

Minutes
Institute for Senior Professionals
April 18, 2006, 9:30 a.m.
The Gallery, Building K

Members Present:

Eileen Arpke	Bill Hall	John Streit
Dave Bechtold	David Keener	Van Swenson
Stan Berg	Don Litke	Walt Turner
Dale Blanchard	Sam Mac Nulty	George Wagner
Steve Cherny	Bill Maxson	Barbara Wall
George Dean	Robert Milligan	Dann Wallis
Howard Dimmig	Fred Pryor	Roger Wallis
George Fischer	Tom Reynolds	Loyal Weaver
Mike Flynt	George Russell	Al Weidenbusch
Mack Gay	Larmon Salmon	Rae Williams
Ben Grafton	Sy Shwiller	

Members Absent:

Doug Bacon	Audrey Hains	Jane Meigs
Robert Billingsley	Inez Hall	Charlie Morris
Russell Christesen	Doug Harvell	Annette Register
Jim Durham	Art Lester	John Vaughan
Bob Garcia		

Others Present:

Becky Tislow
Jill White

Call to Order

Mack Gay called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.. He delivered the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. No guests were present.

College Report

Dr. Jill White presented the College Report in Dr. Richburg's absence. She announced that the college is searching for 14 new faculty positions necessary because of retirements and program growth. She noted that OWC has the greatest number of faculty holding doctorate degrees of all 28 community college in the state system. The college will begin a paramedic/EMS career ladder program in the fall, along with a radiography program, a 2-year AS degree. Another new program to begin in the fall is an Emergency Administration Management degree, including Fire Science, Homeland Security, Criminal Justice and Emergency Administration. Other new programs are a "Friday College" and "Twilight College" that will better serve student needs. Fifteen nurses will participate in the college's first BSN graduation. She announced that the Collegiate High School has been nominated by the Florida Education Commissioner as a Blue Ribbon School for the No Child Left Behind Act, the only charter high school ever nominated.

Chairman's Remarks

Mr. Gay said he would save his comments for later in the meeting, but noticed that attendance has been down somewhat for the past several meetings.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of March 21, 2006 were approved as presented. Motion, Howard Dimmig; Second, George Dean.

Treasurer's Report

George Russell presented the Treasurer's Report that reflected a balance of \$4,718.95. Motion, Dave Bechtold; Second, Eileen Arpke.

Don Litke questioned the high cost of meal service. Becky responded that reservations are made for 40 and that is the number for which we are charged, regardless of how many members are actually in attendance. It was suggested that the Executive Committee look into the cost and determine if we could have a smaller number of reservations in the future. The college Food Services staff provides ample quantities, so a smaller number would still satisfy luncheon needs for members.

Committee Reports

Program

Eileen Arpke said that Col Keith and Ms. Gloria Frazier will present the program in May. The program will be a panel discussion about affordable housing

Eileen said that Jane Meigs is having an MRI in Birmingham and was hospitalized last week with pneumonia, but was doing better.

Membership

Barbara Wall stated that the membership application can now be completed electronically, making for a more efficient, streamlined process. She said that ISP's current membership stands at 46, since Dave Bechtold has not moved out-of-state as planned.

Social

Eileen Arpke said that the ISP Christmas Social will be held Wednesday, December 13th at the Eglin Officers' Club and suggested members mark that date on their calendars.

Project Opportunities:

Emerald Coast Barbershoppers

Loyal Weaver said that the organization is in need of both a Business Plan and a Marketing Plan. He suggested to the Barbershoppers that the organization write a formal letter requesting assistance.

Youth Village

Dann Wallis said the process to develop a Business Plan has begun.

Nursing Project

Mack read Art Lester's written report that stated no additional help was needed on the Nursing project. The committee established and refined goals, enlisted volunteer physicians, created teaching protocols and simulated patient scripts and obtained protocols for student teaching and evaluations as were used at Wake Forest. Based upon these activities and responses, Dr. Lester suggested we write the Nursing School and suggest it continue as planned.

Ocean City –Wright Project

Mike Flynt thanked the committee for assisting with the project while he was out of town. He said the project is on a temporary "hold" for the time being. The main goal of the fire department was to focus the community on the needed milage increase; however the measure was defeated at the polls. Mike said Chief Randy Brown wants to establish a new station to care for the population increase along Racetrack Road. The Mission Statement and Vision Statement prepared by ISP will be taken to the Fire Board for its approval. In answer to a question from Loyal Weaver, Mike said that Okaloosa County supplies all paramedics and if the Ocean City-Wright responders are the first ones to arrive, they can administer first aid, but must wait until paramedics arrive for more intensive treatment to be provided.

