

Minutes
Institute for Senior Professionals
April 17, 2007, 7:30 a.m.
Gallery, Building K

Members Present:

Eileen Arpke	Doug Harvell	Tom Reynolds
Dave Bechtold	Darrell James	Van Swenson
Stan Berg	David Keener	John Vaughan
Robert Billingsley	Don Litke	George Wagner
Dale Blanchard	Sam Mac Nulty	Barbara Wall
Steve Cherny	Bill Maxson	Dann Wallis
Mike Flynt	Jane Meigs	Loyal Weaver
Bob Garcia	Gary McMillin	Al Weidenbusch
Audrey Hains	Fred Pryor	Rae Williams
Bill Hall		

Members Absent:

Russell Christesen	Ben Grafton	Larmon Salmon
George Dean	Inez Hall	Sy Shwiller
Howard Dimmig	Bob Milligan	John Streit
Jim Durham	Charlie Morris	Roger Wallis
Mack Gay	Annette Register	

Others Present:

Jim Chitwood
Bob Richburg
Becky Tislow

Guest Speaker:

Mark Schaffer, Managing Engineer, Baskerville Donovan, Inc.
Pete DeBogory, South Walton Utilities Company
Alicia Keeter, South Walton Utilities Company

Call to Order

David Keener called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. Bob Garcia delivered the Invocation and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guest Speaker

Mr. Mark Schaffer, Managing Engineer, Baskerville Donovan, Inc. presented the day's program on the Apricot Project.

College Report

Dr. Richburg noted that in light of the tragedy at Virginia Tech, college administrators have met to review plans and policies for dealing with disasters. To provide an extra layer of protection, some colleges have armed police forces; OWC contracts for a deputy at the Fort Walton Beach Campus from 2-10 p.m. five days a week. In response to a question, Dr. Richburg said that if a disaster strikes the campus, runners would be sent out to each building with instructions for students and telephones also would be used. Email and web page notices are dependent upon the user having current access, so word of mouth and telephones would be the first layers of notification.

The college is at semester's end and several year-end activities are in the works: The Docents & Ushers Luncheon, Dance Facets, Show Choir Finale and Raiders of the Lost Art are just a few

upcoming events. The Dance Facets program will be held in memory of Frances Herron, and is a fund-raiser to name the dance studio in Frances' memory. Dr. Richburg said the Show Choir Finale would host more than 200 Show Choir alumni that will participate in the evening's program.

Dr. Richburg noted that there would be quite a bit of construction money coming from the legislative session, but not much operating money; the college is in final negotiations with Mr. Jeffrey Rinke to serve as conductor of the NFSO.

Chairman's Report

David welcomed John Vaughan back after open-heart surgery and reported that Larmon Salmon is at home after having a pacemaker implanted. He noted the May 15th meeting would be held in LRC 128. The Nominating Committee will be chaired by Don Litke, with Russell Christesen and Doug Harvell serving on the committee. An Advisory Committee chaired by Dann Wallis will study the Emeritus Membership issue and another will review the Member Guide over the summer for any necessary changes.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the March 20, 2007 meeting were approved as presented. **Motion, Eileen Arpke; second, Jane Meigs. Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

Bob Garcia presented the Treasurer's Report reflecting a balance of \$4,668.87.

Committee Reports

Program

Van Swenson reported that State Senator Don Gaetz will be the Guest Speaker for May with Gen. Eidsaune speaking in June.

Membership

Barbara Wall reported that the Membership Committee recommends Philip Hoge for membership. **Motion, Barbara Wall; second, Sam Mac Nulty. Motion carried.**

Social

Bob Garcia said the Spring Social would be held April 28, 2007, 4-7 p.m. at the Eglin Yacht Club; a Barbershop Quartet will entertain. A field trip to the Explosive Ordinance Device School will be held May 16th. Members should meet at the school, located off Range Road, at 8:30 a.m. for the three-hour tour of the facility; lunch will follow at 11:30 a.m.

