

VHA Board of Directors – Meeting Minutes
Lake Miona Recreation Center 1:00 PM September 22, 2022

Board Members - Present: Karl Arps, Fred Briggs, Russ D’Emidio, Mike Dollard, Peter Moeller, Greg Panjian, Phil Walker

Board Members - Absent: Vivian Stephens, Chuck Wildzunas

Invited Attendees: Peter Russell- VHA Executive Vice President, Joan Sullivan-VHA Secretary

Call to order: President Phil Walker called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Approval: Phil asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Motion made, seconded and approved.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Phil asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the August 25, 2022 meeting. Motion made, seconded, and approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Mike Dollard referred to the financials attached to this meeting’s agenda. The numbers from a combined July and August Membership Report were used explaining the increased amount. September Bingo profit is \$1850. No advertisement placed in the Daily Sun newspaper yet there was still a good crowd even though it was raining. VHA Bingo is developing a following with many of the same people attending. Note the Bingo software allows for a running ad on the screen which might attract a sponsor.

When asked about website expenses, Mike stated another line for IT expenses will be added to the financials.

Old Business

September General Meeting: Phil explained there were a few issues with the September 14, 2022 presentations which are being addressed for the October 24, 2022 presentation at Ezell Recreation Center by Chief Cain, Kenny Blocker and District employees about the referendum for the Independent Fire and Rescue Department on the ballot November 8th Election Day. The new start time is 6:00 PM and the bank of computers is being located in an adjoining room until 8:50 PM for residents to learn the specifics of their property.

Executive Vice President Peter Russell reported two positives that came out of the evening. VHA Foundation Committee Chair Peggy Fiore explained the FC purpose to a resident who later donated \$7000 to the FC. Sumter County Commissioner Craig Estep returned a quick follow up response to a question asked by Peter.

Merchants to Members Update (M2M): Phil stated former M2M Coordinator Barbara Gudgel is working from home contacting current M2M merchants to update the list. If needed, any additional updating will be handled by Executive Committee members. When ready the list will become a handout at VHA programs.

VHA Foundation Committee (FC): Peter R. reminded Board members of the FC article in today’s Daily Sun reporting the donation FC gave to Shared Harvest. FC members are enthusiastically working together to find appropriate donation recipients and promoting the VHA’s efforts. The anonymous donor of the \$7000 requested \$2000 of the money be given to the Girl Scout Auxiliary now celebrating their 10th anniversary to help with their efforts and some other portion of the donation given to the Hospital Foundation. Peter R. explained Peggy Fiore had a career in fund raising which is a huge advantage.

Peter Moeller stated in other places large corporations are asked to make matching donations, which may be an idea for the VHA to research.

Promoting the VHA Update: Peter R. explained his committee is working with Doug Smiley – Tangent Media for best use of the VHA website and the back-end office features. Peter will also be meeting with Phil Markward of the Daily Sun to discuss options for publishing VHA information.

Past President Fred Briggs commented on the good idea to have VHA Neighborhood Representatives (NR) now having business cards as they promote the VHA in their neighborhoods. Peter R. explained he negotiated with Wordco to have 100 business cards printed for \$9.95 a reduced price for each order of 10 people. Besides NRs, all VHA officers may request business cards. Please send name, and email to VP Far South Dave Fountaine dfountaine4760@gmail.com who is collecting orders to send for each group of 10 people.

Phil explained a slide promoting the VHA will be on the screen for VHA New Resident Night.

Peter R. added the online Gazette made 3 references to the VHA

New Business

VHA Board Member Term Limits: Phil reported three (3) Board members' terms expire December 31, 2022. Phil will contact each for them to report their intentions at the October 27, 2022 Board meeting.

Strategic Planning Workshop: Strategic Planning Chair Russ D'Emidio explained he will hold a meeting to set objectives for the October 20, 2022 Strategic Planning Workshop at Colony Recreation Center to set priorities for VHA 2023.

Tangent Media Proposal: Peter R. reported Doug Smiley – Tangent Media sent a proposal to be on a \$500 retainer. Hours worked would be charged at a discounted 10% fee normally \$85. Motion was made for the one time \$500 retainer to Tangent Media which is results driven before considering another payment, seconded and approved unanimously.

Suggestion made if a sponsor is found for VHA website, this may offset IT expenses.

Members Comments

Executive Committee Name: Peter R. asked the Board to consider revising the name of the VHA Executive Committee to VHA Executive Board as it is a Board of VHA leaders rather than a committee. The Board unanimously agreed that the revision makes sense and is effective immediately. Karl Arps stated he will revise the wording in the Board Mandate where needed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:03 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Sullivan

Next Board Meeting: THURSDAY 1:00 PM October 27, 2022 Lake Miona - Resolute Room