



Meeting #03
July 13, 2009

MEETING MINUTES

Waterbury
Secure Recovery Residence
Vermont State Hospital
0536 VSH^B1B

| Name | Organization |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Jean New | Consumer |
| Jane Winterling | Vermont Psychiatric Survivors |
| Tanya Moran | VT State Employees Association |
| Cathy Rickerby | NAMI-VT |
| Mary Moulton | Washington County Mental Health |
| Patrick Kinner | VHS |
| Jaskanwar Batra | VHS |
| Anne Donahue | Member, Vermont House of Representatives |
| Beth Tanzman | Deputy Commissioner, DMH |
| Norma Wasko | DMH |
| Judy Rosenstreich | DMH |
| Mike Kuhn | BGS |
| Frank Pitts | architecture + |
| Anthony Garner | architecture + |

Initial Workshop: Secure Residential Program, Visions and Values

1. Frank Pitts opened the meeting with a review of Architectural Program modifications and adjustments that were discussed or suggested as ways to reduce/control the overall area of the project. This does not completely address area overage, is continues to bring the program within tolerances expected to this point in the project development. Highlights include:
 - a. Delete one Comfort Room, keeping 2, one in the Home area, one in the Work area.
 - b. Reduce Kitchen to 500 sf, Pantry to 250 sf.
 - c. Delete one Seclusion/Restraint Room.
 - d. Enlarge Library to include one Group Room function. Delete Group Room.
 - e. Enlarge Classroom to include one Group Room function. Delete Group Room.
 - f. Add one Multipurpose Room, for total of two.
 - g. Reduce Quiet Rooms to 100 sf (from 120 sf).
 - h. Reduce Living Rooms:
 - i. From 260 sf to 180 sf
 - ii. From 240 sf to 160 sf
 - iii. From 200 sf to 160 sf.
2. Frank Pitts outlined a possible way of developing the two Multi-purpose Rooms to include a larger open core area, surrounded by 4 two-person work areas. One Multi-purpose Room would be assigned as clean/quite, the other as dirty/noisy.

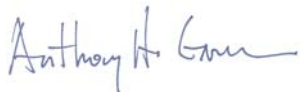
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3. It was stressed (and repeated several times during subsequent discussion) that the drawings shown are not to be taken as a proposed design. All drawings shown are intended to illustrate specific adjacency issues, and to elicit responses, positive and negative.
4. A+ presented a number of sketches showing options for arrangement of 4, 5 and 6 bedroom suites. Comments during review included:
 - a. Linear arrangements may tend to feel more institutional, but may allow for easiest extension or expansion.
 - b. Arrangements that allow for increased separation of residents (i.e. place Quiet Room between two residents' Rooms) are desirable.
 - c. Living Rooms need to be as close to the "core" as possible, to provide best observation.
 - d. Quiet Rooms may go farther away, perhaps at ends of suites, provided good sight lines are maintained. A Quiet Room in this position can open up and light up an otherwise dark, dead-end corridor.
 - e. Suites that have multiple ways to access/egress are desirable. (This is not about Code required exit paths, but about Resident options for arrival and departure.
 - f. Ways of subdividing a bedroom cluster (both 5 or 6 bed clusters) were reviewed. Possible division tactics include hard (actual doors closing off paths) and soft (dividers or screens that allow people to choose different paths). Comments included:
 - i. Providing a range of options may be most effective.
 - ii. Doors significantly reduce incident response time and observations lines.
 - iii. Screen walls, planters and other non-walls might be preferable.
 - g. Strategic placement of some bedrooms may allow for them to open two ways (into each of two adjacent clusters. This would allow for easy "re-arrangement" of Resident count in clusters.
5. A+ presented a number of sketches showing options for assemblies of multiple 4, 5 and 6 bedroom suites. Comments during review included:
 - a. All-linear assemblies are very institutional, and lead to observational and response difficulties.
 - b. Multiple wings must all be observable from a single observation point. Even a shift of a few feet can cause difficulties.
6. A+ presented a number of sketches showing the entire architectural program laid out. A drawing produced at the last meeting, showing different amounts of separation between Home and Work lead the presentation. Lively discussion ensued. Issues discussed included:
 - a. Bedroom wing arrangement, mostly reiterating points covered in Item 4 above. Linear schemes were less desirable.
 - b. Location of Charting and positioning of a central observation point.
 - c. Team Meeting Room may not need to be in the Home core area, but might be better placed near the Office area. It was suggested that areas strictly for staff work might best be thought of as "back-of-house", and should be away from the Resident Home areas, to most enhance residential behavior.
 - d. Facility entry – should it be at the Home area or at the Work (Office) area – or somewhere else entirely. Agreement has placed a main entry in an Intermediate Entry Core, between Home and Work.
 - e. All felt that this Intermediate Entry Core area might attract some Rooms that could serve both Home (night) and Work (day). Such Rooms might include Dining, Visitors, Exercise, Library, Team Meeting, etc.

- f. Some suggested that "difficult admissions" might want to be brought in through a secondary entry (to increase privacy), while others suggested that all people should come and go by the same entry point. A+ will review both options further, to aid further discussion.
 - g. Several drawings illustrated separation of Home and Work by fairly long corridors. Attendees understood this concept, but several suggested that the device might be too literal. Compact solutions with more subtle separation might be explored.
7. Possible locations for the required 50% expansion were identified, at various possible connector nodes among the Resident clusters.
- a. An addition is more easily tacked on to the end of a linear suite cluster.
 - b. Any possible expansion might possibly include a different Recovery Program, and would clearly require additional staff. This prompted several attendees to suggest that an Addition might not be attached to the Home area at all, but might constitute a new Home,
 - i. attached to the Work area directly, or
 - ii. attached somehow to the new Intermediate Entry Core, or
 - iii. not even attached to the main building (a free-standing "Cottage").
8. A drawing showing several of the plan/illustrations along with a secure yard and inner courtyard was reviewed briefly, primarily to understand the size of the project parts (building vs. yard) relative each other. Further exploration of site issues is awaiting identification of a site.
9. Mike Kuhn indicated that he would be meeting with the Waterbury Zoning officials tomorrow (Tuesday, July 14, 2009) to discuss their possible concerns and possible support for the west campus site. Assuming a positive outcome for that meeting, he will forward findings and pertinent site data to a+ for use in preparing site concepts for the August 4 meeting. *This meeting occurred, and Mr. Kuhn issued a memo on Tue July 14, 2009.*

These minutes reflect our understanding of the business transacted and the decisions made at this meeting. Please provide corrections or additions to our office within 14 days of the date indicated below. **Note: *Items italicized happened after the meeting and are included for clarification purposes.***

Recorded by,
architecture+



Anthony H. Garner, AIA
July 16, 2009

Enclosure
cc: Attendees