

Minutes
Institute for Senior Professionals
October 17, 2006, 9:30 a.m.
The Gallery, Building K

Members Present:

Stan Berg	Inez Hall	Tom Reynolds
Dave Bechtold	Doug Harvell	Joe Staton
Dale Blanchard	David Keener	Van Swenson
Steve Cherny	Don Litke	Barbara Wall
Russell Christesen	Gary McMillin	Dann Wallis
George Dean	Bob Milligan	Roger Wallis
Bob Garcia	Charlie Morris	Loyal Weaver
Mack Gay	Fred Pryor	Al Weidenbusch
Bill Hall	Annette Register	Rae Williams

Members Absent:

Eileen Arpke	Ben Grafton	Sy Shwiller
Robert Billingsley	Audrey Hains	John Streit
Howard Dimmig	Sam Mac Nulty	Walt Turner
Jim Durham	Bill Maxson	John Vaughan
George Fischer	Jane Meigs	George Wagner
Mike Flynt	Larmon Salmon	

Others Present:

Jim Chitwood
Bob Richburg
Becky Tislow

Guest Speaker:

Jim Curry

Call to Order

Chairman's Remarks

David Keener called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Barbara Wall delivered the Invocation after which Tom Reynolds led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

David called attention to the microphones for member use. He introduced a new member, Joe Staton, and asked him to tell the membership at large a little about himself. Joe was career Air Force and worked for L3 Communications. He is currently serves as a consultant, primarily with management and marketing issues.

David reminded members that the November meeting will be a breakfast one with coffee served at 7:30 a.m. Breakfast will follow at 8 a.m. and the speaker invited at 8:30 a.m. The business meeting will begin at approximately 9:30 a.m.

David read a thank you note from Ms. Nellie Bogar, executive director of Youth Village, thanking Charlie Morris and his team for their work in developing a Business Plan for her organization.

David mentioned that Tom Reynolds will present a PowerPoint tutorial on the ISP website that now contains minutes, guest speaker notes, and written reports from project and Focus Group chairs, as well as a variety of other information members should find useful.

College Report

Dr. Richburg reported that the Sustainability Task Force met yesterday and began discussions that will lead to a report on what the Emerald Coast should look like in the year 2030.

He reminded members of upcoming events in The Arts Center: The Neil Simon play, “The Dinner Party,” the NFSO concert in November and the performance of “Jesus Christ Super Star.” He also announced that the annual Raider Night would be held at 6 p.m. on October 24th.

Dr. Richburg said the college’s application to be approved to award bachelor’s degrees in Education is being considered. He noted that the decision is not one for either UWF or OWC to make, but is rather a State Board of Education decision. He said that while all college presidents are advocates for their own institutions, no matter what the outcome, OWC and UWF will continue to co-operate.

Dr. Richburg said that Sam Marshall Architects was selected to design the Community Services building; detailed planning is underway for the South Walton Campus – the college should begin moving ground by late spring.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the September 19, 2006 meeting were approved as presented. **Motion, Dann Wallis, Second, Bob Garcia. Motion carried.**

Treasurer’s Report

Bob Garcia presented the Treasurer’s Report reflecting a balance of \$4,211.40. He reminded members that annual dues are now payable.

Committee Reports

Program

Van Swenson announced upcoming guest speakers, Pete Smith, Okaloosa County Property Appraiser, November; Dr. Karen Chapman, Director of the Okaloosa County Health Department, January; Sandy Safley, a former Florida Legislator who is now employed as a property insurance lawyer, February. Van mentioned several possibilities for upcoming speakers including: Congressmen Alan Boyd and Jeff Miller; State Representative Don Gaetz; Okaloosa County Extension Agent, Elaine Courtney; and Okaloosa County Supervisor of Elections, Pat Hollarn.

Membership

Barbara Wall had no report.

Social

Dale Blanchard said there were 41 members and guests present at the Oktoberfest. He thanked everyone for helping make the event a success.

