

City of Cambridge

Ms. Chandler stated she does not have the staff to visit each patient but that a tremendous amount of time is spent counseling patients.

Mr. MacLeod stated he believes the Neville Manor could serve as a Geriatric Campus and provide not only for eldlery but physical and occupational therapy.

The Committee then requested the Deputy City Clerk to communicate with the Chairman of the Search Committee for a permanent Social Service Director and indicated the urgency of filling the position as soon as possible.

The Committee also requested letters be sent to the veterans organizations and the Friends of the Cambridge Hospital requesting they assist the patients by supplying whatever up to date, ready materials they could along with toiletry articles.

At this point, Councillor Vellucci questioned how many cars were assigned to the Hospital.

Mr. MacLeod stated two (2) cars were assigned to the Health Commissioner's Office and a van, jeep and car were assigned to the Hospital.

Councillor Vellucci then moved that the Assistant City Manager be requested to transfer the two (2) cars assigned to the Health Commissioner to the Public Works Department for action.

The Committee and the Assistant City Manager agreed with the request.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 A. M.

For the Committee,

Councillor Alfred Vellucci,
Chairman.

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City of Cambridge

At this point Councillor Preusser suggested utilizing the Public Health Nurses in ICU and contracting the duties of the Public Health Nurses to the Visiting Nurse's Association.

Mr. MacLeod responded by stating he thought it was a possibility but it could pose some problems. He further stated a special committee comprised of representatives of the nursing staff, the Nursing Director and representatives from the House Officer's Association should be created to address this on going problem.

The Committee agreed and requested Mr. MacLeod to form such a group.

At this point, Councillor Vellucci suggested that Mr. MacLeod call upon Harvard and Massachusetts Institute of Technology in an effort to resolve the long standing staffing problem.

At this point, Councillor Vellucci requested to hear from the Acting Director of Social Services.

Ms. Anita Chandler stated she has been the Acting Director for the past year and she is supervising a staff of fourteen (14), five (5) of whom are actually employees of the Commonwealth. All of these employees work both at the hospital and in the clinics offering social services and home care advice and counseling. She further stated she would like to see a policy established whereby patients at the hospital who needed extended care could be given first preference at the Neville Manor.

Councillor Vellucci questioned if the Health Policy Board had looked into any of the problems within the Social Services Department, the needs of patients and extended care facilities.

Dr. Chalfen responded by stating the Health Policy Board has held many discussions on the interpretation of various medical services which are provided by both the Hospital and Neville Manor and that various department heads at the Hospital will also maintain responsibility for those same functions at the Manor.

Councillor Preusser stated she would welcome some leadership from the Health Policy Board.

Councillor Vellucci questioned why social workers at the Hospital don't visit all the patients to determine what, if anything, can be done for them in terms of personal needs or long term health care placement.

City of Cambridge

In City Council..... June 25, 1979.....

The Health and Hospital

Committee

comprised of Councillors Alfred Vellucci, Chairman, Mary Ellen Preusser and Councillor Walter J. Sullivan held a meeting of the Committee on Wednesday, June 13, 1979 at 8:00 A. M. in the Board Room at the Cambridge Hospital.

The purpose of the meeting was to continue discussions with the House Officer's Association regarding equipment and staffing needs as well as to discuss the Social Service Department at the Hospital.

Mr. Alfred P. Vellucci, Director of Fiscal Affairs, stated that all bids for all necessary equipment had been completed and that all equipment orders would be finalized by June 30, 1979. He further stated the reason for the delay is essentially due to the process required by the state public bidding laws.

Relative to the beepers for the House Officer's Association, Mr. Vellucci, stated that all vendors under consideration had been evaluated and specifications are currently being written for the purchase of the beepers. It is anticipated they will be delivered to the hospital during the month of July.

Dr. Livingston reported that negotiations between the city and the House Officer's Association was going slowly and not much progress had been made.

Dr. Glassman reported one of the problems results in the fact the Massachusetts Labor Relations Board considers Psychiatric Interns as City of Cambridge employees even though their salary is partly paid from state funds. This subsidy is currently six (6) months late and is the cause of tremendous concern. Dr. Glassman also stated that current job descriptions were inadequate to meet the staffing needs at the hospital and this was being discussed during negotiation sessions.

Mrs. Spicer, RN, and Intensive Care nurse stated ICU nurses were currently working 12 hour shifts and that only 12 nurses were staffing the unit.

Ms. Joan Kenny, Director of Nurses, stated she has posted eight ICU nursing vacancies as of June 8, 1979 and that the staffing schedule indicated 14 positions were filled. Mrs. Kenny distributed vacancy lists to the committee.

REPORT

Committee on Health and Hospitals

report from committee meeting
held on June 13, 1979 regarding
discussions with the House Officers
Association.

*Copy sent to City
mgr 6/27/79 (ell)*

In City Council,
June 25, 1979

*6/25/79
Lorraine DeChay
moved that the
Report be accepted
and placed on file
Copy to City Mgr*

RECORDED