**WACCRA Board Meeting**

**March 10, 2023**

**Timber Ridge**

**Attendees:**

*Board*: Laura Saunders, Vice President; Nickie Askov, Secretary; Jim Crim, Treasurer; Rick Baugh, Carlos Caguiat, Monica Clement, Kim Hickman, Rocky Higgins, Barb Horrell (President Donna Kristaponis absent due to illness.)

*Membership Liaisons*: Susan Dillon, Coordinator (Mirabella), Len Henzke (Timber Ridge)

*Timber Ridge Visitors*: 27; *Mirabella Visitor*: Miceal Vaughn

Vice President Laura Saunders called the business meeting to order at 10:55 AM at Timber Ridge after Kim Hickman gave an updated presentation of Washington State Legislative Action on CCRC Regulations followed by Q&A. The Minutes for the February 10, 2023, meeting were approved by consensus as was the Treasurer’s Report. Jim also reported that the transfer of funds from the Money Market to a CD had not happened due to Donna’s illness (two signatures being necessary).

OLD BUSINESS:

Membership Activities and Renewals: Susan reported that there are now 1,104 members in contrast to 1,000 last year at the same time. Some of the renewals and new members have not yet been posted, but 312 members appear to have not yet renewed. She credited the work of the new coordinators at Parkshore, Horizon House, and Hearthstone for the membership increase. Kim raised the question of how we contact CCRCs that have no WACCRA membership. Rick will follow up with Riverview and Heron’s Key from the Presidents Roundtable. Contact is difficult without the name of the president of the residents’ association.

Budget Proviso Update: Carlos, Chair of the Legislative Committee, reported that they, in working with Donna Christianson, have found several sponsors in the Senate and House. The Proviso has to go to the Budget Committee before a vote is taken about whether or not a bill can be written. When Town Halls are held, we should introduce ourselves as WACCRA members.

NEW BUSINESS:

Update on the Legislation WACCRA Supports (Barb Horrell):

1. HB 1417 Multistate Nurse Licensure Compact: passed, sent to Appropriations
2. HB 1541 Nothing About Us Without Us: passed, sent to state government
3. HB 1431 Confirming meals served in senior housing are not taxed: referred to the Rules Committee
4. SB 5640 Establishing an IL Residents’ Rights Work Group (Bonaventure): passed in Rules Committee
5. SB 5179 and HB 1281 Death with Dignity: passed in Senate and sent to the House

Some discussion occurred about #3. It seems that only Timber Ridge has been paying the tax on meals perhaps because it is a for-profit CCRC.

Covid Concerns at Horizon House:

Barbara Knight, liaison, was not present due to the active cases of Covid at Horizon House. (Timber Ridge reported no cases, Mirabella 3, and Skyline 14.) A quarantine of 10 days appears to be standard. Barbara is exploring the air filtration system at Horizon House since she thinks it is one common system. In contrast, Timber Ridge, Mirabella, Emerald Heights, and Skyline members shared that they had air filtration systems in each unit.

Update on the latest Presidents’ Roundtable: Rick and Nickie reported the dynamics of the group had really changed with the coordination by Marcia Riggers at Covenant Shores. The meeting began with Kim’s presentation which was an eye-opener for attendees. The plan is to present the Financial Disaster Planning report for the next meeting and ask for volunteers to pursue the issue at their own CCRCs. Marcia agreed to coordinate the meeting again as well as create a spreadsheet showing how the various CCRC organize their resident councils. Instead of keeping WACCRA in the background, the plan is to share more openly what WACCRA is doing and potentially use the quarterly Zoom meeting as a membership recruiting tool. **The presidents who are not WACCRA members should receive complimentary mailings of the NewsMail.**

Items from Board members: Rick reported that 3 CCRCs (Hearthstone, Mirabella, and Emerald Heights) have members willing to participate in the continued work of the Financial Disaster Planning Committee. The work will involve asking their administrators about financial resources for a disaster in which all or part of the building would be unlivable for a period of time. A complete procedure has been developed for obtaining the information that residents need to decide on the type of renter’s insurance that covers the risks of a major disaster. Rick presented the proposal at a meeting of the CCRC membership coordinators and other interested people in early March.

A suggestion arose that WACCRA create an educational tool for residents similar to the *Consumer Guide* for prospective residents. For example, it could provide residents with generic assistance in reading their contracts. Len also suggested that small groups could be formed at each CCRC with a retired lawyer to review their contracts.

Rocky suggested that we look for generic themes for our future work, such as residents’ rights, financial stability, legislative support for other senior issues, and WACCRA’s legislative initiatives. He suggested this approach might be more productive than our current task forces.

Monica reported that the Communications Task Force is discussing forming FOCUS GROUPS, comprised of WACCRA members, for the purpose of eliciting feedback about WACCRA’s communications and messaging.

Laura thanked Monica Clement and Barb Horrell for hosting the WACCRA Board meeting at Timber Ridge. The next board meeting will be held on Zoom on April 14, 2023, at 10 AM. The meeting was adjourned at shortly after noon.

Respectfully submitted: Nickie Askov, Secretary