

**VALLEY HI COMMITTEE**  
**McHenry County Administration Building**  
**667 Ware Road**  
**Woodstock, IL 60098**

MINUTES OF THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2005

Chairman Zierer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Mary Lou Zierer, Chairman; Rick Klasen; Barb Wheeler; Sandra Salgado; Perry Moy, Dan Shea and Marie Chmiel. Also in attendance: Ralph Sarbaugh, Budget Manager; John Hadley, Building Operations; and Tim Wenberg, Valley Hi; Lenore Nolan and Gina Lefevor, Helping Hands; and the press.

	Mary Lou Zierer, Chairman	
Marie Chmiel		Richard Klasen
Perry Moy		Sandra Salgado
Dan Shea		Barbara Wheeler

MINUTES

Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler, to approve the minutes of December 2, 2004. The minutes were approved as presented with a unanimous voice vote.

Chairman Zierer informed committee members that Mr. Bernotas and Mr. Foley is currently attending the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board meeting for approval of the Certificate of Need for approval for the building of the new Valley Hi facility.

Chairman Zierer noted that some members of the County Board had requested that Mr. Koehler discontinue the Valley Hi Committee. Chairman Zierer thanked Mr. Koehler for keeping the Valley Hi Committee in existence.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

PRESENTATIONS

*Helping Hands:* Ms. Lenore Nolan and Ms. Gina Lefevor, joined committee members for a presentation from Helping Hands, a division of the Valley Hi Nursing Home Foundation. This is a group of volunteers for help with Valley Hi residents. They informed committee members of the projects completed by the volunteers. The goal for 2005 and beyond is to create a volunteer department at Valley Hi whose job would include recruitment, training, direct and follow up with volunteers and residents. Match a companion volunteer with each resident. Increase awareness of Valley Hi, Helping Hands and the Foundation throughout McHenry County and build a better relationship with local media. Form a partnership between administration, staff and volunteers. Work with the activities department, schools, and groups to schedule more community programs. They noted that there is a log book for volunteers to sign into, but, because the front desk is often vacant, volunteers are unsure what to do when they arrive at Valley Hi. Committee members stated that ideally a volunteer coordinator is needed to handle all of the programs at the County where volunteers are used. Unfortunately, because of budget constraints this position is not in our budget at this time. Mr. Moy suggested that the volunteers from Helping Hands meet with the Centegra Volunteer Coordinator to see what kind of program could be set up without a paid coordinator position and answer questions regarding the coordination of volunteers and services. He stated he would volunteer the use of his restaurant for the meeting. Mr. Moy will report back to the committee the outcome of this meeting. Committee members were informed that staff is looking into adding a formalized volunteer program at the county.

Committee members were informed that the Certificate of Need has been approved for the building of the new Valley Hi Nursing Home. Groundbreaking will take place as soon as the ground thaws.

Ms. Chmiel requested a list of positions currently at Valley Hi.

Ms. Iris Bryant addressed committee and provided an update for the Valley Hi Nursing Home Foundation. Direct TV has been provided for the residents of Valley Hi. Accessibility to email accounts has been provided for those who want it. Funding has been provided for renovations to the library and family rooms. They have provided funding for the prom and various other programs provided to the residents and helped purchase items that are needed at the facility. The latest purchase included an oxymeter, which checks blood pressure through

the fingertips instead of the cuff. She reported that the foundation currently has in excess of \$10,000 in their account. Updates for the Helping Hands and Valley Hi Foundation will be provided every six months.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

*Update on CNA's Salary:* To be provided at a later date

*Administrator's Report:* Mr. Wenberg presented his Administrators report to committee members. He stated that he expects groundbreaking for the new facility to be in March or April. Occupancy is expected in August 2006. The State will have to give final approval prior to occupancy of the facility. Mr. Wenberg stated that the volunteers do have space in the current facility that is used by the volunteers. Additional space could be found for use if needed. When the new facility is complete the old facility will be used for archives and use if a disaster should strike the Government Center. Two servers are being placed at Valley Hi for use by IT. Additional offices may eventually be located in the old facility. Mr. Sarbaugh informed committee members that between issues surrounding accounting problems with the State and problems with the accounting software, receivables at Valley Hi will probably remain at 45days behind. Mr. Sarbaugh informed committee members that they are researching new financial software for Valley Hi. The current program does not work as intended creating havoc for Valley Hi. He noted they are working diligently to bring receivables current and once the new software is installed should alleviate some of the accounting problems that exist at Valley Hi. He noted that he wanted committee members aware of the issues surrounding the State and software program in case Valley Hi is written up for any reason by the outside audit report. Mr. Wenberg thanked committee members who gave gifts at Christmas to some of the residents. The beauty shop sink was installed and will be moved to the new facility for use.

The monthly event list for the residents of Valley Hi was reviewed by committee members. Mr. Wenberg encouraged committee members to attend these events. Residents and staff are decorating their wings in the facility and suggested committee members come to just the decorations. The residents appreciate the support of this committee.

Chairman Zierer encouraged the new committee members to schedule a tour of the facility with Mr. Wenberg.

MEMBERS COMMENTS

Mr. Klasen stated that the Valley Hi Foundation should check into the possibility of obtaining some outside grants for Valley Hi either through the senior service grant commission or other outside agency.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Klasen made a motion, seconded by Ms. Salgado to adjourn the meeting at 10:28a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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**RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE/BOARD ACTION:**

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