**WACCRA Board Meeting**

**December 8, 2023**

**Via Zoom**

**Attendees:**

*Board*: Laura Saunders, President, Kim Hickman, Vice-President; Nickie Askov, Secretary; Rick Baugh, Carlos Caguiat, Monica Clement, Barbara Knight, Donna Kristaponis

*Membership Liaisons*: Susan Dillon, Membership Coordinator; Celie Brown (Timber Ridge), Tom Sakata (Skyline), Mandy Wertz (Mirabella)

*Guest*: Steve Neville (Hearthstone) who has joined the Legislative Committee

President Laura Saunders called the Study Session to order at 10 AM. The following are the items that were discussed:

• Confidentiality of Board documents—**these should be marked as a “Working Document”** (to indicate that they are “Confidential”).

• Discussion occurred about the recent Presidents Roundtable meeting pertaining to a CCRC that has closed its Skilled Nursing unit. Residents must now travel some distance to obtain nursing services.

• Kim reviewed the results of the Legislative Priority Survey which board members had received in advance. The survey had a 30% response rate which is respectable. The membership list, not Go Daddy, was used for the list of recipients. In reviewing some comments, Kim was surprised how ill-informed some residents appeared to be. She recommended that the information that is shared focus on main ideas, not details. Survey results will be released in a News-Mail and on the website in January. Liaisons should call attention to the News-Mails when they are issued by resending them to their members (and perhaps others).

• Priority for 2024 will be educating residents and legislators. Residents also need to be actively engaged.

• Vivid consulting firm is working toward converting the Proviso into legislation. WACCRA Legislative Committee is meeting with their representatives on Dec. 15.

• Rick was contacted by an Associated Press journalist about disaster planning based on the work of WACCRA’s task force investigations.

Laura called the Study Session to conclusion at 10:50. After a short break the Business Meeting was convened at 11:00. The Minutes for the November 10, 2023, meeting were approved by consensus. Jim had no Treasurer’s Report due to an accident, but he reported to Laura that a few more members had joined and that finances are in good shape.

ACTIONS/VOTES:

The motion that WACCRA will co-sponsor the Candidates Forums in October passed.

• **To Do Items are bolded in the text.**

OLD BUSINESS:

• Operational Manual: Laura did not share progress on this at the meeting, but she did urge the committees to develop a work list. The board may want to set up a Google Docs site to work on and share documents.

NEW BUSINESS

**Committee Reports:**

• Legislative: The Legislative Committee, consisting of Carlos (Chair), Laura, Kim, Donna, and Barb H., meet weekly. Kim shared their report during the Study Session.

• Communications: As promised Monica tracked the number of News-Mails that were opened using the new format (3 issues). The results were similar to the old format, namely that 60-65% were “viewed”. The rating of “engaged” readers (7-9%) was slightly higher in the new format. (She wasn’t sure what “engaged” meant.)

In January the News-Mails will present the President’s Letter, Survey Summary, and Legislative Overview from Donna Christensen. Kim is the interim editor. Monica as chair of the Communications Committee has assigned each member a section of the website to review for accuracy and updating. The committee will be meeting the first Monday of each month on Zoom.

• Membership: A proposal about the changing roles for Liaisons will be discussed at the next meeting. Liaisons need to work not only on membership development but also on internal outreach to residents. Susan expressed the concern that liaisons need to attend the WACCRA Board meetings. Donna raised the question about outreach to CCRCs that do not have WACCRA members. Susan does not feel comfortable dealing with that.

• Senior Lobby: Barbara Knight, who is the board’s new representative to Senior Lobby, wants to know what type of information she should look for at the monthly meetings. She was advised to note their legislative agenda. The organization will be adopting priorities at their December meeting. She should reach out to Rick and Donna with questions.

• Succession Planning: No action.

• Strategic Planning: No action.

• Items from Liaisons and Board Members: Rick presented a proposal for Candidates Forums on behalf of a group at Skyline that wants to invite presentations from candidates for Governor and OIC director especially addressing issues relating to seniors. Because the group wants to include all WA CCRCs to participate, they are soliciting WACCRA’s assistance in reaching out to the CCRC resident councils. The motion that WACCRA will co-sponsor the Candidates Forums in October passed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50. The next meeting on January 12 will be held at Hearthstone at 10:00.

Respectfully submitted: Nickie Askov, Secretary