Freeport Project

Ben Grafton said Walton County is executing inter-local agreements with Fire Departments north of the bay to provide financial support by the county if the departments agree to service particular areas. Volunteer firefighters will need to be qualified.

He said 50 percent of the interviews have been completed. Ben noted that common concerns coming from the interviews are organization and staffing and transportation infrastructure. A new water source will be needed within the next 12-15 years. He said there is a project to construct 1,500-2,000 affordable houses on property owned by Regional Utilities.

Tactical Implementation Plan

Mack said that the Executive Committee discussed the Tactical Implementation Plan concerning Member Profiles, Guidelines for Membership, Publicity and New Project Guidelines. It was decided that the committee should draw its final recommendations from these reports and present them to the Directors at the May meeting.

He noted that the language of the Strategic Plan, previously adopted by the Directors, should be integrated with, and in some cases replace, the current language of the Director's Guide, as should the final recommendation of the four committee reports when approved by the Directors at the May meeting.

Mack said that ISP currently has three Focus 2020 task forces, and the recommendation is to add one additional task force, Critical Issues Focus Groups. Much discussion ensued regarding the role of task forces and their purpose and whether or not to call the group "focus groups." Mack stated that task forces look at broad issues in a certain area and see project opportunities, to which David Keener added that they are standing groups that look into the future; projects have an end date while focus groups do not. Don Litke said task force involvement enlightens ISP membership and brings current "hot" issues to the group.

Publicity

No report.

FOCUS 2020

Environmental and Natural Resources

Loyal said that while our legislative delegation supports deleting requirements for permitting in Northwest Florida, nothing is happening. He said the bill in the House would bring a weakened program to NW Florida and take away from the local governments their authority to regulate. He suggested a study of past and current development along Garnier Bayou.

Transportation

Bill Maxson said the team is tracking a number of activities. The Emerald Coast Bridge Authority has asked the Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority and DOT to assist in finding near-term solutions to the Brooks Bridge traffic congestion; a workshop is being planned. Meanwhile, the TPO has scheduled a working group meeting April 20th at 1:30 p.m. at the Niceville City Hall to address traffic improvements at Brooks Bridge. Eglin AFB has been sponsoring Vision 2015 meetings to work with the community in absorbing the impact of BRAC 2005. There are transportation impacts and these are being synchronized with other transportation planning.

Public Service

Sam Mac Nulty said that Bob Arnold has held several meetings concerning implications of BRAC on our local area. Sam, Bill Maxson and Bob Garcia are attending these

meetings. They agreed that ISP should not take this on as a project or chair any committees and should act only as a resource. Sam said Mr. Arnold does not want to create any additional work for local counties, but does want to facilitate local action with military support.. There will be a Strategy Summit at the Emerald Coast Conference Center May 23rd that will bring together high level speakers within the military and civilian fields to discuss the issues looming. The public will be invited.

Senior Activities

Dann Wallis said there were 641 seats serving 421 students in Spring Prime Time programs, down from last year.

Around the Room

Stan Berg said the League of Women Voters will sponsor the annual State of the County Report, May 13, 10 a.m. – 12 noon in the Jury Assembly Room, Shalimar Courthouse Annex. Attending will be Howard Hill, representing the Okaloosa County School Board, Sherry Campbell, Okaloosa County Commission, and the Don Howard, Clerk of Circuit Courts.

Van Swenson said he has been contacted to judge the Middle School Academic Tournament and the Collegiate High School Capstone Project and asked to speak with other members who also will judge these events.

Robert Milligan said that after the recent spate of hurricanes, a long-range recovery task force was formed. Since May is Hurricane Preparedness Month, the last week in the month has been designated a tax-free week for purchase of hurricane preparedness supplies. He said a new initiative will be Three Days in May, where citizens will be encouraged to purchase three days' worth of hurricane preparedness supplies, such as batteries, bottled water, non-perishable food, etc.

He said that the Volunteer Center has hired a director and will be temporarily located in the United Way office on Tupelo Street. The center will perform as a volunteer emergency response center.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Guest Speaker

Dr. Thomas McKnight spoke on Preventative Medicine.