

Minutes
Institute for Senior Professionals
January 16, 2007 7:30 a.m.
Room LRC 128

Members Present:

Eileen Arpke	Audrey Hains	Fred Pryor
Dave Bechtold	Bill Hall	Annette Register
Stan Berg	Doug Harvell	Tom Reynolds
Robert Billingsley	Don Litke	Larmon Salmon
Dale Blanchard	Sam Mac Nulty	Van Swenson
Steve Cherny	Bill Maxson	John Vaughan
Russell Christesen	Gary McMillin	Barbara Wall
Jim Durham	Jane Meigs	Dann Wallis
Bob Garcia	Robert Milligan	Loyal Weaver
Mack Gay	Charlie Morris	Rae Williams

Members Absent:

George Dean	Inez Hall	John Streit
Howard Dimmig	David Keener	George Wagner
Michael Flynt	Sy Shwiller	Roger Wallis
Ben Grafton	Joe Staton	Al Weidenbusch

Others Present:

Bob Richburg
Becky Tislow

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Karen Chapman, Okaloosa County Health Department

Guest Speaker

Dr. Karen Chapman, Okaloosa County Health Department was the guest speaker.

Call to Order

Call to Order

Audrey Hains called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Larmon Salmon delivered the Invocation after which Steve Cherny led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

College Report

Dr. Richburg said the District Board of Trustees would consider the Community Services Complex at its January meeting; the architect is appearing before the Okaloosa County Commission to present conceptual plans; the Trustees will also consider a Master Plan for the Robert L. F. Sikes Center in Crestview to expand the facility on its present site. Since this item must go before the Florida Legislature for funding, it is possible that the college will see action in the 8-10 year timeframe. The Teacher Education program will be reviewed by the state February 20, 2007; men's and women's basketball teams play Chipola JC, Wednesday January 17th in the OWC gymnasium. The Chipola men's team is ranked #1 in the nation, so we can expect an exciting game.

Chairman's Report

Audrey Hains reported in the absence of David Keener. Audrey presented Rae Williams with a gift honoring her as a charter member of the Institute for Senior Professionals. She noted that at each meeting one focus group will be highlighted for an in-depth report and that all other focus group chairmen will give a brief report.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the November 21, 2006 meeting were approved as presented. **Motion, Bob Garcia; Second, Mack Gay. Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report

Bob Garcia presented the Treasurer's Report reflecting a balance of \$5,451.37.

Committee Reports

Program

Van Swenson announced upcoming guest speakers, February, Sandy Safley, a former Florida Legislator who is now employed as a property insurance lawyer; March, County Commissioner John Janazzo speaking on the homeless situation in our area; April, the incoming Test Wing Commander; and May, Florida Senator, Don Gaetz.

Membership

Barbara Wall said the committee would meet with applicant, Darrell James, after today's meeting and provide a report to members at the next meeting.

Social

Dave Bechtold said there were 75 members and invited guests attending the Christmas Social at the Eglin AFB Officers Club and that the \$35 per guest fee was more than ample to cover expenses. He expressed some concerns about using the Eglin facility and suggested we look at other options for future socials.

Project Opportunities

Dave Bechtold said he received a letter from the Emerald Coast Barbershop Chorus asking for ISP assistance. Since Dave is still somewhat unclear about what the mission would be, he will discuss the group's needs with Chorus representatives and report back to ISP.

Dave mentioned Project C Square, a project funded by a "Wired" grant to increase numbers of students majoring in math, engineering and science. Dave said Drs. Beth Ritter and Marion Herring expressed a desire for ISP to be a source of expertise for the project. ISP assistance would not necessarily be a group effort, but rather an individual one and members are asked to contact the project's directors, Dr. Beth Ritter (rittere@owc.edu) and Dr. Marion Herring (herringm@owc.edu) to determine how they might assist with the project.

In response to a question from Charlie Morris, Dr. Richburg responded that there are less than 2,000 homeless in Okaloosa County and that the United Way is working on the issue. He said that the UW Board may come to ISP for a gap analysis to see what is being provided and what is needed.

Audrey reported that a letter was received from Horizons of Okaloosa County requesting a feasibility study for a new childcare facility. Joe Staton has volunteered to chair the task force, with Mack Gay and Audrey Hains serving. **Motion to approve the project, Mack Gay; second, Russ Christesen. Motion carried.**

Freeport Study

Bill Maxson said the Analysis Report (EAR) would be presented to the state on September 1, 2007.

Critical Issues Focus Groups

Environment and Natural Resources

Loyal Weaver said the group is looking at the Apricot Act to reuse wastewater.

Transportation

Bill Maxson said the Corridor Authority would have a Master Plan on July 1, 2007; alternatives are on CD and will be placed on the ISP website.

Workforce Housing

Fred Pryor said a report should be ready within 2-3 month.

Citizens Involvement

Doug Harvell said the group will concentrate on two emerging issues: establishing a Tax Watch-type organization in Okaloosa County and participating in the Florida Tax and Budget Reform Commission of 2007, a commission that meets only every 20 years. The ISP group will meet with the Walton County Tax Watch Association; with Pete Smith, Okaloosa County Tax Appraiser, develop a Statement of Need to serve as a basis for ISP future actions. Bob Milligan will research data regarding the Florida Tax and Budget Reform Commission and brief all ISP members. Specific items and issues to be presented to the Commission will be prepared for ISP approval in advance.

Motion for ISP to proceed with examining ways in which ISP might become involved, Dave Bechtold; second, Dale Blanchard. Motion carried.

Disaster Response

Stan Berg provided an in-depth report on the Disaster Response Focus Group's work in recent months. He mentioned the numerous disasters (natural, man-made and terrorism) and the various agencies affected when disasters happen. He said the focus group is comprised of 11 members who will become involved with local organizations to gain more knowledge. Stan said

Americorps/OWC received a grant for disaster response mitigation. He has talked with Americorps Director, Jo Jones, who has asked ISP to evaluate this particular component of Americorps in six months.

Sustaining Support

Web Site

Tom Reynolds said informational items would be placed on the website as a member resource.

Prime Time

Dann Wallis said the Prime Time registration will be held January 17, 2007 beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the College Mall, Building K. Classes will begin January 27, 2007.

Around the Room

Reporting for Eileen Arpke, Bill Maxson said the Okaloosa County Science Fair would be held January 29 through February 1. Members interested in serving as judges should call or email Barbara Botterbusch, 833-3300 Ext. 1332 or 833-3514 or botterbusch@okaloosa.k12.fl.us.

Gary McMillin asked any members interested in serving on a Trauma Team to let him know.

Stan Berg noted a League of Women Voters meeting to inform the public about Offshore Drilling would be held January 20, 2007, 10:30 a.m. in the Niceville City Council Chambers.

Jane Meigs informed members about the effort to establish an endowment to name the Frances Herron Dance Studio in memory of former OWC faculty member and dance instructor who passed away in 2006.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.