

Chester Village Family Council

Minutes: June 26, 2024



Funding.pptx

Guest Speaker: Cynthia Marinelli (Chester's CEO)

Cynthia did a power point presentation for us to show us how the Ministry funds Long-term-Care. The presentation has been attached to these minutes for you.

It requires an annual budget of \$15 to \$20 million to operate a facility like Chester Village.

Funding from the provincial government comes in 4 parts...known as "envelopes" which divide the funds into 4 areas:

1. Nursing and Personal Care

2. Program and Support Services which includes the budget for the Activation Dept. (It was through this portion of funding that we were able to hire Pastor Ken to a part-time position)

3. Nutritional Support.

4. Other Accommodations

The funds in these envelopes must be used according to the government guidelines which are closely regulated. For example, the Nutritional Support fund can be used only for raw food and supplements and doesn't cover dietary staff. Any money which is left in any of the first 3 envelopes is clawed back by the government at the end of the fiscal year. Nursing and Programs envelopes can be shared with each other and the Nutrition envelopes if one dept. is short of funds and another has funds to spare; however, the Nutritional funding can only be used for Nutrition.

The funds in the Other Accommodations envelope are to be used for all other expenses such as groundskeeping, maintenance, housekeeping, laundry, utilities, dietary staff, office supplies, etc. Funds remaining in this envelope can be kept by the home at the end of the fiscal year. This

requires very careful budgeting by Cynthia in order to have a surplus. She told us that when a new home is built, the government will cover the cost of the mortgage for 20 years. Chester's mortgage has a term of 25 years and will not be paid off until 2031...the payment for the final years must be handled internally, the cost of which is \$860,000 twice yearly. The funds left in the Other Accommodations envelope are carefully invested in order to provide the funds needed to pay off the mortgage, as well as for expenses not covered by Ministry funding such as the rise in utility costs recently amounting to \$650,000.

The Ministry's per diem amounts are announced in April of each year and are usually increased by 1 to 2% It was increased by 1.5% during the pandemic, with added funding for Covid supplies. Operating costs have gone up by 12% and, without an increased per diem amount, there would be LTC homes closing The Ministry responded with an average increase of 6.6% over the 4 envelopes.

Chester received about \$ 500,000 more in funding this year because we admitted more residents with high and/or complex needs than other homes. This increase could amount to the cost of hiring 6.5 extra PSWs.

Other sources of income are residential fees, donations such as in-memorials along with such things as the rental of the roof for a cell tower, and the sale of a tract of land for \$1,000,000 between the back parking lot and the train tracks. There is also Ministry funding for the expenses associated with accreditation and capital grants.

A family member asked if we received any funds from the Broadview Foundation and Cynthia replied that the Foundation does not do any fund-raising; our Board of 12 directors is unsalaried .

There was another question about additional funding received during Covid and we were told that any funds not used were returned, such as the funding of a Nurse Practitioner since we were unable to find a suitable candidate.

The final question was whether there were fund-raising opportunities within the home. Family Council had done some fundraising for special projects twice and was able to raise just over \$10,000 each time. Chester was also involved in a golfing fund raiser with several other

homes at one time, but the time and effort involved were not worth the monies received.

Key messages from Cynthia's detailed presentation:

1) Funding received from the Ministry is highly regulated and tightly controlled, which results in a very tight operating budget.

2) Careful budgeting by management staff has resulted in wise and effective use of the funds received and also allowed us to put funds aside for future use; especially where the mortgage shortfall is concerned.

Cynthia was thanked for the time and effort involved in preparing this presentation for us and answering all our questions.

Lynne then reminded us that a family member had recently asked that our monthly minutes be officially adopted by members. She called for a show of hands to approve the May minutes...the result was unanimous.

Quality Care Update: For medical reasons, Lynne has been unable to attend recent meetings of the Quality Care committees; she hopes to be able to resume this obligation in September (there are no meetings scheduled in July or August). In the meantime, she has been assured by management that all initiatives adopted in the current Quality Improvement Plan are making good progress.

A member asked if there was someone assigned to take over the chairing of meetings when necessary and Lynne replied that the current co-chair was able to do that. She also reiterated the need for a larger executive for Family Council and urged members to consider taking on a job when meetings resume in September.

July Calendar of Events and Activities

(with thanks to Morgan and the Activation Staff)

July 1st 2:00 pm Canada Day Party

July 4th Trip to the Park

July 11th 2:00 pm Smudging Ceremony'

July 12th 6:15 pm Pub Night

July 17th 2:00 pm Concerts in Care

July 20th Birthday Party for 4th floor and Diamond

July 27th Birthday Party for 2nd and 3rd floors

July 24th Dance with Me

July 25th Trip to the Mall

July 26th Dinner Club

July 29th Olympic Opening Ceremony

Next Meeting: [Wednesday September 25th](#)