



Rural Health Community Systems, Inc.

Annual Luncheon Meeting January 13, 2010

Present:

Everett Ferguson-Chairman

Elaine Meyers

Tina Goodwin

Dave Hopkins

Staff:

Betty Wattenberg & Art Jones

Tim Marshall, Reporting Sec.

Jeanie Tomkalski

Bob Rajskey

Noel Terwilliger

Nan Hammes

Mike Sprague

Judy Blair

Ray Dell

Excused:

George Bliss, Al Lewis, Jennifer Reed

Special Guest:

John Nittinger-State Office of Rural Health; Mike Palermo-Laredal; Jim Smith-Ira Davenport

Call to Order

Chairman Ferguson called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. and as we had special guests he asked the members of the group to introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes:

Everett asked for approval of the previous meeting minutes. Seeing no changes and with consensus the minutes were approved.

Nomination Committee Report:

Nan Hammes presented the committee's slate of officers for the upcoming year.

Chairman: Everett Ferguson

Vice Chairman: George Bliss

Secretary: Tim Marshall

Motion by Mike Sprague, Second by Tina Goodwin that the full slate of officers be accepted as presented by the committee. All in Favor: Yes.

2010 Meeting Schedule Discussion:

Nan pointed out that the 'F1' Conference Room in the County Office Building has been moved. *Directions to the conference room are posted at the end of the minutes.*

Reflection on RHCS Projects:

Everett asked for each member of the partnership to reflect upon some of the previous and/or upcoming systems project. Mike reported that a RFP is out 'on the street' for a study regarding consolidation and possible merger of the Wayland/Cohocton/Atlanta Ambulance squads. Nan spoke on volunteers and RSVP's involvement and assistance in the clerical and organizational aspect of EMS Corps which has proven to be filling a huge gap. Tim spoke about the RHCS Youth Corps and about recruitment and retention and the non-medical transport study. Noel spoke about the Sheriff's AED program and their new AED's replacing the old ones no longer in service. Bob Rajskey spoke about STREMS involvement with the Leadership Training and the training programs that RHCS has been involved in. Judy added the need for additional corps leadership training. Jeanine being one of the newest members of the committee spoke on how impressed she has been with what RHCS has accomplished. Elaine spoke about Camp RTE and how it invokes youth into EMS Awareness and Training. Tina spoke about 911's role and participation including webcast hosting and they are looking forward to 10,000 Links. Tina also spoke about Steuben County's first ever EMS Recognition Day and what a successful event that was. Jim Smith spoke about supervision of the New York State Department of Health Office of Rural Health grant management and the recent fire at Ira Davenport and how there should be no real problems. All records are secure but the

Finance Office building will need extensive repair. Our esteem guest, John Nittinger, SORH spoke about how our network is very unique among all the other NY rural health networks. At first he felt that we were limiting ourselves too much, but coming to this annual meeting he found out we are very focused in what we do. The Network Consultant reviewed for John the partnerships involved with our group. Everett discussed how we have conducted a variety of surveys to better focus on our pre-hospital emergency care projects. He discussed how we concentrate on improving emergency care in the rural environment. Art Jones spoke on the initial phases of the organization, twelve years ago.

2010 Budget Discussion:

The Network Consultant discussed our current budget situation. *Rural Health Community Systems* has been cut by 12_ % due to the State budgetary crisis. John Nittinger stated the Office of Rural Health didn't expect any "Middle of the Year" or "Middle of the Contract" cuts, but that's what we got and we will deal with it. John stated we are not set yet for next year's funding because the budget has not been adopted but hopefully we will be OK. The Network Consultant and Jim have been working very closely with John to keep a tight grip on budget matters.

Coordinator of Network Initiatives:

Art provided the partners with a copy of his annual report. He briefly discussed the various different programs that he was involved with over the past year: E-PCR, Photo ID, EMS Corps Support, RSVP Clerical Volunteers, EMS Week Festivities, Andy Ambulance, Catskill Hudson AHEC EMS Leadership Conference, Community Outreach, Educational Opportunities, and 10000 Links in the Chain of Survival. Art also introduced Mike Palermo from Laredal and discussed our partnership with them on the ACLS and PALS trainer.

Presentation of Awards:

Everett presented Jim Smith CFO of Ira Davenport Memorial Hospital with a Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation for his time and professional attention and Ira Davenport Memorial Hospital's continued support of the Rural Health Community Systems over the past year and throughout our twelve year existence.

10,000 Links in the Chain of Survival:

The Network Consultant asked all those who want their logos to be part of the 10,000 Links website to send them to her and she provided an overview of the project. Art indicated that the website is up and running. The link is <http://www.10000linkscpr.org> Physicians, Dr. James Scheuer, M.D. Professor of Medicine and University Chairman Emeritus at Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Dr. Dennis O'Connor, MD Steuben County Medical Director have endorsed our initiative. Betty outlined that this program supports our core mission and four of our seven strategic challenges. Art indicated that numbers will be tracked through the website. Ray Dell indicated that the Sheriff's office is planning on offering a Family Training Day and might include a box lunch or something to those who want to take the training. Tim will provide Art with a listing of Churches throughout the county. Jen Reed from the Sheriff's office will work with us to make contacts in the Amish Community. A Press Conference was scheduled following our Annual Meeting. All were invited to stay and participate in the Press Conference.

Everett thanked Betty and Art for all they do and for the partner's participation.

***Motion to Adjourned made by Mike Sprague, Seconded by Nan Hammes. All in Favor
Meeting adjourned at 12:59***

Next Meeting
Wednesday February 3, 2010 @ 9:30 A.M.
Steuben County Office Building
Conference Room F-1

*****NOTE*****

(Conference Room F-1 has moved to the opposite hallway from past location. Enter through security go to the hallway on the left. F-1 will be located about way down the hall on right)

Hosted by RSVP