CCM-101

City of Cambridge

IN CITY COUNCIL

July 31, 1995

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR MYERS
MAYOR REEVES
VICE MAYOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of this City Council that Sister June Ketterer, sgm will assume the position of provincial superior of the Sisters of Charity of Montreal, the Grey Nuns; and

WHEREAS: Sister Ketterer is assuming the post of provincial superior at a time when the Grey Nuns, who have always been closely associated with hospitals, are embarking upon a reinterpretation of their mission to include the creation and management of an assisted living facility for 80 to 90 seniors in Lexington; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record extending its congratulations and best wishes to Sister June Ketterer in her new position of provincial superior of the Sisters of Charity in Montreal; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council July 31, 1995
Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.
Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- D. Margaret Drury

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

7/31 22

C. Sullivan

Ordered. That the City Clerk be + hereby is requested to prepare a ~~public~~ resolution congratulating Sister Jean Kettler, ~~Ph~~, J, on being named Provincial Superior

former chair Yorville Board

Congratulations

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
1995 JUL 17 PM 12:51
CAMBRIDGE MA.

C. Sullivan

22

7/31

Whereas: It has come to the attention of this City Council that Sister Jane Ketterer, sgm, will assume the position of provincial superior of the Sisters of Charity of Montreal, the Grey Nuns; and

Whereas: Sister ~~[illegible]~~ Ketterer is ~~an active~~ vice chair of the ~~member~~ of the Ymville Foundation of Ymville Hospital and will continue her active participation on the foundation; and

Whereas: Sister ~~Jane~~ Ketterer is assuming the post of provincial ~~superior at a time~~ when the Grey Nuns (who have always been closely associated with hospitals) are embarking upon a ~~new~~ reinterpretation of their mission to include the creation and management of an assisted living facility for 80 to 90 seniors in Lexington; now therefore be it be it

Resolved: That this City Council extend its congratulations and best wishes to Sister Jane Ketterer ~~upon the occasion of her~~ in her new position of provincial superior of the Sisters of Charity of Montreal; and be it further

Resolved; That the City Council prepare a suitably engraved copy of this resolution for Sister June Ketterer

Youville Lifecare
Youville Hospital & Rehabilitation Center
Youville Healthcare Center Youville House

Saint Marguerite
d'Youville Foundation

July 12, 1995

Memo to: Foundation, auction committee, golf committee
From: Martha Bertrand
Subject: Grey Nun update

For your interest, I enclose a recent Lexington Minuteman article about new directions for the Grey Nuns. Among the several points covered, let me highlight the succession of Foundation vice chair Sr. June Ketterer, sgm to the post of provincial superior. I know you join me in extending well wishes to both Sr. June and her predecessor, Sr. Dorothy Cooper. We look forward to Sr. June's continuing participation with the Foundation.

Best.

cc: Sr. Dorothy Cooper, sgm
Sr. June Ketterer, sgm
Richard Quigley, president/CEO

enclosure

Changes announced for 10 Pelham Road

Nuns will create an assisted living facility

By David Trueblood
Staff Writer

The Sisters of Charity of Montreal — better known as the Grey Nuns — are preparing a revolution. Quietly, prayerfully, thoughtfully, the order, which traces its foundation back to Colonial French Canada, is at work on plans to reinterpret its mission in an age in which fewer women are called to become nuns, an age in which a complex corporate organization — as well as compassion and the healing arts — is needed to remain effective as a health care provider.

The change will be most visible in Lexington at the Grey Nuns' complex on Pelham Road, which the sisters propose to convert into an assisted living facility that would serve as a home for between 80 to 90 seniors who can still lead independent lives if some assistance is provided.

The facility will go through a lengthy review by town boards, and culminate in Town Meeting next year, when the community will be asked to approve the plans. But Sister Dorothy Cooper, the provincial superior, talked about the idea behind the plan this week. Joining Cooper, who leaves on Saturday after six years at the helm of an enterprise that manages health and social service institutions in Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire and Ohio was Sister June Ketterer, who will succeed Cooper as provincial superior. Sister Joan Manion, newly named vice president of mission for Covenant Health Systems, the order's health care corporation also joined the discussion.

