

## RK MACDONALD NURSING HOME – Family Council Minutes

**Date: November 15, 2022**

**11:30 - 1**

<b>Present:</b> Mary Chisholm, Albie Falkenhalm, Debbie Horne, Joanne MacKenzie, Paul Macgillvray, Susan Wood		
<b>Regrets:</b>		
Item	Discussion on	Action
<b>1.0 Approval of Minutes</b>	This meeting was in follow-up from our Sept. meeting to allow for questions to be answered by Terry MacIntyre, dietary dept., recreation dept., along with clarifications about the RKs pharmacy supplier/ medication delivery. Three new members (Mary, Debbie, Joanne) were welcomed to family council (FC) and a brief explanation on our role was provided. Cathy Brouwer will send new members a copy of the Terms of Reference. Currently Brambleberry, Tanglewood and Martha's Unit care areas are represented with FC membership.	
<b>2.0 Business Arising</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Discussion &amp; Action</b>
	2.1 Dietary Department	<p>Kalli MacDonald Provided an explanation on the pilot project which had been referred to in previous FC minutes (Feb. 2020) - the dietary dept. had received extensive feedback for potential improvements following a consultant review. The pandemic began as they were about to pilot changes on Martha's unit.</p> <p>One of the biggest changes they have made is in using a mobile hot food cart to transport meals to each unit: food is kept warmer; meals are plated in front of residents who now have some options in what they want.</p> <p>Concerns from FC were brought forward based on feedback received from resident council members (Sept 15<sup>th</sup> 2022 meeting). Positive change has occurred but there continues to be room for improvement, to which Kalli agreed. The dietary dept has placed suggestion boxes on each unit to allow residents to provide input, and they are awaiting feedback from the family and resident surveys on ways to further improve their service.</p>

	2.2 Recreation Department	<p>Kim MacDonald was unable to attend so Terry MacIntyre provided information: There has been a shift in recreation with a greater focus being placed on therapeutic activities. A significant percentage of resources are spent on working with residents with dementia. As well, 30% of resources are spent on traditional community activities (examples: bingo, live music by Tyke Wallace or Laura Teasdale) and 15% used on personhood education.</p> <p>A FC member questioned the possibility of a family taking their own food into the home and sitting to eat together with their loved one. Terry was optimistic in his response and agreed to look into it.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> If FC requests, Kim will join the next FC meeting to address further questions FC will await an update from Terry concerning families eating together.</p>
	2.3 CEO	<p>Terry MacIntyre provided several updates: Accreditation of the facility is schedule for Dec 2023. Terry welcomed FC to participate in the accreditation process and identified six topics (Chapters) that will be part of the review. Visitation hours have increased (now 10 am-8pm). He will continue to reach out to families of all residents, to encourage recruitment of more FC members. As flu season approaches and Covid continues, FC was informed that the home will not be placed into total lockdown again. Rather the affected care area will be closed, and designated care providers will be allowed to visit.</p>
	2.4 Pharmacy supplier	<p>Maureen Crossman (Shoppers Drug Mart, Hfx.) via Zoom: For safety, pharmaceutical regulations call for one main pharmacy to oversee management of the facilities medications. As a result of this regulation, the Halifax location of Shoppers Drug Mart supplies the main order for all medications - they have the packaging system to make individual monthly strips for each resident (which are then shipped to Antigonish on a weekly basis). Emergency medications or meds ordered outside of the regularly scheduled delivery are handled by the Antigonish location, who work in close collaboration with Hfx to prevent any delay in medication delivery to residents.</p>
3.0 Safety	3.1	
4.0 Esthetics	4.1	

<b>5.0 Foundation</b>	5.1	
<b>6.0 New Business</b>	6.1 Social Worker	<p>Melissa Arnott contacted FC to bring awareness to all residents/families of her role as a social worker within the home (since Feb. 2022). She provides support for new residents and their families as they transition into long term care/their new home, she also provides one on one support for residents as required and works in close collaboration with other RK team members.</p> <p>Melissa is willing to join the next FC meeting to briefly speak about her role and answer questions.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Susan will contact Melissa once our next meeting date has been confirmed.</p>
	6.2 Care Van	<p>An inquiry was made on the guidelines for requesting use of the care van, including the hours/days of the week a family can access the van.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> place as an agenda item for our next FC meeting, since time ran short for discussion.</p>
<b>7.0 Next Meeting</b>	Date: January 17, 2023 Time: 11:30 - 1 Location: The Roost	
<b>8.0 Meeting Adjournment</b>	Moved by: Time: 1:00 pm	