Minutes of meeting Patiala Health Foundation January 31, 2013

The teleconference was called by Dr. Jagwinder S. Sraow at 9:00 pm eastern time to discuss some important issues regarding Patiala Health Foundation. Following members of board were present: Dr. Amrik S. Chattha, Dr. Jaswinder K. Chattha, Dr. Birjinder S. Kochhar, Dr. Jagwinder S. Sraow, Dr. Ravi Sood and Dr. Dharmbir Batish.

After the introduction of the attendees, Dr. Ravi Sood briefed about the ambulance project in Patiala. He stated that he had a detailed discussion with Col. Kraminder Singh regarding the ambulance. He was told that the ambulance has been loosing money due to the fact that free ambulance service is now available by the Government. Dr. Amrik Chattha stated that the ambulance is loosing Rs. 50,000 per month. A detailed discussion was carried by the members present and it was decided that we should allow Patiala chapter 90 days to find solutions and to make the ambulance a self sustaining project. This will be evaluated again in about three months.

There were also discussion regarding the Oxygen plant. Dr. Sood mentioned that since no body in Rajindra hospital is willing to sign the long time lease, it has been decided to buy the Oxygen plant at about 15 lacs rupees half of which will be provided by Patiala Health Foundation. Once the plant is functioning, Rajindra hospital will bear the maintenance cost. Dr. Brijinder Kochhar raised a question that we need to know the maintenance cost in case the hospital fails to provide this service in future and we have to bear the burden. Keeping in mind that the hospital will save lot of money by this project, it was decided that we should proceed with this.

Discussion was also carried out regarding the rest house for the family members of patients at Rajindra Hospital. Dr. Sood mentioned that the Government is deciding to add at least 200 more beds to the hospital with a similar service over the next couple of years. We therefore do not need to involve ourselves with this. Dr. Jaswinder Chattha also opined that even if we were able to construct the waiting area, we would not find volunteers to run it. This project will therefore be abandoned at this time.

Dr. Amrik Chattha briefed about the pharmacy project that this is the most successful project by the PHF. Rajindra Hospital provided us with five nurses for this project and we have hired a full time pharmacist. There is a fixed monthly budget for this project.

Finally Dr. Amrik Chattha also mentioned that we still do not have a tax exempt status for the Patiala chapter of the PHF. During the last fundraiser in December 2012 in Chandigarh, approximately 12 lac rupees were raised from the Indian contributors during the fund raising. These people need to have a tax benefit for their charitable donation. Dr. Brijinder Kochhar opined that this should be a priorty.

Having no further business, meeting was adjourned at 10:10 pm eastern time.

