**WACCRA Board Meeting**

**October 11, 2024 on Zoom**

**ATTENDEES:**

*Board*: Laura Saunders, President; Kim Hickman, Vice-President; Nickie Askov, Secretary; Barb Horrell, Treasurer, Rick Baugh, Monica Clement, Donna Kristaponis

*Membership Liaisons*: Susan Dillon (Coordinator), Jackie Boss (Emerald Heights),Celie Brown (Timber Ridge), Bob Hunter (Hearthstone), Mandy Wertz (Mirabella)

*News-Mail Editor*: Kip Smith

*Guest*: Kevin Crispin-Alfieri (Skyline)

**STUDY SESSION**

Laura reviewed the plans for the Annual Meeting at Emerald Heights on November 9. The goal of the meeting is to stir up interest among CCRC residents to help with the efforts to enact legislation in the next session. Donna revealed that it might be difficult to present the program on Zoom simultaneously although a recording might be available on WACCRA’s website later that Rick offered to edit.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

Laura called the Business Meeting to order at 10:40 following the Study Session. The Minutes for the September 13, 2024 meeting were approved. The Treasurer’s Report, which was distributed by Barb Horrell, was also approved. She noted the upcoming expenses of Survey Monkey’s annual fee, UW intern to assist the Legislative Committee, and the printing of new brochures.

ACTIONS/VOTES:

**Newly adopted Mission Statement (Communications Committee):**

WACCRA works to foster vibrant CCRC communities characterized by mutually respectful and productive relationships between residents and management.  WACCRA works to empower residents so that their voices are included in their CCRC management’s decision-making and policy implementation. WACCRA advocates for resident rights, financial transparency, and consumer protection - all strengthened by enforcement.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Laura presented the slate of board members for election at the Annual Meeting. Although the bylaws permit 11 board members, we will have only 8 members going forward. Jim Crim, Barbara Knight and Rocky Higgins resigned since last Annual Meeting.  (Barbara Knight will continue as Liaison at Horizon House.) Rick Baugh is completing his third term and is no longer eligible to run.

Nickie Askov and Monica Clement are running for a third term. Kim Hickman and Laura Saunders are running for a second term. Steve Neville, Hearthstone, is running for his first term on the board. Carlos Calguiat and Donna Kristaponis are continuing in their third term. Barb Horrell is continuing in her first term. Voting for the slate will be by Survey Monkey before the Annual Meeting where the results will be announced. **We need to recruit our successors at the completion of our terms as well as encourage participation in committee work as a pathway to board membership.**

NEW BUSINESS:

**Committee Reports:**

• Legislative: Kim recognized Kip Smith for the survey of legislative candidates. She also reported that the committee has been meeting one-on-one with legislators. Two applicants for the WACCRA internship, a graduate student and an undergraduate senior, have applied from the Evans School of Public Policy at the UW. Kim will be interviewing them and offering a contract to one of them with a list of deliverables. **Laura and Barb will follow up in helping develop the contract language for 200 hours of work for $5,000**.

• Membership: Susan Dillon reminded us that September is the mid-point of the year when residents can join for half-price. She urged the liaisons to promote this before and at the Annual Meeting.

• Communications: Monica asked Kip to speak about the upcoming October News-Mail which will focus on four action items. She then presented the final version of the Mission Statement which the committee has revised several times. The board voted unanimously in favor of adopting the new Mission Statement (with a few wording changes) which will appear on the website and in the brochure. See above under Action Items for the newly revised Misson Statement.

• Senior Lobby: Laura, Kim, Rick, and Monica are registering for Senior Lobby Day on October 17 (all day online). Senior Lobby is paying attention to the DSHS draft proposal for a Washington State Multi-Sector Plan on Aging. The four initiatives that require a NO vote were also discussed. Laura reminded us that the board had voted to support AARP’s effort to preserve long-term care insurance program for employees by voting NO on Initiative 2124 which makes participation optional instead of mandatory and effectively kills the program that is presently in effect. The long-term care insurance program provides a financial asset to the employee when aging and significantly reduces the burden of Medicaid in WA.

**Items from WACCRA Liaisons and Board Members**:

Rick explained that the 2021 legislation requires a Disaster Plan for Assisted Living. DSHS is required to define what constitutes a Disaster Plan. WACCRA desires to monitor the drafts to be sure residents’ concerns are included. The legislation does not discuss insurance or other financial assets to cover the costs of a disaster. Rick also reported that the new legislation Nothing About Us Without Us has the state Office of Equity creating a Tool Kit that will include WACCRA as one of the sources of people’s lived experience with a disability who can be on any of the state agency advisory groups. Finally, NaCCRA has moved WACCRA’s *Consumer Guide* to the appropriate section with the other consumer guides on its website. The new leadership appears to be making it a more useful organization.

• The next meeting on December 13 at 10:00 will be on Zoom. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40.

Respectfully submitted: Nickie Askov, Secretary