

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

POLICY NO. 10

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETINGS

PURPOSE

The public and staff are welcome to observe the open portion of the board's meeting to:

- Facilitate the conduct of the board's business in an open and transparent manner;
- Ensure the hospital maintains a close relationship with:
 - the public
 - media
- Generate trust, openness and accountability.

POLICY

Members of the public are invited to attend the meetings of the board in accordance with the following policy:

- **Notice of Meeting**
A schedule of the date, location and time of the board's regular meetings will be available from the office of the President & CEO and will be posted on the hospital's website. Changes will also be posted on the hospital website.
- **Attendance**
To ensure adequate space is available; individuals wishing to attend are encouraged to give 24 hours' notice to the board secretary.
- **Conduct During the Meeting**
Members of the public may be asked to identify themselves. Recording devices, videotaping and photography are prohibited. The chair may require anyone who displays disruptive conduct to leave.
- **Agendas and Board Materials**
Agendas will be distributed at the meeting and may be obtained from the board secretary prior to the meeting. Supporting materials will be distributed only to the board.
- **In-Camera Session**
The board may move in-camera or hold special meetings that are not open to the public where it determines it is in the best interest of the hospital to do so. The chair may order that the meeting move in-camera or any director may request a matter be dealt with in-camera in which case a vote will be taken and if a majority of the board decides the matter shall be dealt with in-camera.

The following matters will be dealt with in-camera:

- Matters involving property
- Matters involving litigation

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- Material contracts
 - Human resource issues
 - Professional staff appointments, re-appointments and credentialing issues
 - Patient issues
 - Matters dealing with the Foundation/donations
 - Any matter that the board determines should be the subject of an in-camera session.

Guests or counsel may remain during an in-camera session with the permission of the chair or the consent of the meeting.

Requests for Interviews

Members of the public may not address the board or ask questions of the board without the permission of the chair. Individuals who wish to raise questions with the board must contact the board secretary in advance of the meeting.

Committee Meetings

Meetings of committees are not open to the public.

PROCEDURE FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ADDRESSING THE BOARD

Persons wishing to address the board concerning matters relevant to the hospital must do so following the procedures listed below.

1. Written notice of the request to address the board meeting must be provided to the secretary no later than 10 working days prior to the meeting date. A brief description of the specific matter to be addressed should be included in the request.
2. Requests to address the board on a specific item will be granted (generally in order of the receipt of the requests) if approved by the chair of the board. Persons not permitted to address the board shall be so notified.
3. The board may limit the number of presentations at any one meeting.
4. Persons addressing the board will be required to limit their remarks to five minutes. If a group wishes to make a submission, a spokesperson for the group should be identified.
5. Upon completion of the presentation, any dialogue shall be limited to Board members asking for clarification or obtaining additional relevant information only. There shall not be any debate.
6. Persons making presentations
 - i) shall not speak disrespectfully of anyone,
 - ii) shall not use offensive words or unparliamentary language,
 - iii) shall not speak on any subject matter other than that which has been approved, and
 - iv) shall not disobey the rules of procedure or a decision of the Chair.
7. The Chair may curtail any presentation as the result of disorder or any other breach of this Policy and ask the offending person to leave.
8. The chair is not obligated to grant a request to address the board and the board is not obligated to take any action on the presentation it receives.

Contact Information

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AMENDMENT

This policy may be amended by the Board.

APPROVED BY: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DATE: MAY 24, 2012; REVIEWED MAY 2017; MARCH 2021; REVISED JANUARY 2021