

**FINANCE MEETING
COMMISSIONERS' HEARING ROOM**

Wednesday, June 15, 2016, 1:30 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Vince DiFilippo, Jim Hertzler and Gary Eichelberger; Larry Thomas, Chief Clerk; John Belko, Nancy Hahn, Barbara Forney, CNRC; Jan Sponseller, Kim Fuhrer, Claremont Residents; Richard Gobin, Local Pharmacist; Alex Smyser, IMTO; Jake Austin, The Sentinel; and Ruth Ann Ciecierski, Recording Secretary.

Friends of Claremont 501(c)(3) A Nonprofit Charitable Arm of Claremont

Chief Clerk Thomas welcomed everyone and called the Finance Meeting to order and asked if there was any public comment. There was none. He stated that Claremont Nursing Home was one of many items that came out of the Public Financial Management (PFM) Discussions. Efforts have been in place for some time now to provide fiscal stability and add quality of life enhancements at Claremont Nursing Home to provide a pleasant place for staff and residents to enjoy. A PowerPoint Presentation, **Friends of Claremont A 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Charitable Arm of Claremont**, was presented (see attached). The concept of the organization, known as *Friends of Claremont*, was born after Claremont received a large endowment through the will of Evelyn Brenneman, a former Boiling Springs and Claremont resident who died in 2013.

- **Jan Sponseller** reviewed the Background portion of the PowerPoint.
 - August, 2013, County was notified that CNRC was named in the will of Evelyn Brenneman (widow of former Cumberland County Commissioner Earl Brenneman, who died in 1996).
 - Claremont received \$216,349 in June, 2015.
 - March, 2016, a core group was established to draft by-laws for the organization.
 - Establish a new foundation, independent of administration and County government to encourage charitable contributions to benefit CNRC and its residents.
 - Taskforce was formed and a decision was made to create an outdoor garden area between Administration and C wing.
- **Kim Fuhrer**
 - He is grateful that the money will be used for the residents and their families to enjoy.
 - The garden concept will include a gas grill that can be reserved in advance, a water fountain and dwarf-type plants that will not require a lot of maintenance.
 - He stated Claremont is unique and described how he was well taken care of when he had to be in Claremont for care. He stated that it is very clean and the staff was friendly and very caring.
- **Richard Gobin**
 - Talked about Claremont's history and how it used to be called the "Poor House" and residents were referred to as "inmates".
 - Other counties have sold their Nursing Homes and as a result, the residents end up suffering.
 - Over his years of serving as director, consultant and staff at six Central Pennsylvania hospitals and over six extended care facilities, Claremont ranks in his top three.
- **Barbara Forney**
 - She explained the Health Foundation Mission is to keep people healthy and Claremont, along with the Rehab Center, is a top notch facility.
 - If the foundation is approved by the Commissioners, they will identify interested individuals to serve on the board and establish a strategic giving plan.

▪ **Commissioners' Comments:**

- Commissioner Hertzler stated that he is in 100% support of the organization concept of providing enhancement for Claremont. He stated that he was touched by their stories and that the County owes Mrs. Brenneman a debt of gratitude that started the "ball rolling" and thanked the "Friends of Claremont" representatives who are stepping forward to lead the effort.
- Commissioner Eichelberger stated that even though Claremont is financially challenged, he is very supportive of any enhancements to help the Nursing Home.
- Commissioner DiFilippo stated that he appreciated everyone that came to the meeting and stated that consideration for approval will be an agenda item on the Workshop Meeting of June 30, 2016.

Chief Clerk Thomas concluded that the by-laws were drafted by Solicitor Brenneman and consideration for the foundation will be at the next Commissioners' Workshop Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Ruth Ann Ciecierski
Administrative Assistant