George E. Wahlen
Ogden Veterans Home
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2020  3:00 PM
Virtual & Call-In Meeting

Attendance
Curt Oda, Robert (Tex) Crawford, Tressa Quayle, Jory Wahlen, Paula Stephenson, Gary Harter, Jacqueline Peterson, Andrea Ashton

Welcome
Chairman Curt Oda welcomed everyone to the meeting

Approval of May minutes
Minutes were approved.

Resident Council Update
Reported on Resident Council meets monthly on a conference call and hopefully in the future we can meet in the multipurpose room due to most residents have a hard time hearing over the phone. Tex talked about being a resident in the home during the COVID pandemic and stated that nothing really has changed except for visiting with families. Tex stated they are still allowing patio visits with family as long as it is scheduled and they stay six feet apart. We can only visit 20 minutes at a time but the staff are very accommodating with us and our family members. Tex talked about the weekly recreation newsletter that is handed out each Friday to all residents. It talks about future events and current COVID numbers. Tex let everyone know about the patio concerts and how the residents love having music in their communities. Tex recommended that Avalon purchase a spraying devise to disinfect the veteran’s home.

Administrator’s Report
Carl was excused and Andrea Ashton, Director of Social Work reported on the following: COVID testing has been done at our facility and currently we are COVID free. We have requested the Utah National Guard to test half of our employees every other week starting on a Tuesday, June 30th. We have recognized our wonderful staff and residents by purchasing new T-shirts and placed yard signs on all 250 employees’ homes that read (Healthcare Heroes proud employee of the GEWOVH), I send out a weekly email to all residents families explaining our current situation and how we are keeping our residents safe. We are going to have a window decorating contest, patio barbeques, harmonica lessons and freedom car parade in the month of July. The Pinnacle Report on customer satisfaction for our facility has been best in class in all categories for the past twelve months. We are still working on the college scholarship to award to a deserving employee. Carl is working with corporate to complete this process and will ask a couple of board members to help award this scholarship.
State Officer’s Report
Jacquee updated the board on completed and current projects: two new commercial washers have been installed and the laundry room staff stated they are perfect; requested the purchase of a new commercial steamer for the kitchen; one of our new fleet vehicles will be delivered by the end of the month- 2020 Dodge Caravan (3 passenger), unfortunately the 2020 Ford Mobility Transit (7 passenger) is delayed at the factory and is not expected to be delivered until October 2020; Sun Shade Structure was installed in our memory care community and it will provide much needed shade on the patio; DFCM has hired a landscape architect to refresh our landscaping and possible memorial park.

UDVMA Executive Director’s Report
Gary reported on the current status of all four state Veterans Homes and how they are keeping COVID out of their facilities. He talked about the Salt Lake Veterans Home and how they are currently coping with COVID in their home. He thanked the VA hospital for all their help in accommodating the residents at the Salt Lake Veterans Home. He reported that in the past few days we have started to test our positive residents/employees and they are starting to test negative. Some of those employees are now returning to work. Gary is very thankful for all those involved in protecting our residents and keeping them safe from COVID. He reported on the outreach program and how they are filing virtual claims. Happiness for Heroes and all the tremendous videos that are available thanking our veterans. Gary commended Paula for communicating about “A mask for every Utahns”. Please see the attached website if you need to order a mask: https://coronavirus.utah.gov/mask/. State of Utah Survey Team has been in all our four nursing homes inspecting on infection control. All homes received no tags and commended Avalon on their infection control processes.

Old Business
George E. Wahlen Ogden Veterans Home Tribute Run 2020 is still scheduled for October 10, 2020 with start time of 8:00 AM.

New Business
Curt discussed the frequency of all upcoming advisory board meetings. All board members agreed to meet quarterly going forward starting on September 17, 2020.

Next Meeting
September 17, 2020 at 3:00pm

Adjourn
Chairman Curt Oda adjourned the meeting