

Nellie Taylor
P.O. Box 1083
Thousand Island Park, NY 13692

Mr. Joe Russell, Chairman
River Hospital Board of Trustees
4 Fuller St.
Alexandria Bay, NY 13607

3 Feb. 2010

Dear Joe and Fellow Trustees:

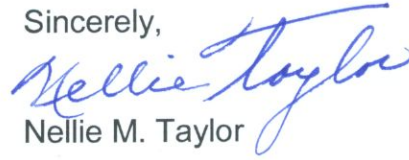
I hereby tender my resignation from the River Hospital Board of Trustees. Having worked tirelessly toward the survival of this institution, the revival of this institution, the comfort for those within our care, and the preservation of precious jobs, I do not take this action lightly nor should you. Over the last several months I have repeatedly expressed my concern that discussions concerning the potential closure of the Skilled Nursing Facility at River Hospital, the disruption to those within our care, and the loss of close to 40 jobs should only occur as a matter of last resort, after every avenue had been explored and, most importantly, only after public discussions with our community.

It is not lost on me, nor should it be on you, that we would not have this facility today were it not for the extraordinary efforts put forth by our community. Because the majority of this Board was not present during the dark days of the 2003 closure threat, I can tell you from first hand experience that we are a long, long way from the need to close any portion of this facility. I tender my resignation now as I refuse to take part in any further discussion of closure which has effectively foreclosed all avenues of assistance, including that by our elected representatives, who in the past have dedicated themselves and their offices to the success of River Hospital.

Finally, and most troubling to me personally, is the Board's contemplation of using the Custis Fund, which was established to help the hospital maintain and expand services, as a means to potentially finance the closure of the Skilled Nursing Facility. Naomi Custis, whom most of you did not know, was a dear friend of mine and a dear friend of our facility. I can tell you that if she were alive, she would not only fight until her last breath to save this facility, but would be ashamed and appalled that her monies were being used as a tool to effect its closure. She would fight as should you.

Quite simply, I will not be party to a surrender and I certainly will not be party to any process that excludes the community from the process.

Sincerely,



Nellie M. Taylor

c.c Ben Moore
Holly Holt
Brandan Holt