

Minutes

SAC Medical Use Working Group

January 30, 2002

Present at the meeting were: Allen Reedy, Mary Lewis Sheehan, Nancy Locchialini, Marie Walsh, Jerome Slate, and Bob Carey. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM and ended at 8:45 PM.

1. The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as presented.
2. Mary Lewis Sheehan and Nancy Locchialini, co-chairs of "Arms Around Arlington", presented their vision for cancer support and education programs for patients and their caregivers. They have recently received a grant of 9,000 dollars for caregivers support groups to be carried out at the Council on Aging . They would like to have a much larger and more varied program and would be interested in space at the Symmes Campus. They also would be interested in developing a respite program for care givers. It was agreed that funding of these endeavors poses a problem and will require creative solutions.
3. Allen Reedy and Bob Carey reported a preliminary meeting on January 28 at Winchester Hospital. President Dale Lodge and director of development, Phil Heywood, met with Allen and Bob. Winchester Hospital is in need of more space because the hospital is located on limited land in a heavily developed residential area in Winchester. They have moved most out patient activities off campus and many are now in Woburn where they have a large market share. Their market share in Arlington is about 4 %. They run a very busy hospital with a large number of referring MDs. They are financially sound and have done well in this difficult market thus far. They requested the engineering plans of the Symmes Hospital and will consider possible uses they might make of the Symmes campus. Allen immediately provided access to their request for Symmes plans.
4. Bob Carey reported that meetings are pending with Mount Auburn Hospital and St. Elizabeth's Hospital in early February.
5. A general discussion of possible medical uses by all those present occupied the rest of the agenda. A community center and a wellness center were proposed. The possibility of a fitness center was entertained as well as a pharmacy. However, retail use was mentioned as possibly problematic. The proposal of a large community center with a swimming pool, center for the arts and entertainment, and multiple other uses for all ages was considered. Also a conference center was mentioned as a possibility.
6. The Armstrong Ambulance Company and Hospice Care were again invited to this meeting, but failed to send representatives.

Robert J. Carey