

POA Membership Meeting

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

The meeting was called to order by the President, Cliff Weiner, at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and one moment of silence in remembrance of our troops.

Roll Call indicated all Board members present with the exception of Robert Taraska, excused.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer's report showed total receipts for March were \$19,025; expenses \$11,752; with a positive operating cash flow of \$7,274.

Membership reported that last call for 2016 dues is about to be in the mail. There is a possibility that a few paid members may receive this request due to the lag time in our processing system. Our total membership to date is roughly the same as 2015; however we usually see an increase of 1200 -1400 additional members each year. Our mission is to represent the interests of all Villagers; the size of our membership is important in making our voice heard.

The SHINE report reminded attendees that if you are admitted to the hospital you can either be admitted to the hospital or admitted to an observation bed. Check with the admitting office if you are unsure. In the event you are in an observation bed your coverage is limited to Part B. In that case, you may have expenses, especially drug costs.

Bob Wyatt owner operator of Reverse Mortgage Advisors spoke briefly to the group describing the benefits of obtaining a reverse mortgage. He shared that zip code 32162 is the #2 zip code in the country for number of reverse mortgages. He briefly described the possible benefits of a reverse mortgage including delaying applying for social security and increasing your monthly income. See his ad in the Bulletin if interested.

Gary Gray of the Villages SHRINE club spoke to the group about a fund raising golf tournament planned for the Villages Friday, May 28th at Belle Glade golf course to raise money for their hospitals and burn centers. A fun day is planned to test your both your ability and luck in events that will include lunch and dinner for a cost of \$95. Contact the club for further information.

At the tables at the back of our room included Seniors v. Crime, CERT, the District government, SHRINE and SHINE for individual questions and hand-outs.

There were 3 winners of \$30 each at our cash raffle.

Our Open Forum is the time to ask any question you have that may be a question others wonder about and may be answered in a future Bulletin:

Is there a protocol for recycling?

It costs the POA about \$120,000 per year to publish the Bulletin.

Gas fumes in our tunnels are hazardous to some.

Do our deed restrictions require a house number placed visibly on each residence?

Would it be possible for stripes to be painted in commercial parking areas to facilitate parking?

Speaker: Dr. Thomas Blomberg, Dean and Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Florida State University who is working in conjunction with Merrill Lynch to investigate financial fraud and scams of elders spoke to the group. They are looking at elders as they are expected to number 50 million by 2020, are the fastest growing population of the United States, possess 70% of invested wealth, with 60% experiencing some type of fraud; yet no retirement community in the United States has ever been studied. It is estimated that the big picture is that 51% of this fraud is perpetuated by family members desiring to improve their lot; and in retirement communities like the Villages fraudsters focus primarily on home services and unnecessary repairs. The university will stay in touch with us and report back to us on their findings. In the interim, if interested in following their work, you can follow their efforts on their website at jmestre@fsu.edu.

Cliff announced that next month Triangle Lightning Protection will speak about lightning protection systems for your home. They will be providing a free system to one lucky attendee providing the attendee is a paid POA member for 2016.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM followed by coffee, donuts and good conversations.

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Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Reichel, Secretary