

Summit County Dental Task Force
Minutes of the Meeting
March 19, 2008

PRESENT: Darlene Theodus, John Sniezek, Mark Dickinson, Dr. Kris Drummond, Tom Quade, Judy Burkett, Mary Agnes Kendra, Dietrich Evege, Gillian Solem, Brenda Cox, Susan Gerberich, Lois Foster and Peg DiMarco.

Darlene Theodus called the meeting to order at 2:12 p.m.

Following the introductions, the minutes of the last meeting were approved, with one amendment. Mary Agnes Kendra is not the director of Violets Cupboard, as stated in the minutes.

Dar has more hard copies of the recent Dental Task Force Report and asked everyone to make sure that anyone who does not have email is able to receive a copy of the report. She also plans to email everyone a “fresh” copy of the PDF of the report after the meeting.

ACHR:

John Sniezek reported that the Dental Clinic at ACHR will be opening in May or June. He did not want to give a specific date, but it will be soon. Payments on the huge debt from the past are still being made. Monthly operational costs are approximately \$20,000.

Mark Dickinson, CFO at ACHR, discussed some of the financial improvements that will be made when the clinic opens. They hope to avoid some of the past problems. Previously, there was no billing system. This time the focus will be on children. At least \$40 will be charged for uninsured patients. They must have at least a 60% reimbursement rate. Medicaid patients will get preferential scheduling in order to take uninsured patients. He said he would rather have 1,000 Medicaid patients than \$100,000.

The website for ACHR is: www.ACHRhealth.com.

Dr. Kris Drummond, dentist for the SCHD, has also been hired by ACHR. She will start at ACHR on a limited basis and will also continue to work at the health department.

ACHR hopes to receive good news regarding a \$250,000 annual federal operating grant from U. S. Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Mr. Sniezek feels there is a 60%-70% chance of approval.

Mr. Sniezek also reported that a clinic in Portage Co. at Rt. 59 & 261 should be opening Oct. 1.

Mr. Sniezek also indicated that it would be possible to designate a seat on the Board of ACHR from the Dental Task Force.

Sue Gerberich suggested that ACHR apply for a grant from Northern Ohio Golf Charities Foundation. Mr. Sniezek felt it would be best to wait until a track record is established.

Sue also reported that Dr. Jack Dillenberg, Dean of the Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health is giving a grand rounds presentation at Summa on May 7.

Dietrich Evege said that now that the report is done the committee is in position to go after funds.

The next meeting of the Dental Task Force will be at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at SCHD.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Burkett, Executive Director
Beacon Journal Charity Fund, Inc.