

VHA Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Laurel Manor

12:30 PM – March 10, 2021

Advisory Board Members - Present: John Conboy, John Dean, Bob Griffin, Nicolas Hemes, Sandy Mott, Jan Palmer, Kathy Porter, Joan Sullivan, Roy Thacker, Phil Walker

Advisory Board Members - Absent: Dave Bedard, Andy Bilardello, Mike Burke, Mike Dollard, Ray Glessner, Walter Martin, Greg Panjian

Guests: Mark Palmer-Voice Photographer

Call to order: President Phil Walker called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Previous Minutes: Motion made to approve the AB meeting minutes from the February 10, 2021 meeting, seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer John Conboy referred to the financials attached to this meeting's agenda. There is a slight increase in income from membership dues. The report still indicates a loss, but it is less than the previous month.

VHA Central Area

VP Central: John Dean reported he would introduce the VHA Volunteer Award winner - The Quilting Guild at this evening's VHA Awards Night emphasizing the Guild's support for veterans and other service groups.

Director Region 5: Nicolas Hemes reported he would introduce the second VHA Volunteer Award winner – CIVITAN stating the services it provides. Nicolas thanked Jan Palmer for bringing extra copies of the Voice to distribute to award winners and their guests.

Note: Volunteer Award winners will receive a plaque and a \$500 check from the VHA to help with their work.

Director Region 7: Roy Thacker reported he has been picking up mail from VHA boxes recording their location before delivering to the VHA office. Jan offered to provide extra help if needed picking up mail in boxes around her area in the Village of Hemingway.

VHA Far South

Region Far South: Phil reported VP Far South Andy Bilardello had presented a proposal to create PWAC 2, which would cover CDDs 12 and 13. The details of this proposal are being reviewed to begin in 2022.

Q. What are the differences between The Villages north and south of SR 44?

A. An example is how the construction of homes, fences, and landscaping are different north and south of SR 44.

Other VHA Meetings and Reports

Community Foundation (CF): Phil: VHA-CF continuing their support to help others recently donated to the Wildwood Soup Kitchen and Operation Homebound.

Helping Hands (HH): Phil: VHA-HH reported the number of transactions in the first two months of 2021 are equal to the first two months of 2019. (Covid-19 cautions reduced transactions in 2020.) Issues of transporting the free durable medical equipment from the storage shed to the VHA office in Spanish Springs had to be addressed. On March 8, 2021, having received approval from the VHA Board of Directors, a 2020 van was purchased. Designated drivers will be listed on the insurance policy. The van will remain in the parking lot next to the VHA office when not in use.

Sandy Mott commented on how well organized the equipment is arranged in the former conference room in the VHA office. Phil noted that the search continues to find a location where the VHA office, a conference room, HH operations and HH equipment can all be in one location at a reasonable rent.

Q. Will advertising be printed on the van?

A. Magnetic signs have been ordered.

New Resident Night (NRN): Phil: NRN will restart 7:00 PM April 13, 2021 in Colony Recreation Center. Volunteers are needed at 6:00 PM to help at the membership table and to sign in guests. Kathy Porter will be away on that date but will assist Phil ahead of the meeting.

Membership: Kathy Porter referred to the February membership report.

SEE APPENDIX

Kathy noted that two households in CDD 13 have signed up for VHA membership.

Golf Cart Safety Clinic (GCS): Phil: GCS is normally held at two locations: a Villages Insurance office and in a Recreation Center. The two Villages insurance clinics have been cancelled during Covid-19 restrictions due to the small space. Interested residents are referred to the clinic presented on the third Wednesday of each month at a rec center. More GCS brochures need to be ordered and the current GCS video needs to be updated. Please contact Phil if you know a reasonably priced printing location and/or a videographer.

Voice: Deadline for April Voice articles is March 22nd. Jan thanked all those who have been sending articles on time. Jan asked for a volunteer to write an article for the meeting on March 23rd addressing the issue of increased impact fees on new construction.

Phil explained that many phones call came in commenting on the high quality of writing of the article on the front page of this month's issue. The article addressed the importance of PWAC and continuity among Villages Districts.

Merchants to Members (M2M): The search continues for a Director for M2M.

Facebook: The information for VHA Facebook page is linked with the website and Voice articles.

Old Business

VHA Awards Night: Phil: Along with the two Volunteer Award winners, The Quilting Guild and CIVITAN, the Don Hahnfeldt Memorial Service Award will also be presented this evening. Sandy Mott will invite Greg Parady to receive the plaque. VHA Past President Fred Briggs will provide background information of Don Hahnfeldt's accomplishments to emphasize the value of receiving this service award. The evening will also feature an update of the VHA by Phil.

See also: VP Central and Director Region 5.

VHA Hoedown 2021: Phil explained the VHA Hoedown 2021 has been cancelled. The grant from the Sumter County Tourism Board is no longer available. This will be factored into the planning of the January 29, 2022 Hoedown. Phil and Jan will work to advertise for entertainment possibilities.

Hospital Auxiliary "Gala": Phil: The entertainment for the Virtual "Gala" did a great job. Money was made from sponsorships. Some loss from the silent auction will be shared with the Hospital Auxiliary. The VHA will pay its share over three years.

VHA Social Events: Phil: Volunteers are needed to assist Program Director Mike Burke at 2:00 PM March 16th for the Poker Run at Everglades Rec Center. The event will begin at 3:00 PM. John Dean and Jan Palmer volunteered to help.

The March Golf Scramble has had some challenges due to difficulty getting tee times. Mike sent word that this event will be carried over to April.

VHA Boxes: Phil: To ensure that procedures for collecting membership dues from VHA boxes at mail stations are clearly explained to all who collect mail, a handout was sent along with this meeting's agenda. All volunteers who collect from VHA boxes need to receive a copy. Contact the VHA secretary at joanstrek@aol.com if you need the handout resent.

Q. Can something be added to the VHA box to help identify it? i.e. a magnet

A. No, we were told nothing may be attached to the boxes.

New Business

VHA Town Hall: Phil: The deadline to send questions for VHA Town Hall is April 14th during the AB meeting. The Town Hall meeting will be held face-to-face 10:00 AM April 20, 2021 in Laurel Manor Recreation Center.

Please send questions as soon as they are received ahead of April 14th.

Q. Will a blast be sent asking for Town Hall questions? A. Yes.

Discussion

AEDs: One Village has switched to Sumter County to oversee the AED equipment. The same dispatcher is used when calling 911. The Villages District Management is still deciding if they want to switch to Sumter County to handle AEDs.

Contact Phil or John Dean if you want to know who to contact to learn more.

Meeting adjourned at 1:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Joan Sullivan

Appendix

MEMORANDUM

To: Phil Walker, President

From: Kathy Porter, Membership Chair

Date: March 10, 2021

Re: Membership Report

The numbers below represent the membership report for month ending February 28, 2021:

- 85 Renewals:
 - 59 - Card Notice
 - 22 - Credit Card
 - 4 – Voice
- 8 New members:
 - 3 – Credit Card
 - 5 - Voice
- Mail pickups:
 - 40 - VHA boxes
 - 17 - US Mail
- 15,464 members in 8,088 households
- 488 Mailings:
 - 278 Renewals due April 1, 2021
 - 210 Expired for December 2020, January and February 2021

I will out of town from April 6 to April 20 helping my daughter-in-after her C-section and getting to know my new granddaughter.

Therefore, I will not be at the April 13 New Resident Night. In addition to the volunteers for the front table sign-ins, I need two volunteers to work the Membership table.