Dave Bechtold reminded members that the Christmas Social would be held on December 13th with cocktails beginning at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. The event to be held at the Eglin Officers Club will feature a choice of two entrees, London Broil and Chicken Breast or Parmesan Grouper.

Project Opportunities

Dr. Richburg called attention to Project C Square, headed by Drs. Beth Ritter and Marion Herring. The project was funded by the “Wired” grant to increase numbers of students majoring in math, engineering and science. Funds were reserved to use the Collegiate High School as a base and also reach out to area schools. Drs. Ritter and Herring have invited ISP members to a luncheon on October 19 to learn about the project and determine ways in which ISP might be of assistance.

Dave Bechtold said that he and David met with representatives of the Emerald Coast Men’s Chorus (formerly “Barbershoppers”) who would like ISP assistance with marketing their organization. ISP is awaiting a formal letter from the ECMC.

Freeport Study

Steve Cherny said ISP is assisting the City of Freeport in preparing their Evaluation and Analysis Report (EAR). The team is reviewing each of the ten elements in the City’s Comprehensive Plan. Each element will be evaluated as to the success in achieving goals, objectives and adequacy of the policy. Where success is not achieved, the team will identify issues to be addressed. The team will meet with the City Planner to review preliminary analysis of the Comprehensive Plan; attend workshops with members of the Planning Board, and with members of the City Council, as well as various public meetings.

Critical Issues Focus Groups

Environment and Natural Resources

Loyal Weaver said work with M. C. Davis and the Nokuse project is in the planning stages. The team is also researching vaporization of refuse, a project now under construction in Port St. Lucie.

Transportation

Dale Blanchard said team members will attend a workshop in November with the Bridge Authority; Al Weidenbusch will attend a Corridor authority meeting October 19th in Panama City.

Disaster Response

Stan Berg said now that Okaloosa and Walton County Administrators have been to ISP meetings, the team is ready to move ahead. He said members will meet soon to plan on how to proceed. Later that same morning he will attend a VOLAD meeting.

Workforce Housing

Fred Pryor said the team will have an organizational meeting soon. He said there is room on the team for anyone who might be interested.

Citizens Involvement

Doug Harvell said the team is meeting and formulating strategy. He plans to give a report at the November meeting.

Dr. Richburg briefed the group on the Tax Watch organization within the state and suggested ISP might be interested in getting involved somehow. The idea behind Tax Watch is to hold elected bodies accountable, but to stop short of becoming a “do away with taxes” group. He noted that Pete Smith knows a lot of people in Okaloosa County who are waiting for some leadership to pull a group together.

Dr. Richburg noted that M. C. Davis, of the Nokuse Plantation, is making a presentation to the Science Faculty and he will ask that ISP members be invited to attend.

Sustaining Support

Web Site

Tom Reynolds presented a PowerPoint tutorial of the ISP website. The site can be accessed through <http://www.owc.edu/isp>. Posted on the site are member profiles, Director’s Guide, minutes, a calendar of events and focus group information. He encouraged all to use the website, including the calendar, as a working tool.

Prime Time

Dann said Spring registration will be held January 17, 2007 with classes beginning the week of January 27th. He said a Senior Expo will be held January 12, 2007 at the Emerald Coast Conference Center; Prime Time will have a display booth at the Expo.

Around the Room

Stan Berg reminded members to vote in the upcoming election.

Dann said he had attended the groundbreaking for the new VA Clinic to be located on Eglin AFB. He said it would be an outstanding facility and will, hopefully, lead to a full-fledged VA Hospital in the future.

Bob Milligan said the Volunteer Center, headed by June Pritchard, is now housed in the United Way office in Fort Walton Beach.

Bob Garcia said he has been involved in the Eglin Installation Growth Committee looking at how the tri-county area would be affected as a result of BRAC.

Jim Chitwood announced a Sporting Clays Shoot to be held November 18th at the Shoal River Sporting Clays in Crestview. Registration is \$50; he invited ISP members to participate.

Rae Williams mentioned the Mullet Festival documentary being produced.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Guest Speaker

Mr. Jim Curry, Okaloosa County Administrator gave a presentation on the “State of Okaloosa County”.