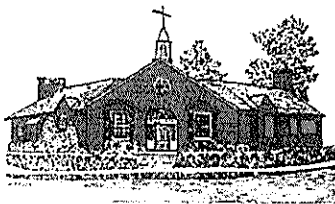


TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

Office of Town Clerk
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RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE DISPOSITION OF ZAMBARANO HOSPITAL

- WHEREAS, Wallum Lake is located in the most northwesterly part of Burrillville and is noted for the Zambarano Memorial Hospital which was built in 1905; and
- WHEREAS, Zambarano was built as the State Sanatorium for Tuberculosis for the treatment of patients suffering from that disease; and
- WHEREAS, the farmlands bordering the lake were an ideal spot amply providing the rest, fresh air, and good food upon which the physicians relied as a possible cure for the dreaded disease and was a self-sufficient operation with farming facilities, greenhouse, hen coops, slaughterhouse, storehouse and stable providing the essentials needed; and
- WHEREAS, by the end of 1905, 48 men and women had been admitted to the hospital in the woods -- the first of untold thousands of patients who have lived at what is now called the Zambarano Unit of Eleanor Slater Hospital; and
- WHEREAS, in 1958 modern discoveries for treatment and sophisticated equipment replaced the older methods, and today the geriatric and acute care patients at Zambarano still enjoy the clean air, clear water and good care, all hallmarks of the hospital at Wallum Lake; and
- WHEREAS, children with developmental disabilities were admitted in 1958, and in 1961, Zambarano began to accept "general medical care" patients; and
- WHEREAS, the hospital earned continued accreditation after a survey by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the nonprofit organization that sets national standards; and
- WHEREAS, the commission described the quality of care at Slater as "excellent"; and
- WHEREAS, James P. Benedict was chief operating officer of Eleanor Slater and Zambarano's chief administrator from 1976 to 1988. Benedict recalled that when he arrived, the hospital put more emphasis on "custodial care" than rehabilitation. That has changed. The hospital today offers numerous recreational and educational programs and employs three dozen therapists; and
- WHEREAS, the hospital remains a central player in Rhode Island's public health system -- and a major employer; and
- WHEREAS, the hospital remains a close community; and

WHEREAS, the State of Rhode Island has allowed this once magnificent facility and its complimentary buildings to deteriorate into disrepair and blight.

WHEREAS, Zambarano, located on one of Rhode Island's most beautiful natural resources, should be prioritized and its use maximized; and

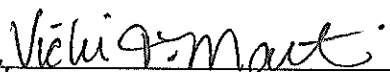
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Burrillville Town Council respectfully requests that all activity to modify the operations and disposition of the Zambarano facility be held in abeyance until the Town and State can work constructively to find options and alternatives to maintain operations at Zambarano.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to every Rhode Island Municipality, State Senators, State Representative, the Governor and the Lt. Governor.

Passed as a resolution of the Burrillville Town Council this 24th day of February, 2021.



Donald A. Fox, President
Burrillville Town Council



Vicki Martin, Town Clerk

