

Minutes
Institute for Senior Professionals
November 20, 2007, 7:30 a.m.
Gallery, Building K

Members present:

Tom Reynolds
John Vaughan
Jane Meigs
Darrell James
Barbara Wall
John Streit
Mack Gay
Rae Williams
Bill Hall

Mike Flynt
Fred Pryor
Roger Wallis
Dann Wallis
Al Weidenbusch
Bob Garcia
Russell Christensen
Audrey Hains
Inez Hall

Stan Berg
Charles Morris
Van Swenson
Steve Cherny
Doug Harvell
Sam Mac Nulty
George Wagner
Bob Richburg
Ben Grafton

Members absent:

Dave Bechtold
Philip Hoge
Larmon Salmon
Robert Milligan
Jim Chitwood
Walt Turner

Dale Blanchard
James Durham
Robert Billingsley
Loyal Weaver
Howard Dimmig
George Fischer

George Dean
Bill Maxson
David Keener
Annette Register
Larmon Salmon
Sy Shwiler

Others present:

Joe Konecsni – Guest
Bill Lord – Guest
Carolyne Laux

Guest Speaker:

Judge Pat Maney

Call to Order

Audrey Hains called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Guest Speaker

Judge Pat Maney

College Report

Dr. Richburg commented on the following:

- Finals will be coming up in December
- December 7th is the College Reception and Concert
- The Arts Center is doing great – Broadway Shows are sold out
- continual planning for the community services complex – construction documents will go to Board in January, Award will be made in March, and construction to begin in April and will take 18-24 months.

- Building K will become the new student services building with major renovations and additions.
- Important to understand where the PECO dollars generate from: utility taxes, so when the revenue is down in the state oftentimes the PECO dollars are up. In general revenue the college is taking a 3.5% cut and another cut coming of 3.0%.
- Dr. Richburg asked anyone who has some insight/thoughts on what direction Florida is going – whether the economy will recover to where it was or are we looking a different Florida – would share their thoughts with him by email.

Chairperson's Remarks

Dr. Hains referred to the goal to recruit 10-15 new quality ISP members, especially need some from north end of the county. Also, she continued to encourage members to get involved in the OWC academic activities. She and Ben worked with the recent Academic Tournament and really enjoyed the experience. Mrs. Arpke commented on the Science Fair opportunity for working as judges. The next one will be on February 5th at the Fairgrounds.

Business Meeting

Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the October 16, 2007 meeting were approved, as presented (Motion: Garcia; Second: Flynt. Approved unanimously).

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Cherny provided the treasurer's report. The balance in the account is \$8,805.71.

Program Committee

Mr. Wagner presented the upcoming program schedule:

- January – Ray Sansom
- February – Bob Milligan
- March – Gabe Woods

Membership Committee

Mrs. Wall said there was no report for this month, but will have one for the January, 2008 meeting.

One item for consideration of the membership is to grant emeritus status to past members. This idea has been talked about with the Executive Committee, the membership committee, and with Dr. Richburg. Dr. Hains recommended that George Russell and Sy Shwiller be given emeritus status (Motion: Gay; Second: Arpke. Approved unanimously). Dr. Hains will ask Dr. Richburg to write a letter to each one.

Social Committee Reports

Mr. Reynolds indicated that the Octoberfest on October 20th went very well. The Christmas dinner is on December 13th and Mr. Reynolds asked that all reservations be made along with payment. He has sent out the menu and directions.

Mr. Garcia reported on the EOD field trip that will take place on December 11th at 9:00 a.m.

Project Opportunities

Dr. Hains presented a request from the Air Force Armament Museum Foundation for help with current fundraising for a new educational center. They need someone with grant writing experience and guidance on fundraising activities. Mr. Streit advised that the 5th graders from Longwood Elementary School visited the museum recently and the museum provided activities for the children – a great way to involve the students.

On a motion by Bob Garcia, seconded by Tom Reynolds, the membership accepted the project. Some members for the project will be John Streit, George Wagner, Russ Christensen, and others.

Active Projects:

Walton County Local Mitigation Strategy Report

In the absence of Mr. Maxson, Bob Garcia reported on the project. The draft has been completed and is posted on the LMS Home web site in Shared Documents as the ISP Draft LMS Plan for Walton County 3 Nov. Version. The plan is not complete at this point and the ISP team has completed its work, but will be available to assist if necessary in the finalization of the Plan.

Heritage Museum – No report

Walton County Domestic Violence Committee

The committee meets the fourth Thursday every month. The last meeting was in October and the people in attendance were impressive. The next meeting will be in January and then a report will be given to ISP in February.

Critical Issues Focus Groups

Dr. Hains has asked that at 2:00 p.m. on December 5th that the Executive Committee meet with the Chairperson from each focus group to cover in the ISP to discuss: (1) long range planning (2) accomplishments and (3) timeline.

Workforce Housing

Mr. Pryor indicated that there have been no recent activities, but that soon to begin looking at workforce within local governments.

Disaster Response – No report

Citizen Involvement

Mr. Harvell announced that Thursday evening a general membership meeting was held re: Okaloosa Citizens Alliance, Inc.. Sixty-five people attended the meeting with speakers being Pete Smith, John Janazzo, and the Assistant County Administrator. In March, the work will begin. The organization needs more board members in areas of web master, membership chairman, and director of research.

Environment and Natural Resources – no report

Transportation

Mr. Weidenbusch announced a public meeting on November 27, 2007 at the Niceville Council Chambers at 10 a.m. to consider the Florida DOT, District III, tentative work plan for 2009-2013. Mr. Weidenbusch invited any interested to review the charts he has placed at the back of the room regarding the Corridor Authority.

Mr. Wagner said that the Highway 20/Mid-Bay bridge project is moving along.

Prime Time

Mr. Wallis reported that there are many new offerings this coming semester and registration begins on January 11th with classes beginning on January 21st.

Around the Room

Mack Gay offered a chance for members to buy a chance on a Jeep Cherokee that is part of a fundraising project for the CIC.

Dann Wallis was pleased to announce that Barnes and Nobles will carry his Civil War Novel.