

1969

## Report: The Ad Hoc Committee for the new Duval Medical Center, undated

Ad Hoc Committee for Duval Medical Center

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THE AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE NEW DUVAL MEDICAL CENTER

*6. Finance*

If one assumes that the main functions of the new Duval Medical Center are to provide:

- 1) medical care for indigent patients;
- 2) medical care for private patients compatible with that provided in other hospitals in this community;
- 3) education of the Medical House Staff and para-medical personnel;
- 4) continuing education for physicians in this community;

*5) Public*  
then a plan must be developed for the accomplishment of these functions with the resources which will be available when the new hospital structure is completed.

So that the best possible plan might be developed to protect the more than twenty million dollars the Duval County Taxpayers have now invested in the Duval Medical Center, an Ad Hoc Committee was formed by the Medical Staff, with the approval of the Hospital Authority, composed of community minded, concerned citizens, members of the State Legislature, members of the new City-County government, members of the Hospital Authority, the Hospital Administrator and interested physicians. This committee was not to conduct a "witch hunt" to place blame for sins of omission in the past nor was it to peal accolades for those who have worked so tirelessly these many years for the Duval Medical Center. It was hoped that by its broad base of membership, encompassing as it does, alert cogent businessmen, government officials and professionals, all facets of the problems would be considered and all facts necessary for the best solution would be evolved by referring to the past, taking an unbiased view of the present and then plan for the future unfettered by the intransigence of protecting the status quo.

Since the committees' inception, much work of organization has been accomplished and much energy expended. The majority of the facts necessary to reach conclusions have not as yet been accumulated. Because of the committee's size and its numerous subcommittees and because all members are extremely busy with their primary concerns in life, a lack of communication between committee members, a lack of cohesiveness and the fear that the initial enthusiasm might dissipate has made the necessity of obtaining an executive secretary or director essential. His duty would be to coordinate, help to obtain facts, aid subcommittees and, in general, to aid in fulfilling the committees' purpose. He would be responsible to the committee and would render reports to them. He shall preferably be someone knowledgeable in the field of politico-socio and economic affairs and his work might constitute a thesis for someone working toward his doctorate degree. With proper cooperation from all, the work could possibly be accomplished in six to eight months. A basic salary might be in the range of \$1000.00 a month.

When the committee's report is finished it is to be submitted to the Hospital Authority for study and after a reasonable period of time and with consultation with the committee, if desired, the Authority should accept this report for implementation, or it should reject it. In any case, the Authority should meet with the committee to discuss it's decision.

It is hoped that the committee at this time has no pat answers to the problems confronting it. The enthusiasm of some of its members for a ready solution now without proper fact finding and study would negate the committee's function.

The committee will, of necessity, have to involve itself in all facets of hospital financing and care as well as hospital organization and the cooperation of the hospital administration and Hospital Authority are prime prerequisites.

To try to limit the scope of this committee's work would, in effect, hinder its effectiveness and preclude obtaining the desired result. Those who would deter this program are in fact blocking a quest for knowledge and immediately become suspect of harboring ulterior motives not consonant with the proper solution of the needs for the citizens of this community. After all, what is more important than providing for the health and welfare and education of any community in the most economical manner? This then is the function of the Ad Hoc Committee. Let us be on with it!