**WACCRA Board Meeting**

**May 9, 2025 at Emerald Heights**

**ATTENDEES:**

*Board*: Laura Saunders, President; Kim Hickman, Vice-President; Nickie Askov, Secretary; Carlos Caguiat, Barb Horrell, Donna Kristaponis, Steve Neville

*Membership Liaisons*: Jackie Boss (Emerald Heights), Bob Hunter (Hearthstone), Tom Sakata (Skyline), Jerry Tuttle (Parkshore)

*Technical Support*: Rick Baugh

*Intern:* Brooklyn Harris

*Guests*: Donna Christensen (lobbyist), Katherine Pearson (Dickinson Professor of Law, Penn State)

**BUSINESS MEETING**

Laura called the Business Meeting to order at 10:00. The Minutes for the April 11, 2025 meeting, the Treasurer’s Reports for March 14, April 11, and May 9, and the Membership Report were approved by board consent. It was noted that the membership and the budget are down slightly. An appeal for donatioins could be sent after the WACCRA legislation has been signed by Governor Ferguson. The Study Session began at 10:05 and occupied the remainder of the meeting.

**STUDY SESSION**

Donna Christensen described the 2025 Legislative Session and the planning for 2026. She commended the tremendous support of WACCRA members even though we didn’t get entirely what we wanted (pending the Governor’s signature). She also noted the support by the new Commissioner of the Office of the Insurance Commission (OIC). She also noted the strong support of the following legislators: Callan, Macri, and Pedersen.

Katherine Pearson began by reviewing the history of CCRCs, including bankruptcies that led to regulations. She noted that Leadiing Age had changed the name of CCRCs to Life Plan Communities to move the focus away from healthcare (Skilled Nursing and Memory Care). As life expectancy increases, more new entrants are needed to make institutions financially viable (92% occupancy for efficient operations). Education is needed for residents, legislators, and estate planners. She commended the consumer protection with enforcement by the WA Attorney General in the new legislation.

**DISCUSSION:**

• Celebrating the passage of 5691 (for after the Governor’s signature). Membership meetings at the CCRCs with the most members should be held in early June. Laura and Kim are available to speak about and celebrate the current legislative accomplishments and plans for 2026 as well as thank members for their support.

• Members should reach out to friends in CCRCs in other parts of the state about WACCRA to build a statewide membership. (Laura and Kim have already spoken at Bayview, Covenant Shores, and Panarama. Rick offered to do follow-up as needed.)

**OTHER ITEMS**

The date of the Annual Meeting is Saturday, November 1, 10:00-12:00, at Mirabella Seattle. Katherine Pearson will be the keynote speaker.

The Board Meeting was adjourned at noon for lunch and informal conversations.

Respectfully submitted: Nickie Askov, Secretary