Called to order at 12:01 p.m., by Planning Committee Chair, Lance Stevens.

Planning Committee* and Board Members: Lance Stevens*, Hal Geiger*, Iola Young*, Rosemary Hagevig, Kenny Solomon-Gross, Brenda Knapp, Deb Johnston and Mark Johnson

Also Present: Rose Lawhorne, Kevin Benson, Bradley Grigg, Dallas Hargrave, Kim McDowell, Vlad Toca, Marc Walker, Anita Moffitt, Katie Koester (CBJ), Jeanne Rynne (CBJ) and Jeremy Hsieh (KTOO)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Ms. Young made a MOTION to approve the minutes from the July 2, 2021 Planning Committee meeting. Mr. Geiger seconded. There being no objections, minutes approved.

COVID STATUS – Ms. Lawhorne reported that we had opened and now closed the COVID wing. We have 5 COVID positive patients in house. The molecular lab is running 300-350 tests per day and we are looking at ways to streamline the processes involved. We have adequate amounts of testing supplies but are experiencing staffing issues. We are working with statewide and community agencies in Juneau to remedy staffing issues. In response to Ms. Young’s questions, Ms. Lawhorne reported that we have had requests from outlying communities to transfer patients to BRH however these patients did not meet admission criteria. They were given monoclonal antibodies in their own community and started getting better. BRH experienced issues transferring two deteriorating COVID positive patients to other facilities in the past week but were able to do so after some delay.

Mr. Solomon-Gross asked for an update on the supply chain and how many times tests are run each day. Ms. Lawhorne reported that we have been running tests twice daily (11:00am and 5:00pm), we’re trying to establish staffing to consistently keep up with the demands of the machine and she is not aware of any issues getting supplies for the lab. We have ample PPE supplies. We have received additional PAPRs for use as an alternative to using N95s and have received more HEPA filters for use throughout the hospital. We have enough ventilators and can ramp up oxygen levels as needed. Mr. Toca confirmed we are well stocked in supplies and reported that the state has been helpful in making sure we have enough available. We had a positive business review call with Cardinal Health who told us we are well equipped for our PPE needs. Although there’s a national shortage on exam gloves, we are well stocked and the state has some in store. We have ample testing supplies. The lab is using overtime until staffing improves and staff is feeling a little bit overwhelmed with all of the work.

In response to Ms. Young, Ms. Lawhorne reported that she and Mr. Hargrave have created a draft employee vaccination policy that will be put in place within the next week or so. A timeline for a staged rollout of the vaccination needs to be identified. We need to make sure multiple people in the same department don’t get the vaccines at the same time due to possible side effects.
MASTER FACILITY PLAN UPDATE – Mr. Benson reported not much has changed on the project priority plan. We were not successful in purchasing the BSSC building listed as item B7 but have left it listed as a place holder in the event there is another property purchase. The ED ventilation system upgrade costs have increased from $5 million to $7 million. Due to the high cost estimate, this has now been included in the ED renovation project. Future projects remain unchanged at this point. Ms. Young identified discrepancies in the reports provided and requests more consistency in the updates.

In response to Ms. Knapp, Mr. Benson reported that BRH used CARES Act funds for lost revenue as well as COVID related projects, including ventilation, HEPA filters, triage building, molecular lab and other ongoing COVID related expenses such as screeners, PPE etc.

CURRENT PROJECTS UPDATE – Mr. Benson reported the project listing in the packet is up to date. Mr. Stevens noted we did interim panels for surge protection. It appears that the power conditioning project is moving farther and farther out for completion and is wondering why. Mr. Walker reported that term contractors were used for the interim work. The next phase is more complex requiring an RFP to be issued for the engineering side of this project and its very time consuming. Mr. Walker confirmed for Ms. Hagevig that the layer of protection we have already put into place with the panels will protect us through power outages this winter and has already done so several times since installation.

BOPS / CRISIS STABILIZATION PROJECT UPDATE – Mr. Grigg reported that we are continuing with laying rock and ground preparation. We should see foundation work take place in the next few weeks and the shell of a facility go up in November or December. Ms. Rynne reported that formwork for the footings should start in the next couple of weeks. Dawson is doing a good job at staying ahead of getting the materials here on time with all of the supply chain challenges. She noted it is working in our favor that we have switched from wood to steel. Mr. Grigg reported that 11:00am on Friday, October 8th has been designated for a brief groundbreaking ceremony. RSVPs should go out in the next couple of weeks to the Board, BRH and City Leadership and funders of the project. He is working with event planners to provide tents for socially distant covered seating. This event will be streamed for people unable to attend in person.

Future Agenda Items - None
Comments - None

EXECUTIVE SESSION - MOTION by Mr. Geiger, to recess into executive session to discuss information presented that the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of BRH; that being a discussion about campus planning. Ms. Young seconded. Committee entered executive session at 12:29 pm and returned to regular session at 12:33 pm.

Next meeting: 12:00pm, Friday – October 1st (Ms. Young will be unable to attend)

Adjourned – 12:34 pm.