

VHA Board of Directors – Meeting Minutes

The Villages Daily Sun Operations Site – Rick Scott Industrial Park Sumterville, FL

4:00 PM March 23, 2023

Board Members - Present: Fred Briggs, Russ D’Emidio, Mike Dollard, Walter Martin, Peter Moeller, Peter Russell, Sandra Rzepecki, Phil Walker, Chuck Wildzunas

Board Members - Absent: Vivian Stephens, Ray Viall

Invited Attendees: Al Arnold – VHA Helping Hands President, Joan Sullivan-VHA Secretary

Tour: Daily Sun Publisher Phil Markward and General Manager Dan Sprung greeted the VHA Board of Directors at the Daily Sun Operations Site, which opened April 6, 2021. Following a brief video, Phil and Dan led a tour through the 100,000 sq. ft. facility featuring the newest automated equipment in the country, which required technicians from Germany to set up. A small run of the classified section allowed the Board to watch the process of printing to collating which occurs totally through automation. All employees from the Rolling Acres site maintained their jobs with minor changes to their responsibilities. Two employees declined for travel reasons. The equipment is capable of printing 90,000 copies per hour and requires almost 100 carriers for deliveries.

Following the tour, pizza and soft drinks were provided for the Board to conduct its regular monthly meeting.

Call to order: President Peter Russell called the meeting to order.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Peter asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the February 23, 2023 meeting. Motion made to accept, seconded, and approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Mike Dollard referred to the financials sent with this meeting’s agenda noting few transactions occurred through February and March.

Old Business

March 18 – Polo Grounds Event: Peter R. explained there was low attendance likely due to the weather. This event will occur again next year a week later in the month and the VHA will attend. The VHA tent worked great and more weights will be added for further use.

New Business

Meeting with Daily Sun: Peter R. reported the relationship with the Daily Sun is “spectacular.” Peter recently met with the Executive Editor Bonita Miyagi who has decided to move the “Giving” section in Local News to be on the 1st Thursday of the month along with the Voice. Bonita wants a front-page article of the VHA each month, which will be handled by reporter Keith Pearlman. Philanthropic Editor Maddie Cutler is appointed to move with The Foundation Chair Peggy Fiore to report Foundation news. Reporters Dave Corder and Keith Pearlman will attend the April Foundation meeting.

Jeff Zimmerman asked to attend VHA New Resident Night to observe ahead of planning for an insert announcing NRN to be placed in residents’ closing packets.

The VHA will now have a table set up at the monthly Lifestyle Expo at Ezell on the second Friday each month from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Two people will hand out literature of VHA membership, Foundation, Helping Hands and programs.

Q. Is the Communications Team involved with the monthly front page article?

A. Keith Pearlman will be the decision maker for this.

Funding for Foundation Committee: Peter R. read FC Chair Peggy Fiore’s report, which included cash grants to: New Horizons Service Dogs - \$2500 and Our Moment Café - \$1500. Several other groups will be reviewed at the April FC

meeting. Remaining funds available are \$4000. Peter asked to bring to the floor a motion to allocate \$10,000 to FC. Motion made, seconded. Discussion followed. Peter explained this allocation of funds is to help the FC continue donations with the understanding that the FC will also seek funds from other sources / sponsors. Following discussion motion unanimously approved.

Health and Wellness Expo: Peter R. noted plans are moving forward on the November 14, 2023 “Health and Wellness Expo” scheduled in the theater and a double room from 3:00 PM – 6:50 PM at Colony Cottage RC. Bingo Coordinator Debi Gorzka has experience setting up conventions and agreed to act as a consultant for this event. This event may become a fundraiser.

Action Items with Tangent: Peter R. explained Area VP South Dave Fontaine has been working closely with Doug Smiley of Tangent Media to address software issues and needs for the VHA website referring to Dave’s report sent to the Board ahead of this meeting. A contract will be signed with Tangent Media for six (6) months at \$300 per month for four (4) hours per month of dedicated IT maintenance work, which is a significantly reduced rate. Any unused monthly hours may be used to complete additional coding not yet completed.

It is imperative to reduce Area VPs’ workload. The website sends Town Hall submissions to the Executive Board and AVPs often address issues in their areas which requires more of their time. Peter explained he asked Peter Moeller to put together a team of people to handle these area issues. As noted when recently, Fred Briggs handled an issue in Alden Villas.

Q. Is this a renewable contract?

A. The contract with Tangent will be reviewed at the end of the six-month period and a decision will be made at that time.

Meeting adjourned at 5:48 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Sullivan

Next Board Meeting: Thursday 1:00 PM April 27, 2023 Lake Miona RC – Resolute room