

Nursing Home Oversight Working Group Meeting Minutes

October 31, 2018

Members:

Monica Hutt Pam Cota Lindsay Gillette Steve Monde Sean Londergan Laura Pelosi Diane Novak
 Judy Morton

Staff: Camille George Candace Morgan Stuart Schurr Liz Perreault and Rebecca Chalifoux

Members of the Public: Andrew Bachand, Toby Howe

Invited Guests: none

Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome and Introductions/ Review and approval of minutes	Candace Morgan asked if there were any changes needed to be made to the October 12 minutes. Lindsay Gillette suggested a word change and that change was made.	The October 12 minutes were passed with the one change made.
Review Consensus Proposal	Lindsay Gillette submitted to the group a financial proposal, separate from the transfer proposal document that Monica Hutt, Laura Pelosi and Pam Cota had worked on. The group may never reach a consensus and will have to present to the legislature the pieces the group does agree on then the pieces the group disagrees on with a majority and minority position.	Monica Hutt asked that Lindsay incorporate specific high-level financial pieces into the transfer document in order to keep just one working document.
Review and Finalize the Recommendations on the Transfer of Ownership Process	The working group proposed that it would be beneficial to separate the financial and quality parts of the transfer process. When a facility transfers, they have to reapply for a State license, that is when the quality piece would be looked at. The actual transfer would be based solely on the financial viability of the perspective new owners and the licensing on quality review. The two processes would be conditional on one another. In the end, for a facility to run, they would have to obtain a go ahead from the entity charged with approving the financial pieces and licensing through Survey and Certification.	
Ongoing Monitoring of Financial Stability of Nursing Homes	Rate Setting currently monitors facilities financial health by analyzing audited financial statements, Medicaid and Medicare cost reports and staying aware of anything that might indicate a problem through the media or word of mouth. Facilities must report Payroll-Based Journals to CMS and provider tax reports to the Department of Vermont Health Access.	

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Discussion: What financial information is necessary to monitor ongoing financial stability	In addition to the financial documents that are already monitored, having facilities report any changes in services. Sometimes that is a clear indication of financial hardship.
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