



**ANCORA PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
October 22, 2024**

The Ancora Psychiatric Hospital (APH) Board of Trustees meeting was held on Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at 1:30 pm via Microsoft TEAMS.

Attendance: Mayor Lawrence, Board of Trustees member
Allen Masry, MD, Acting Medical Director
Claudine Migliacco, Business Manager
Beth Schermerhorn, Board of Trustees member
Cynthia Vetrano, DCEO, Clinical Services

Absent: Diane Conover, Executive Assistant to CEO
Ron Fudala, DCEO, Clinical Operations
Christopher Morrison, Chief Executive Officer
William Walsh, Board of Trustees member

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: (Note: Board Membership is required to have seven appointed members; however, APH operates with a lack of quorum, due to a lack of appointed membership)

- The September 24, 2024, minutes were approved after review, on a motion by C. Migliacco and seconded by Dr. Masry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- There will be no Board of Trustees meeting held for November 2024 as usual. Our next meeting will be the Annual Public Meeting on December 17, 2024, at 1:30pm. This meeting is held with all the hospital's Discipline Heads to talk on their department's accomplishments for the year and any initiatives they have for 2025.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- **Anorage Commissary Statement** – The ending cash balance for the Anorage Commissary and Snack Cart as of September 30, 2024, is \$32,524.37. The total income for the month was \$17,538.80 and \$19,729.90 were the total expenses for the month.
- **Welfare Fund** - The ending Welfare fund balance as of September 30, 2024, is \$1,214.95. There were no deposits for the month. The total expenses for the month were \$1550.00, which included a DJ for Karnivale and a R/B box for BEAM Therapy for the Equines.
- **Admissions/Discharges** - Our current census is 296 patients, 89 patients on CEPP status or 30%. There are 49 patients or 55% on CEPP less than 4 months, 40 patients or 45% on CEPP longer than 4 months. The month of February there was 7 discharges and 9 admissions, there are 8 anticipated discharges this week.
- **Visitation** – There were 31 virtual visitations held and 54 in person visitations for a total of 85 visits held for the month of September 2024.

- **COVID-19 Data** – It has been 26 days since a patient tested positive, and 7 days since a staff member tested positive.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Topic # 1** – Board Member Recruitment

Discussion: Three new membership recommendations and one re-appointment recommendation were submitted to Central Office last week for approval to our Board:

- Mayor Lawrence's term is expiring, she would like to remain on APH's Board for another term.
- Jean Wambold is a former Social Worker and a former consumer here at APH. Ms. Wambold has served on numerous boards and started a peer outreach in Atlantic County and continues to advocate for people with mental health issues.
- Tamirra Williams is the Vice-President of Oaks Integrated Care. Currently, she had administrative oversight of the A+ Group homes throughout Burlington, Camden and Gloucester counties. This includes the cottages that are located on the grounds of APH.
- Lisa Merritt is the Chief Nursing Executive at Catholic Charities in Trenton, NJ. She has extensive experience in community setting with a focus on social determinants of health, mental health, addiction, and vulnerable populations. She also has extensive knowledge in strategic planning, operations management, and performance merits. Ms. Merritt is also a Board member on the NJ Association of Mental Health & Addiction Agency.
- Beth Schermerhorn's term has expired, and she has decided not to pursue another term on the Board after almost 8 years, today is her last meeting. The Hospital would like to thank her for her service to APH's Board of Trustees for so many years, her knowledge and expertise has been invaluable during her tenure.

- **Topic # 2** – HealthCare Equities

Discussion: Female patients are restrained approximately 66% more often than male patients. This inequity will be our main project. We are currently gathering data from our (3) female units to look at restraint numbers and the diagnoses of these patients. Then we will identify and implement strategies to reduce this inequity by decreasing restraints. The hospital is focusing on collecting data on the following to capture how we impact social determinants of health:

- Housing – every patient has a placement upon discharge.
- Clinical Case Management – every eligible patient has this service upon discharge.
- Financial Status/Income
 - Every eligible patient is provided Interim Medicaid upon discharge
 - Expanding our use of NJ Able accounts to patients within the Vocational Rehabilitation Department, so they can save their earnings without putting their SSI eligibility at risk.

REPORT REVIEW: None

ROUNDTABLE: Ancora Psychiatric Hospital is attending a job fair on October 5, 2024.

NEXT MEETING DATE/TIME: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at 1:30 p.m., via teleconference.

Ancora Psychiatric Hospital Board of Trustees Meeting

October 22, 2024

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Luchenburg
Program Specialist 1

Reviewed By,
Christopher Morrison
Chief Executive Officer