

• **Selectmen's roundup: Public sessions planned on proposed treatment center**

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DANVERS

Town Manager Steve Bartha said the Recovery Centers of America group, which is proposing a 228-bed facility at the former Hunt Hospital on Lindall Street in Danvers, is "eager to host one or more public information sessions and talk about what it is they are all about."

Bartha told the selectmen at their April 7 meeting that the RCA group was talking about investing more than \$10 million into the former hospital and employing 250 or more at the facility.

"Because of the zoning up there, everything they are proposing to do is by right," said Bartha, meaning the town would not be able to prevent what RCA is proposing.

Barth said one or more public hearings on the proposal would be scheduled in the near future.

In other business:

The selectmen approved Joshua Bradley as the new manager of the Olive Garden restaurant at 153 Andover St., but not without some debate.

Under questioning from the selectmen, Bradley, who lives in New Hampshire, said he was not TIPS certified but had received training on safe alcohol

serving through the Olive Garden corporation. He also said the company's policy is to serve a customer no more than three drinks an hour.

Training and Intervention Procedures for Servers of alcohol certification is the general standard the selectmen look for with anyone involved in serving or selling alcohol. Selectmen Gardner Trask and Dan Bennett raised concerns about Bradley's lack of TIPS training.

However, Town Clerk Joe Collins said a number of larger corporations, for example restaurant chains, had their own training in place of TIPS certification. Collins suggested that an agenda item be included during a November meeting to review the assorted corporate policies on safe serving of alcohol.

Bartha presented a draft of a proposed job description and organizational chart brought on by the pending retirement of Len Marshall, the town accountant and business office manager.

"Lenny is one of a number of employees that wears multiple hats," said Bartha. "There aren't many candidates out there who will wear the hats that Danvers has benefited from over the years."

Bartha mentioned that both Town Clerk Joe Collins, who also serves as the town's treasurer/collector, and Assistant Town Manager Diane Norris, who also oversees the budget and the information technology department, could be retiring in the coming years.

"We've benefited greatly from having these department managers on board," said Bartha. "But as they retire, we are forced to take a harder look at how we are organized. We may not find people of the same skill sets."

Bartha said Marshall's position would be filled temporarily by an internal promotion. But he was suggesting the creation of a finance director post.

Trask said that under the Town Manager Act, the selectmen are responsible for hiring the town accountant, the top financial position in town government. Trask asked Bartha to reflect in the organizational chart that the finance director would be hired by the selectmen.

Bartha said he had talked with members of the Blue Knights, a motorcycle club of mainly retired area police officers. The Blue Knights have been using the old Putnamville School as a clubhouse, but only on Sunday mornings.

The old red school building was turned over to the selectmen from the School Department at last year's Town Meeting. The change allows the selectmen to lease the building.

Bartha suggested he could issue a Request For Proposal for the building, to see what interest there was in the building, especially if it was something that could work in partnership with the Blue Knights.

The selectmen approved a hanging banner for RTN Federal Credit Union to promote Walk Home 2015, a benefit walk for the Mass. Coalition for the Homeless. The banner will hang over High Street from June 1-7. The walk, which will take place on the Rail Trail, is scheduled for June 14.

The selectmen approved the transfer of the common victualler's license at 120B Water St. to Marcello Franciosa. Franciosa said he will be opening a new pizza shop but will also sell deli products imported from Italy. The shop was formerly Cappy's.

The selectmen approved a Class II dealer's license for Capital 1 Motors at 20 Locust St. Although the business will be to sell used cars, there will be no cars stored on the Locust Street property, as all their business will be done over the Internet.

The selectmen approved a charity wine auction, to benefit the Northshore Educational Consortium, at the DoubleTree by Hilton at 50 Village Drive. Sarah Seiler said the auction will be held on April 30 and involve 50 bottles of wine.

The selectmen approved two one-day wine and malt licenses for the Senior Center at 25 Stone St. Manager Paula Corcoran said the annual volunteer recognition dinner will be held on May 1 from 5:30-9 p.m. and a Paint and Sip art lesson with wine will be held on May 21 from 6-9 p.m.

The owners of Berry Tavern told the selectmen that the difficult winter had slowed their progress toward opening the restaurant at 2 High St. They said work was progressing and they expected to open in two to three months. The selectmen had called the owners before the board because the restaurant had not opened despite receiving a liquor license last fall.

The selectmen accepted a gift of \$85 from Kathleen Cassidy for the Fire Department lock box program.

The selectmen proclaimed April 24 as Arbor Day in Danvers.