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Minutes: September 11th, 2020 AHHC Boardroom

Present: Brad Kneller, Marianne Stickland, Dennis Banka, Rod Ward, Tom Bryson, Cathy Still, Carol Ballantyne, Bruce Campbell, Barbara Marlow

Regrets: Lyle Hall, Norm Hofstetter

Guests: Kevin MacLeod (Executive Director BFFHT)

Call to order at 10:00am by Chair Bruce Campbell.

1. 2020-017 Moved by Barbara Marlow and Seconded Brad Kneller
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Almaguin Highlands Health Centre Committee adopt the minutes from June 8th, 2020 as circulated. Carried.
2. Delegation: None at this time.
3. Resolutions to be passed:
2020-18 Moved by Barbara Marlow and Seconded by Tom Bryson
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre Committee regretfully accepts the resignation with thanks of Chairman Campbell and hereby appoints Rod Ward as Chair of the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre effective immediately.
4. **Items for Discussion**
 - a) Resolution 2020-151 from the Municipality of Magnetawan was received and discussed. The Secretary was instructed to request a delegation for the next regular meeting of Council for Magnetawan.
 - b) Kevin MacLeod provided the Committee with an update regarding Ontario Telemedicine. Kevin thanked the Committee for their support while trying to recruit for a new Coordinator for the Burk's Falls location. As of September 22, the position will be filled, and the service will be open once training has been completed.
 - c) Kevin also informed the Committee that the BFFHT would like a representative from the Committee to attend the next Board meeting once a date has been set.
 - d) Kevin also updated the Committee regarding the BFFHT and their services through COVID-19. The clinic is seeing approximately 25-28 in clinic visits which is about a ¼ of the visits seen pre-COVID. Physicians are primarily doing virtual consultations, however

there are significant challenges with connectivity. This will again become a challenge should the Province enter a second “wave” of positive COVID-19 cases, where there will be additional at home usage of internet, slowing down the connection.

- e) Discussion with respect to the increase in the housing market has had any impact on the BFFHT. Kevin was not able to directly comment, although he noted that those new to the area may be keeping their family physician from their previous community, which will delay the influx in the area’s waitlists. The BFFHT continues their recruitment efforts, seeking to fill the fifth funded physician position. Kevin encourages the Committee to continue efforts to recruit for vacancies. Physicians “shop” several areas and securing a physician is a lengthy process, often a 18month – 2-years.
- f) Member Stickland provided the Committee with an update of the Ontario Health Team application for Almaguin. Timelines have not changed due to COVID-19 and the application continues. The Committee will need to gather additional supporting documentation for the application.
 - Compile a complete list of community agencies,
 - Virtual care component requires better connectivity,
 - Terms of Reference for the Committee – governing structure,
 - Identify gaps as seen by area physicians,
 - Virtual care is a component for an OHT – advocate for more hours,

Resolution: 2020-19 Moved by Brad Kneller and Seconded by Barbara Marlow
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Almaguin Highlands Health Centre adjourn at 10:57am to meet again on October 2, 2020. Carried.