

## VHA Advisory Board - Minutes

### Laurel Manor Recreation Center – December 11, 2019

**Advisory Board Members- Present:** Roger Akers, Dave Bedard, Andy Bilardello, Lu Bowen, Fred Briggs, Lorraine Britt, Mike Burke, John Conboy, John Dean, Joe Elliott, Barb Fielitz, Ray Glessner, Nicolas Hemes, Irv Markley, Kathy McKelvey, Sandy Mott, Jan Palmer, Linda Sanzone, Joan Sullivan, Joan Testa, Phil Walker

**Advisory Board Members - Absent:** Matt Friedland, Mark Gallo, Bob Griffin, Jim Hipple, Colene Makela, Walter Martin, Greg Panjian, Bill Pope, Kathy Porter, Art Rowe, Roy Thacker

**Guests –** Karl Arps - Board Member, Mark Palmer - Voice Photographer

**Call to order:** President Fred Briggs called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Previous Minutes:** Motion made to accept the minutes from the November 13, 2019 Advisory Board Meeting, seconded and approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Reports given quarterly.

### Announcement

**The Villages Hospital:** Fred reported that at last night's VHA New Resident's meeting (December 10), Russ D'Emidio announced that University Florida Health issued a press release earlier that day.

From Russ's announcement: "The essence of the release was that UF Health (Shands Hospital) will be acquiring Central Florida Health as of January 1st. This includes the Villages Regional Hospital, the Leesburg Regional Medical Center and the new emergency room on SR 44. This exciting opportunity builds on the existing relationships between both organizations and holds much promise for the continued growth of our health system. It will leverage the resources and expertise of UF Health to advance quality healthcare and groundbreaking technology and procedures in The Villages and surrounding areas. Being a teaching hospital, UF Health will also be a pipeline for new doctors and an opportunity for Villages physicians to advance their education. This also opens the door for the potential for a new third hospital supporting our community. As the VHA is a sponsoring partner with the Villages Hospital, Russ made the audience aware that the agreement insures that all the fund raising for the The Villages Hospital Auxiliary Foundation and the Villages Hospital will stay in The Villages. Watch the Daily Sun for details."

### Introduction

**Mark Palmer** is the Voice Photographer who will be taking pictures of Members of the Boards for posting in the Voice and on the VHA website.

### VHA Meetings and Reports

**Foundation:** Phil reported the Foundation is researching other charitable groups to work with in assisting Villagers.

**New Resident Night:** The Far South was well represented at last night's New Resident Night.

**Membership:** Kathy Porter's monthly membership report for December is included at the end of the January 2020 minutes.

**Voice:** Jan Palmer announced the deadline is December 23<sup>rd</sup> for the January Voice.

Jan distributed a handout of DUE DATES FOR THE VOICE FOR 2020

**Jan 20 for Feb; Feb 17 for Mar; Mar 16 for Apr; Apr 20 for May; May 18 for June; June 15 for July; July 20 for Aug; Aug 17 for Sept; Sept 21 for Oct; Oct 19 for Nov; Nov 16 for Dec; Dec 16 for Jan 2021.**

Note: The January issue distribution date is revised to the second Wednesday in January to avoid getting lost with New Year's Day supplements. The January issue will be Hoedown intensive and will not include the regular features. The entire issue will be in color.

Q. When will Neighborhood Representatives be added back into the Voice.

A. Send information to Jan that to be added into the Voice.

Fred stated that the front page of the Daily Sun noted the Voice supplement is inside.

Suggestion: A photo in the Voice showing the intersection at Wedgewood Lane and CR 101 will help residents recognize that no left turn allowed into the tunnel. This is a traffic violation that can be avoided by golf carts entering the multi-modal pathway farther to the north.

**Merchants to Members(M2M):** A director is needed to head this program. If you have any suggestions please give this information to Phil ASAP. Also send names of merchants who may be added or any who are listed in the Voice who do not honor a VHA discount.

**ARC:** Irv Markley reported that the ARC Committee will be taking a motor coach bus to the Villages south regions to view building styles and changes in order to better understand requests made to Architectural Review Committee.

**Facebook/Communications:** Dave Bedard encouraged members to provide input for Facebook posts. Dave has been working on ads that will be coming out in the Daily Sun and the Villages TV station.

Fred suggested posting VHA topical events on Facebook. Ray Glessner noted the VHA website needs updates to M2M and Neighborhood Representatives. Ray added that the updated website will include a depository with unlimited storage.

Suggestion: Add a link on the VHA website to VHA Facebook page. Dave requested members to send Facebook ideas to him.

## Old Business

**Hoedown Update:** Phil has Hoedown handouts for members to distribute. Let Phil know if more are needed.

**Hoedown Corn Hole Tournament:** Mike Burke reported that the rules have been determined and the necessary sets have been acquired. This tournament is listed on the National Corn Hole website.

Note: Hoedown tickets, premier seating tickets and chances for Cow Chip BINGO may be purchased on the <http://countrywesternhoedown.com>

**Requested Ideas – VHA Improvement:** Mike received an email of suggestions from the North Area. A report was also handed in to Mike from Central Area VP John Dean and Director at Large Ray Glessner.

**Advisory Board Responsibilities:** Fred asked the board to speak to residents and members face-to-face to encourage them to become VHA representatives. The VHA has much to be proud and people need to know this. The VHA Community Foundation gave over \$500,000 toward disasters, the hospital, etc. VHA Helping Hands (HH) will have over 6000 transactions this year.

Mike added he will be writing articles for the Voice to promote the history of the VHA monthly.

Discussion included how HH does a great service to the community. Storage is an issue they are reviewing.

**Tangent Media Update:** Fred explained that Tangent has completed interviews with VHA staff and is preparing to give an update to the VHA Board this month.

## New Business

**VHA Awards:** Fred asked the Board to review the list of past VHA award winners attached to this meeting's agenda and to bring suggestions to the next Advisory Board meeting in preparation for the March VHA Awards Night.

**January Town Hall:** The preparation for the January Town Hall meeting will be before the January 8<sup>th</sup> Advisory Board. Deadline for submitting Town Hall questions is Tuesday January 14, 2020.

## Discussion

**World War II Veterans:** Sandy and Mike met with the Daily Sun to discuss World War II veterans. This may be an opportunity for the VHA to become involved in honoring them.

**President Fred Briggs:** Fred addressed the Advisory Board. Fred stated he appreciated and learned from all. "My thanks and respect to all for serving and working for the VHA."

Note: Fred will be transferring the VHA presidency to Phil this evening during the VHA Annual Business Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Sullivan