

**Minutes  
Institute for Senior Professionals  
February 15, 2005**

<b>Members Present:</b>	Doug Bacon	Bill Hall	Herb Steely
	Dave Bechtold	Inez Hall	John Streit
	Stan Berg	Doug Harvell	Van Swenson
	Russell Christesen	David Keener	Walt Turner
	Howard Dimmig	Sam Mac Nulty	John Vaughan
	Jim Durham	Bill Maxson	George Wagner
	Bill Edgington	Jane Meigs	Barbara Wall
	George Fischer	Eddie Phillips	Dann Wallis
	Mike Flynt	Annette Register	Roger Wallis
	Bob Garcia	Tom Reynolds	Al Weidenbusch
	Mack Gay	Larmon Salmon	Rae Williams
	Audrey Hains	Sy Shwiller	

<b>Members Absent:</b>	Eileen Arpke	Ben Grafton	George Russell
	Robert Billingsley	Don Litke	Loyal Weaver
	Dale Blanchard		

<b>Others Present:</b>	Jim Chitwood
	Becky Tislow

### **Call to Order**

Dann Wallis called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and asked Roger Wallis to deliver the invocation. Dann then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Welcome Guests**

Walt Turner introduced his guest, Bob Carney, associated with the Center for Lifelong Learning at the University of West Florida; Doug Bacon introduced his guest, Tom Utterback, a retired attorney; and Bob Garcia introduced his guest, Charlie Morris, a retired psychology professor.

### **College Report**

Jim Chitwood said that Dr. Richburg was attending a Volunteer Florida meeting in Orlando. He said the Criminal Justice training skid pad opened last month and that local law enforcement officials were pleased the college constructed the facility. He announced several upcoming events including Friday's NFSO Concert, Raider Basketball vs. Pensacola Junior College; a Holocaust Survivors Seminar, co-sponsored by the AAUW, to be held March 15, 2005, in the College Mall and tonight's presentation on the Tuskegee Airmen, also co-sponsored by the AAUW.

Van Swenson congratulated the college's Brain Bowl team for their trip to the state finals.

### **Chairman's Report**

Dann announced that Doug Bacon will not be moving out of the area after all and welcomed him as he renewed his membership. Dann also announced that the Niceville-Valparaiso Bay Area Chamber of Commerce presented Rae Williams with Lifetime Director status as a founding member of the chamber. He said that OWC was also recognized by the chamber with the Community Enrichment Award. Dann noted an article in the February-March issue of The Emerald Coast magazine that gave credit to ISP's participation in the Children in Crisis project.

## **Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes of the January 18, 2005 meeting were approved with one correction. Motion, Bob Garcia; second, Bill Maxson.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Dave Bechtold presented the Treasurer's report that reflected a balance of \$9,640.58. He said there is a balance of \$4,749.86 in the Operating Fund and \$880.72 in the Discretionary Fund. Dave said \$1,000 will be sent to the Madrigal Singers as a donation for their upcoming tour. The Treasurer's report was accepted. Motion, John Vaughan; second, George Wagner.

## **Committee Reports**

### Program

Eddie Phillips said that Walt Richardson, a local small business owner, would be the day's guest speaker. Tom Powell, Walton County Economic Development Council would be the speaker for March; Wayne Harris, Crestview Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, April; and Judge T. Patterson Maney in May.

### Membership

Barbara Wall said that the Membership Committee would meet with a prospective member February 17, 2005 and asked that all current members review the Director's Guide for correct procedures prior to inviting guests.

### Social

Bob Garcia said that the Spring Social is scheduled for May 21, 2005 at the Eglin Yacht Club. He said that he would ask for volunteers at next month's meeting.

### Senior Activities

Walt Turner said that Prime Time registrants number 700 plus seats, a record. He said there would be an Emerald Coast Expo March 10, 2005, 4-7 p.m. in the Niceville Campus College Mall with exhibitors informing area seniors of what activities are available locally. Walt also announced the re-organization of the Prime Time Computer Club.

## **Special Committees:**

### Director's Guide

Russell Christesen led a discussion regarding the Director's Guide. He thanked former chairmen Doug Harvell, Bill Maxson, Eileen Arpke, Don Litke and Eddie Phillips for their service in compiling the guide. A question from John Vaughan led to a discussion regarding procedures for prospective members included in the guide.