Project Opportunities

Mike Flynt, Sam Mac Nulty and Audrey Hains met with Ted Corcoran of the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce about the image Fort Walton Beach has in the area and region. Mr. Corcoran will send a formal letter of request asking ISP's assistance with a "Branding" Study.

Doug Harvell and Russ Christesen met with Mr. Ted Barker, Mayor of the City of Destin about a potential request for ISP to work on a special project "Destin's Human Capital: Today and The Future," to study the impact of retirement of the Baby Boomer generation.

Bill Maxson said that Mark Martin, Mitigation Strategy Group, is interested in ISP assisting to organize, analyze and put into a formal plan documents detailing strategies for preventing damage in disaster situations. The federally-mandated plan is due January 2008. It was suggested that ISP get a better idea of the scope of work and report at the May meeting before approving this project.

Mary Esther City Councilman Dick Reinlie has expressed an interest in an ISP study of how to increase the efficiency and economy of operations of the City of Mary Esther in light of the expected property tax rollback.

Freeport Study

Bill Maxson said he will meet with county and state officials today; ISP will begin to phase out of this project.

Horizons of Okaloosa County

Audrey Hains said she will meet with Mr. David Miller to go over the report; she will bring the completed report to the May meeting for approval.

Okaloosa County Courier Project

The committee is interviewing participants.

Heritage Museum

Inez Hall will chair this committee with May 1st being the first meeting date.

Emerald Coast Chorus

Dave Bechtold said he and Darrell James have met with members several times and have several good suggestions; Darrell is writing a preliminary report and things should be wrapped up in May. Dave said he could find nothing in past Minutes showing that ISP voted to accept this project and asked the group to do so. **Motion to accept, Dave Bechtold; second, Loyal Weaver. Motion carried.**

Project C-Squared

Dave said he is being interviewed by a Collegiate High School student about his career in the CIA. Twenty-two Collegiate High Schoolers are involved in the project and could contact other ISP members for mentoring or advice on career selection.

Critical Issues Focus Groups

Citizens Involvement

Fred Pryor said Focus Group members are Robert Billingsley, John Vaughan, Rae Williams, Van Swenson and Inez Hall. He said the group has been looking at Workforce Housing but is having some difficulty in wrapping their arms around the problem. Affordable Housing would be in the \$120-\$150K range while the median house in Okaloosa County is priced at \$201K+. The Florida Legislature is addressing the property tax issue; the Economic Development Council, League of Women Voters, local governments and the college are all studying the issue.

Environment and Natural Resources

Loyal Weaver said ISP might want to conduct a feasibility study on municipal waste disposal.

Disaster Response

Stan Berg said the Focus Group continues to attend Emergency Management meetings and make contacts.

Citizens Involvement

Doug Harvell said the Focus Group has met with several government officials, developed a Mission Statement and drafted a letter to Pat Tolbert. The group is developing a list of interested people to form a Tax Watch organization of businesses and citizens.

Robert Milligan emailed that he would be prepared to give a detailed report on tax and insurance issues at the May meeting.

Transportation

Bill Maxson said the TPO met and discussed the 2030 Long Range Plan; the public will be invited to a meeting to be announced around the first part of May. The Corridor Authority approved the Master Plan; the Okaloosa County Commission will review. The Emerald Coast Bridge Authority is back in operation.

Sustaining Support

Web Site

Tom Reynolds provided a quick navigation to the ISP website. Jim Chitwood noted that the ISP is an organization under the college and that the college's Technology Committee would need to review the suggestion of using another server.

Prime Time

Dann Wallis said the Curriculum Committee would meet soon; spring registration had some of the highest numbers ever.

Around the Room

Bob Garcia asked members to send Becky information necessary for Eglin gate access.

Becky reminded members that the 2007-08 Directory would be compiled over the summer and asked them to send any changes to their biography page.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11 a.m.