The Pelham Road building will be completely rebuilt, Cooper said, but the façade will be left as it is now. The project, being deigned by the Boston firm of DiMella and Shaffer, is expected to cost approximately $7.2 million.

Half of the units will be reserved for sisters who now live at the complex. The other half, a mix of studios and one- and two-bedroom apartments, will be rented out at a rate that will vary according to size. No down payment will be required, Cooper said. Rents are expected to range from $2,300 a month to $3,300 a month, and 20 percent of the units will be subsidized for residents who are unable to pay the full amount.

"It will not be a nursing home," Cooper said. "But some personal care will be provided."

That means residents who need help bathing or coping with mild impairment will have professional support available. Pastoral care will also be provided, although Cooper stressed that the new facility is open to people of all faiths.

"And for men as well as for

See **GREY SISTERS**, page 10

STAFF PHOTO BY DAVID TRUEBLOOD

NEW LEADERSHIP — After six years as provincial superior, Sister Dorothy Cooper (right) leaves the Grey Nuns in Lexington July 1. Sister June Ketterer will succeed her.

Assisted living facility proposed

GREY SISTERS, from page 1

women," said Manion.

The new role for the building on Pelham Road is part of a dramatic change going on throughout the province. In fact, the institution the sisters have created — Covenant Health Care — will be turned over to the control of an independent board of directors as part of the change.

According to Cooper, the developments are driven by two factors. One is numerical: in 1956, the province included 200 nuns. Today that has dwindled to 69 sisters, with an average age of 72.

The other factor is the sense of sacred mission that drives the social ministry of the order, which Cooper said remains unchanged.

"We have the same charism," Cooper said. "We are there for the same reason — to serve the poor."

The order was founded in 1737 by a well-born French-Canadian woman named Marguerite Dufrost de Lajemmerais d'Youville. In a life described as having been marked by great faith and great trial, she asserted a mission to the poorest of the poor, turning the ruined General Hospital for the Poor in Montreal into a thriving institution. The name by which the group has become known — the Grey Nuns — started as an epithet, according to tradition. The women who joined Marguerite d"Youville were jeered at as *les soeurs grises*, the tipsy nuns. She accepted the title in its literal meaning — the "grey" sisters.

The Grey Nuns have been most closely associated with hospitals — they have Youville in Cambridge, St. Joseph in Nashua, N.H., St. Mary's in Lewiston, Maine, 588 beds St. Vincent's in Toledo, Ohio, among others — and have branched out. They also manage nursing homes, programs for drug-addicted women and their children and a wide range of ancillary services all related to their prime mission of service to those in need.

As the order has changed, their enterprise has changed as well. In Vermont, their Fanny Allen Hospital has joined with the hospital of the University of Vermont, a hybrid Catholic-secular operation that reflects the greater changes scheduled for Covenant.

Even the language of their services has changed in recent years.

"We are evolving into a multicultural congregation," said Sister June Ketterer. "We have sisters joining us from Vietnam, Brazil and Columbia."

"(These changes) will benefit the community," said Cooper. "We have to learn not get caught up in our own culture."

"Even though it hurts," said Manion.

July 31, 1995

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to prepare a suitable resolution congratulating Sister June Ketterer, former Chair of Youville Board, on being named Provincial Superior.

CCM#101

City of Cambridge

IN CITY COUNCIL

July 31, 1995

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of this City Council that Sister June Ketterer, sgm will assume the position of provincial superior of the Sisters of Charity of Montreal, the Grey Nuns; and

WHEREAS: Sister Ketterer is assuming the post of provincial superior at a time when the Grey Nuns, who have always been closely associated with hospitals, are embarking upon a reinterpretation of their mission to include the creation and management of an assisted living facility for 80 to 90 seniors in Lexington; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record extending its congratulations and best wishes to Sister June Ketterer in her new position of provincial superior of the Sisters of Charity in Montreal; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution on behalf of the entire City Council.

Entire membership

Consent Order #22

R-1660

Councillor Sullivan re:
Congratulations to Sister June Ketterer,
former Chair of the Youville Hospital
Board on being named Provincial Superior.

In City Council July 31, 1995

Order adopted.