Dann asked the Membership Committee to review the procedure and present the group with specific recommendations for changes, if any.

Bill Edgington moved that the Membership Committee review the procedure and re-write if necessary; second, Inez Hall.

### Visiting Lecturer

Jim Durham said the Visiting Lecturer program would take place April 14 & 15, 2005. He said there will be a 2 p.m. session for students and a reception after the evening session.

### Website

Tom Reynolds said the website recorded 82 visits. He asked members if they would like to include their membership directory on the member-protected site. He also said there is an Activity Calendar and that members should notify him of any upcoming events of interest to members. Tom said the Director's Guide would be placed in the member-protected site.

He said Becky would send monthly meeting Minutes to him for placement on the site. Members should review the Minutes for correction or additions and notify him, rather than Becky, of any necessary changes. He will then provide corrections to Becky for a final form of the Minutes to be included on the site after member approval.

### Heritage Museum

Jane Meigs said that renovations are underway at the Heritage Museum. She said a Prime Time class held at the museum is enjoyable.

### Children in Crisis

Mack Gay said the CIC fund-raising kick-off was very well received. He said the group is securing pledges toward the \$3 million goal and that pledges have already been received for \$2 million. Mack noted that pledges have already been received to construct several buildings.

### City of Valparaiso Public Works Study

Howard Dimmig said the final report had been sent to the requestor and that the item can be removed from the agenda.

### Youth Village

Bill Edgington said he has been in contact with Ms. Nellie Bogar who has indicated she will get back with him later this month for assistance in writing the Business Plan. He noted that she has established a Board of Directors with whom to work.

### Prime Time Review

Walt Turner, reporting for Chairperson Eileen Arpke, said he has met with Dr. Jill White and that the committee will have a report ready at the March meeting.

### Science Fair

Barbara Wall said awards will be given February 16, 2005, with a total of 97 trophies being presented. Mack Gay said that Science Fair participation was down significantly this year and there was no ISP participation.

### OWC Nursing Program

Dave Bechtold noted that Ms. Linda Whinton, Director of Nursing, has some interesting concepts of where she would like the program to go, but has no definite idea of where she might need ISP assistance. Dave said no letter requesting specific assistance has been received.

## **Focus 2020**

### **Environmental and Natural Resources**

Al Weidenbusch reported for Loyal Weaver and said there has been no meeting yet with Mr. Ross Hamilton.

### **Transportation**

Bill Maxson reported that Transportation Task Force members attended the U. S. 98 workshop held at Hurlburt Field on February 2, 2005. Federal, state and local agency representatives were there along with many citizen groups. There was general agreement that a regional approach was the only way to work the U. S. 98 corridor transportation problem. The TTF also participated with the tri-county RTA Chamber Steering Committee drafting an agreement between the Santa Rosa, Okaloosa and Walton County Commissioners creating a Regional Transportation Authority. Progress is being made and a schedule to present a "critique draft" RTA Agreement to the commissions was set for not later than August 2005. Bill also said that the TPO would meet February 17, 2005, 3 p.m. in the Niceville Community Center to discuss a proposed Niceville by-pass that would significantly impact College Boulevard and suggested that members living in Niceville and Valparaiso might want to attend.

### **Public Services**

Sam Mac Nulty had no report.

### **Around the Room**

Walt Turner said that an article written by Audrey Hains appeared in a national education publication.

Mike Flynt said the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance would hold a Board of Directors Retreat to determine future direction and funding.

Stan Berg said the League of Women Voters would hold a candidate forum for all candidates in the upcoming City of Fort Walton Beach election. The forum, to which all candidates have been invited, will be held March 3, 2005, 7 p.m. in the FWB Municipal Auditorium.

Doug Bacon said that he and his wife considered moving out-of-state due to the proposed Niceville by-pass, the local housing bubble and the sky-rocketing cost of insurance, but after their trip to Washington, decided to remain in Niceville.

Bob Garcia reminded members of the NFSO Wine and Food Tasting event schedule for this weekend and said he had a couple of tickets available.

Bill Edgington recommended the book, Between Good and Evil to members as an excellent read.

Dave Bechtold said the FWB City Council would discuss concepts for a new municipal auditorium at tonight's 7:30 p.m. meeting

Inez Hall said Mr. Homer Hickam, author of the book October Sky, on which the movie was based, would be the guest speaker at the AAUW meeting to be held April 22, 2005.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.