**WACCRA Board Meeting**

**April 14, 2023**

**Via Zoom**

**Attendees:**

*Board*: Donna Kristaponis, President; Laura Saunders, Vice President; Nickie Askov, Secretary; Jim Crim, Treasurer; Rick Baugh, Carlos Caguiat, Kim Hickman, Rocky Higgins, Barb Horrell, Jerry Tuttle

*Membership Liaisons*: Susan Dillon, Coordinator (Mirabella), Barbara Knight (Horizon House)

*Visitor*: Miceal Vaughan (Mirabella)

President Donna Kristaponis called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM on Zoom. The Minutes for the March 10, 2023, meeting were approved by consensus as was the Treasurer’s Report. Jim reported that the transfer of funds from the Money Market to a CD had not happened yet. At the end of last year WACCRA had $13,800 extra funds with $57,000 in the bank.

OLD BUSINESS:

Membership Activities and Renewals: Susan credited the work of the new coordinators at Parkshore, Horizon House, and Hearthstone for a membership increase. In the middle of May, she will have a list of those who have not renewed for two years.

Budget Proviso Update: Carlos, Chair of the Legislative Committee, reported on the $300,000 budget proviso to continue the work of the OIC report and fund the creation of a framework for state legislation. It is in the House Budget, but not yet in the Senate budget although Rep. Nicole Macri is working on reconciling the differences in the House and Senate Budget Committees.

Covid Concerns: Horizon House no longer has an outbreak. Other CCRCs reported a few cases with some precautions in place again.

Update on the Legislation WACCRA Supports (Barb Horrell):

• HB 1541 Nothing About Us Without Us: Died in Committee

• HB 1431 Confirming meals served in senior housing are not taxed: referred to the Rules Committee: Still in Play

Communications Task Force:

• Update on forming focus groups: Kim and Nickie have revised the focus group questions which were sent to the task force, Donna and Laura. The groups are scheduled to meet on June 12 afternoon at Skyline, June 13 morning at Mirabella, and June 13 afternoon at Timber Ridge. A pilot of the focus group questions and procedures will be held at Skyline with a smaller group of residents on May 2.

 • Approve up to $500 for focus group meetings: Unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve putting non-WACCRA members of the Presidents Roundtable on the WACCRA Mailing List: Rick will ask their permission at the next meeting.

A motion passed to send a targeted message with the NewsMail to Representatives and Senators who have CCRCs in their districts. Perhaps the CCRC 101 might be used.

Identify a new communications chair: Donna announced that Monica Clement is resigning as Communications Chair. She suggested that Beverly Brown at Emerald Heights might make a good chair. She hopes that Beverly can work with the task force, including observing one of the focus groups.

Set priorities for future work—residents’ rights, financial stability, local educational programs, legislative support for senior issues and WACCRA-legislation: Much discussion occurred about the extent to which CCRC residents are aware of WACCRA’s involvement in these issues. Rocky commented that the Board is actively engaged, but that the membership is not even aware of what the Board is doing. The question becomes how to engage the broader base in both informing them of what is happening and in asking members about the issues that they see as important. Only Skyline appears to have a formalized relationship with its Resident Council as a committee with a budget. Other CCRCs appear to have small groups organized by the WACCRA Liaison, but these seem to be most focused on membership.

Ideas for using the President’s Roundtable to encourage WACCRA membership and to access non-participating CCRC residents: Rick will ask CCRCs presidents where WACCRA membership is low/non-existent if a presentation on WACCRA can be offered to residents. Rick and Donna are doing a presentation at Krista, and Laura suggested one at Hearthstone entitled “What WACCRA does for you.”

Items/Questions/Ideas/Comments from WACCRA Liaisons: Monica and Barb are doing well at Timber Ridge since the previous liaison resigned. Others are hard at work with membership renewals.

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 Committee. He is recruiting members at other CCRCs. 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.

Jim will continue the work of the Succession Task Force. Miceal Vaughan at Mirabella has volunteered to replace Nickie on the task force since she has joined the Communications Task Force.

The next board meeting will tentatively be held at Skyline on May 12, 2023, at 10 AM. The June 9 meeting is scheduled for Hearthstone. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15.

Respectfully submitted: Nickie Askov, Secretary