

WHITEHALL PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES APRIL 5TH, 2018

The Whitehall Planning Commission meeting of April 5th, 2018 was called to order by Chairman Terry Anderson at 6:30 PM.

Chairman Anderson asked for a roll call.

Terry Anderson—Present
Mike Brown—Present
Zach Woodruff- Present
Paul Jordan- Present
Denny Roberge—Present
Barb Blake-Present
Chuck Underwood- Present

Chairman Anderson asked for a motion to approve minutes from March 8th, 2018. Ms. Blake motioned to approve and Mr. Jordan seconded. All voted in favor to approve the minutes.

Chairman Anderson introduced Case #752, Lighthouse Behavioral Health is requesting a Special Permit 1123.10(c)(36) on property located at 4000 E. Main St with the intention of operating a behavioral health center with inpatient services.

Frank Ciotola presented their case and objectives. He introduced and described the staff of the proposed health center. Present at the meeting were CEO, Lisa Pertee and Chief Clinical Officer, Alisha Rinehart. Lisa presented the commission with written biographies of the doctors that will be operating at this center. Lisa and Alisha introduced themselves and described their backgrounds.

Mr. Ciotola went on to describe the operations of the behavioral health center. The center will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It will be a 32 bed inpatient center. Security is a top priority and will be monitored 24 hours by closed circuit cameras. Security personnel will be onsite to escort all patients with discharge paperwork. This is not a detox or full medical facility. The staff will mostly comprise of clinical therapists, social workers, case managers, etc. There will be comfort meds on site, but there will be no detox services. Clients will be detoxed prior to attending this facility. Lighthouse Behavioral will receive patients from Mary Haven and similar programs. Mr. Underwood asked how they will receive referrals. Ms. Pertee mentioned marketing and word of mouth as well as partnerships with detox facilities and the court system.

Mr. Woodruff requested information on how they will ease the minds of the adjacent residents. Ms. Pertee described again the high level of security they plan to hold. Should they have a client that does not have a place to go after discharge; they will work with local police to make arrangements. They are very adamant about high safety standards. Alarm systems will be in place. Ms. Rinehart went on to describe the evaluation process of clients and the staff requirements and certifications.

Mr. Anderson asked the demographic of their clientele. Ms. Rinehart mentioned they will offer services to male and female adults above the age of 18. Males and females will be separated by a secure key card access. This will be the first facility in central Ohio and will be working to pair with Medicaid. Clients' length of stay is not set and may fluctuate, but can go up to 90 days dependent on their treatment plan.

Mr. Anderson asked about the meals and kitchen options. They stated they will work with LifeCare Alliance to cater breakfast, lunch and dinner. They will also provide transportation to and from the center.

Mr. Underwood asked about the sources of revenue. Ms. Pertee stated that Medicaid and private insurance will fund the center.

Mr. Brown asked about the State and County permitting and requirements for a facility of this nature. Ms. Pertee noted that they are licensed by OMAS which is required by the State. She went on to describe the procedure and requirements that were done to receive the license. Building visits and clinical chart review are required to maintain the license.

Mr. Anderson asked how many employees they will staff. They believe between 40-50 employees based on need. Staff members will accompany clients at all times.

Activities and family education days will be held within the facility as well as holiday celebrations. These will be held during the day and will not affect the residents. With that said, it is their priority to keep their clients' identity confidential. They will have access from the rear of the facility to keep identity confidential and fenced areas to shield clients.

Mr. Brown asked about signage on the building. They noted they will have a sign on the front of the building with their name, affiliates and the services they provide.

All medication will be dispensed by licensed staff and follow pharmacy regulations.

Mr. Roberge asked about parking on site. Mr. Woodruff noted the facility has about 58-61 parking spots, which is well within the City Code of 25-28. Ms. Pertee went on to state that very few of the clients drive or have cars and they will be dropped off. They will be able to provide bus passes for discharged clients to get home.

Mr. Roberge asked for clarification about how they receive their clientele. Ms. Pertee noted that they take affiliate referrals, as well as walk-ins however, walk-ins will not be advertised.

Their start date is proposed for June 1st, 2018 as long as their licenses are approved. They will start with 10 client outpatient and progress to inpatient status after 2 months and hope to be fully operational by the end of the year. They will need to install a sprinkler system and key card access prior to occupancy.

Mr. Woodruff presented the staff report. He noted that this would not pose a negative impact on residents or businesses in the area. Staff made a favorable recommendation for the center.

Mr. Anderson asked for a favorable motion from the commission. Mr. Woodruff motioned and Mr. Jordan seconded. Voting was unanimous and Case #752 approved.

Mr. Anderson asked if there were any further questions from the commission. No further business was noted.

Chairman Anderson asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Woodruff motioned and Mr. Jordan seconded. All were in favor to adjourn. Meeting was closed at 7:26pm.

APPROVED _____, **2018** Respectfully submitted,

Terry Anderson, Chairman

CASEY THOMAS, SECRETARY