

# *Health Care Task Force*

## **CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting of the Kenai Peninsula Borough's Health Care Task Force was held on April 12, 2011, in the Borough Assembly Chambers, Soldotna, Alaska. Chair Knopp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

## **ROLL CALL**

### **There were present:**

Gary Knopp, Chair  
Duane Bannock  
Jim Golden  
Janet Hilleary  
John Hoyt  
Linda Murphy  
Rick Ross

### **Absent:**

Tim Peterson (excused)  
Margaret Gilman, Alternate (excused)

comprising a quorum of the Task Force.

### **Also in attendance were:**

Linda Hutchings, Alternate  
Charlie Pierce, Alternate  
Johni Blankenship, Borough Clerk

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

### **MOTION:**

Bannock moved to approve the agenda,  
seconded by Murphy.

### **AGENDA APPROVED:**

Unanimous.

## **APPROVAL OF SUMMARY**

MOTION: Bannock moved to approve the February 22, 2011 meeting minutes, seconded by Murphy.

AGENDA APPROVED: Unanimous.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Presentation from Dr. Katy Sheridan (15 minutes)**

Dr. Katy Sheridan addressed the task force regarding her perspective of the issues and concerns surrounding the governance of the Central Peninsula Hospital.

She demonstrated her belief that the biggest problem with health care today was that it was being treated as a business. She agreed that the system needed to change to address the concerns of the future. She felt the CPGH, Inc. Board got caught up in a business model versus what was the best system for health care on the peninsula. She spoke strongly against a for profit model of governance.

She challenged the task force to be innovative with their recommendation to the Assembly and to research other models that are currently working nationwide.

## **QUESTIONS FROM THE BOARD**

Mr. Ross asked what kind of model she would recommend. Dr. Sheridan explained the Accountable Care Organization (ACO) and stated the ACO model should be explored and could be very effective.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Knopp called for public comment period.

The following people addressed the Health Care Task Force:

**Ray Southwell**, Nikiski  
**Preston Williams**, Kenai  
**Brenda Trefren**, Soldotna  
**Dr. John Bramante**, Soldotna  
**Dr. Carol Buckholtz**, Soldotna  
**Don Kuble**y, Juneau  
**Fred Sturman**, Soldotna  
**Dr. Katy Sheridan**, Soldotna [*read aloud a letter from Dr. Hal Smith*]  
**Dr. Chris Mickelson**, Soldotna

There being no one else who wished to speak, the public comment period was closed.

## **TASK FORCE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Each task force member stated if they were ready to make a recommendation and if so, which governance system they would forward to the Assembly for consideration.

Mr. Golden stated that if the decision was solely based on fiduciary concerns then he would be comfortable with supporting the recommendation from the CPGH, Inc. Board; however, he believed there were social and political concerns that still needed to be addressed.

Mr. Pierce stated he supported the whole hospital joint venture recommendation from the CPGH, Inc. Board; however, he would also support an outright sale if the public was in support of an outright sale.

Mr. Hoyt also stated medicine was a business and that was not going to change in the near future, so in knowing that, he supported the whole hospital joint venture governance system.

Ms. Murphy supported the whole hospital joint venture governance system and stated she felt she had come full circle with her decision. She further stated that she would prefer to see the hospital remain a nonprofit; however, when weighing the criteria laid out by the CPGH, Inc. Board she supported the whole hospital joint venture proposal.

Ms. Hilleary stated she would be recommending an amendment to the current lease and operating agreement to help mitigate the current concerns of the CPGH, Inc. Board.

Ms. Hutchings gave a historical review of the origin of the hospital and stated she would support keeping the system and close to what currently exists as possible and would only be able to support an amendment to the current lease and operating agreement.

Mr. Ross stated he understood the lack of access to capital that currently existed; however, he believed amendments to the current lease and operating agreement could be made to change the governance system to address those concerns for the future.

Mr. Bannock referred to the matrix created by the CPGH, Inc. Board and stated he could support an amendment to the current lease and operating agreement.

Chair Knopp stated he would support an amendment to the lease and operating agreement; however, if the public would support it he would recommend an outright sale.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Knopp called for public comment period.

The following people addressed the Health Care Task Force:

**Ray Southwell, Nikiski**  
**Brenda Trefren, Soldotna**

There being no one else who wished to speak, the public comment period was closed.

**NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Health Care Task Force was set for Tuesday, April 26, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the George A. Navarre Borough Administration Building, Assembly Chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Task Force, Chairman Knopp adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

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Johni Blankenship, Borough Clerk

Approved by Task Force \_\_\_\_\_