

VILLAGE OF JUSTICE
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
7800 ARCHER ROAD, JUSTICE, IL
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF OCTOBER 17, 2011

Minutes of Monday, October 17, 2011
6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Kris Wasowicz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Clerk Kathy Svoboda called the roll. Present are Mayor Kris Wasowicz, Trustees: Rich Sparr, Rick Symonds, Ed Rusch, Melanie Kuban, Kinga Bartoszek and Sue Small. Attorney Michael Castellino of the Del Galdo Law Group is also present.

DISCUSSION:

Mayor Kris Wasowicz asked if everyone had an opportunity to review the comparison between the UHC proposal from SEIU and the UHC proposal from Mesirow.

Trustee Bartoszek spoke about the e-mail she received from Adriana Duenas from Mesirow outlining a conversation with UHC regarding the fact that there are two proposals, both from United Healthcare competing with each other. As a result, Mesirow received a more favorable quote from UHC that is virtually the same as the SEIU quote with a few minor differences; one being the emergency room co-pay and also a different benefit percentage for out of network care. Mesirow's United Healthcare representative questioned the validity of the rate from SEIU being guaranteed for one year. He informed Ms. Duenas that the rate is likely only being guaranteed until May of next year. The Mesirow quote is definitely for one full year. This information was additionally outlined in a memo from Attorney Castellino.

Mayor Wasowicz reminded Trustee Bartoszek that Mesirow had every opportunity to give us aggressive quotes from UHC and even other providers back when we were looking at renewals for May of this year. Now that we have received an outside quote that provides considerable savings from another source, they are able and willing to compete. This is distressing. Where were these rates last May?

Mayor Wasowicz continued, asking if there is any guarantee that our rates from Mesirow will not go up considerably at our next renewal time.

Trustee Bartoszek replied that she was not implying that at all, but that Mesirow's rate guarantee is for one full year, where SEIU's is only until May.

Trustee Bartoszek added that at our last renewal we were negotiating under a different set of parameters. Miserow was not given the latitude to change our benefits outside the bargaining agreements. In addition, Trustee Bartoszek does not want to be at a disadvantage when negotiating the SEIU collective bargaining agreement for Public Works.

Trustee Kuban stated that her understanding is that SEIU's rate is indeed guaranteed for one full year. She is skeptical of Ms. Duenas's contention that the guarantee is only valid until May.

She added that it would be a disservice to the employees of the village to take the Mesirow quote when the coverage is obviously deficient in the out of network and emergency room copays. Those copays become most important in case of a catastrophic illness when a very specific specialist may be the best option for successful treatment.

Trustee Kuban added that an eleventh hour quote from Mesirow that has obvious deficiencies in coverage is not in her opinion the best choice. She is not unduly concerned about coverage in the SEIU benefits fund being a negative factor in the upcoming union negotiations with SEIU Local 73.

Trustee Small added that Adriana Duenas was here twice regarding this issue and in fact, it reminded her of used car sales.

Trustee Symonds questioned the 100/50% versus the 100/70% comparison, asking what that actually means to an employee.

Trustee Rusch explained that if an employee decides to seek out of network care, the payment from the two plans would be either 50% or 70% depending on the plan that is chosen.

Trustee Bartoszek reiterated that right now, according to United Healthcare, the SEIU quoted rates are up in May.

Clerk Svoboda stated that both she and Attorney Castellino were privy to e-mail conversations with David Werner of the Werner Insurance Agency and Donna DePhillips from SEIU Local 73 Benefits Fund guaranteeing these rates for one full year. She asked Attorney Castellino to confirm that he also acknowledged receiving these guarantees.

Attorney Castellino said he did not recall those specific e-mails, but like Trustee Bartoszek, he did recall Adriana Duenas from Mesirow stating that UHC told her that the SEIU rates were only good until May.

Clerk Svoboda suggested that information regarding the SEIU rates should probably come from SEIU.

ACTION: The Chair will entertain a Motion authorizing and approving Resolution 2011-33, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AN EMPLOYER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT AND A

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SEIU LOCAL 73
MIDWEST BENEFITS FUND.

MOTION: Trustee Kuban so Moves.
SECOND: Trustee Sparr
VOTE: Trustees Sparr, Symonds, Kuban and Small, aye. Trustee Rusch passed.
Trustee Bartoszek voted no. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Chair will entertain a Motion to Adjourn.
MOTION: Trustee Symonds so Moves.
SECOND: Trustee Small
VOICE VOTE: All ayes. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathleen M. Svoboda
Village Clerk