service implications for the resident
4. Homes cannot discourage someone from making a disclosure or encourage someone to fail to disclose
5. Complaint to the Ministry by any means constitutes a disclosure

- **Response forms, Staffing and Safety Signage** – Rosa Athanassoulis
 - Janina Grabowski – Administrator, has taken the issue of adequate road safety signage to County representatives – Rosa will review outcomes with Janina and report back to Family Council
 - there is ongoing frustration with a perception of inconsistency in staffing, i.e., who, with experience, is available to advise new staff members on a unit?, - are staff members being taken at the last minute to fill vacant positions on other units?
 - many health care facilities are being challenged by staff shortages – family members are strongly encouraged to take staffing concerns to RPN’s (Registered Practical Nurses) on floor or the home’s care managers
 - both Donna Short (ADOC) and Stacey Mackenzie – Director of Care, will attend our meeting in February/23 to respond to questions
 - an ongoing hiring process occurs every Thursday for nursing care (i.e., nurses, RPN’s, PSW’s (Personal Support Workers), services)
 - training occurs regularly for staff – experienced staff and new staff participate in training sessions
 - there are currently 15 volunteers assisting at Simcoe Manor in varying capacities – the volunteer group has declined in numbers during and since the Covid pandemic - to help encourage volunteers – please let Rosa know about local job or volunteer fairs where Simcoe Manor and Volunteer Co-ordinator Rachel Jennings, can participate to attempt to build interest in volunteering at Simcoe Manor
- **Home Updates** – Rosa Athanassoulis
 - Residents’ Council has raised over \$1800 for Simcoe Manor and recently donated \$100 to Matthew’s House Hospice in Alliston
 - there will be a spring mini-market
 - basket raffles continue
 - upcoming for Valentine’s Day – candy grams are being sold, also T-shirts
 - Rev. Pat James will be blessing Simcoe Manor at each unit
 - cleaning clinics will occur quarterly for wheelchairs and walkers
 - ecumenical church services will increase – volunteer Janet Tipping and Volunteer Co-ordinator Rachel Jennings are talking to local ministers – chaplain Andrew will conduct one service per month by unit

- an application is being made for Participaction grant of \$5000 to increase physical activity – for tracking physical activities, e.g., walking, drumming circles, local park yoga, etc.

- **New Business** – Susan Calder
 - please notify Susan by email if you would like to add an item or question to the next meeting's agenda

Meeting adjourned – 4:30 P.M.

Diane Huntley

***Next meeting:
February 1, 2023, at 3 P.M.
Tea Room of Simcoe Manor
Microsoft Teams***