



Pennsylvania Alliance of Retirement Community Residents

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MINUTES - PARCR Quarterly Meeting - Wednesday, April 12, 2017 Quincy Village 6596 Orphanage Road, Waynesboro, PA 17268

WELCOME: Meeting was called to order by President, Ida Jeanne Smith at 10:00am with Pledge of Allegiance.

PRAYER: Mr. Richard Hoff, Quincy Village Resident

HOST: Ms. Jodi Murphy, Executive Director of Quincy Village, welcomed PARCR membership.

ROLL CALL: There were **89** people in attendance representing **18** of our **25** member communities.

LEADINGAGE PA: Anne Henry – Georgia Goodman, was introduced as new associate with LeadingAgePA. When Anne is unable to attend our meetings, Georgia will attend and bring us any new updates. Schedule of Legislative Breakfasts schedule was handed out and residents are invited to attend.

Governor Wolf introduced his budget on Feb. 7th, 2017 for 2017-2018 fiscal year. Gov. Wolf will need General Assembly to pass all laws in order to get his savings plan. He is looking at staff positions (not filling some), and possible consolidation of agencies (Depts. of Human Svcs., Health, Aging, and Drug & Alcohol Programs). This may bring in more money into the State which could generate Federal matching funds. Other options: selling properties not being used, programs for cutbacks, revenue enhancements, minimum wage to \$12, increase funds to Medicare, fiscal management, increase school funding, pension plan for State employees, long term care assistance at CCRC's. House Bill 2018 has passed, and is presently in Senate. We need a rate increase for nursing facilities; it's been a long time since help has been provided.

NaCCRA: Dan Seeger – No report.

PROGRAM: Henry Mathers introduced our panel moderator, Mr. Richard Harley (Cross Keys Village) for: "Improving Communication between Residents and Administration". Panelists were: 2 residents (Jesse Weigel – Messiah Lifeways and Lee Bird – Cross Keys Village) along with 2 Administrators (Rachel Harrington – SpiritTrust of Luther Ridge and Larry Zook – Landis Homes). Surveys were sent to 22 communities and responses received were 16 out of 22. Topics presented were:

- *Total # of IL residents on your campus – range was 74-960 residents (average of 370).*
- *Does your community have a Resident Association or Council? Response – yes.*
- *Who are officiating representatives of Association or Council? Response – President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary*
- *How often does the Association/Council meet? Responses – varied.*
- *Do staff members attend Association/Council meetings? Responses – varied.*
- *Who provides agenda at meetings? Responses – usually President/Chair.*
- *Are Association/Council members in contact with Administration? Responses – yes.*
- *Should Administration be direct link to residents for information or are they a liaison? Responses – varied.*

After long and lengthy discussions, questions from the audience were opened up. The consensus is that each community Association/Council consists of: President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary who are present at meetings along with Administration. Final question after program was: *Is communication at your community effective?*

Comments: Administration has open door policy beyond Association/Council meetings for residents. Association/Council Chair is invited to attend department meetings (dining, menu, building & grounds, finance), and

meets with Administration prior to general resident meeting. Minutes of meetings are circulated through village email list, paper copies (for those without computers), and posted in general areas.

A “thank you” to Quincy Village for a wonderfully prepared continental breakfast by residents of Quincy, and a delicious lunch from Dining Services.

“SHARING AN IDEA”: Ms. Stephanie Parsons, Director, IL & AL Sales and Marketing presentation on new building “Parker House – The Small House Concept”. In 1927, Ms. Ellen Parker sold her vacation farmhouse located in Newville, PA to Presbytery Homes where she and 9 other women had lived. The community is now called Green Ridge Village. This was the start of 1st original small house concept. In 2014, the State of PA approved assisted living in PA; then introduced personal care to bring back concept of assisted living – better to age in place and need for higher levels of care without having to move.

Three houses were developed on Quincy Village land and each house designed to 1) increase memory, 2) create sense of home, and 3) give sense of independence. The buildings each consist of 16 suites with large common areas (country kitchen with dining area to accommodate guests/family). All new buildings are wheelchair accessible with everything located on one floor.

Care Partners are universal workers (available 24 hours a day/7 days a week) in each building helping with everyday “home” living (laundry, meal prep/setup, bathing, activities and medical needs). A 5-meal a day plan is offered without any scheduled times for eating.

“Never2Late” computer technology is available on a cart for easy access to be taken to individual’s suite, and a touch TV system is located in common room.

Additional information can be found at Quincy Village, Waynesboro, website; search for “Parker House”.

PARCR BUSINESS MEETING: The Minutes of the January 11, 2017 meeting at Cross Keys Village will stand as accepted.

Treasurer: Henry Mathers – Handout sheet shows the “Income/Expense by Category” broken down in quarters, and “Current Budget vs Actual” breakdown through 4/11/17. Our checkbook balance is \$7,090.99 (as of 4/11/17). With renewal of memberships coming in June, and payment for lunch attendance today, balance will change/increase.

Membership: Susan Martin, Chair, reported the importance of accuracy information on key/contact people at your communities, and correct spelling of their names. Renewal of memberships will begin between April and June (deadline is June 30th to renew). The annual dues for individual membership is \$20, and \$60 from your community for President/Chair of your Association/Council and 2 delegates. When officers change terms at your community, please notify me immediately whenever this occurs. Applications are available on our PARCR.org website. If you have any questions, please either email me or call me (my information is on PARCR.org website under “Officers”). If we do not hear from you, we will assume that you will not be attending either individually or as a community.

The “Welcome Letter and Agenda” you receive for each Quarterly meeting is important for us to know: your attendance at meeting, staying for lunch or not, and if you plan on a tour that would be offered after meeting. Presently, we have 25 communities in PARCR, and we are looking for future communities to join with us. There are a few western PA communities who do not attend meetings because of distance, however, as members they receive agendas and minutes of meetings, the PARCR newsletter, and notices.

Legislation: Gail Stelger, Chair, reported that members should have received: latest “Legislative Tidbits” for new year 2017, February Tidbits, letter from Ron Barth (CEO, LeadingAgePA), and March 10th Alert (Am. Healthcare Act concern – Medicaid funding to State). Residents are invited to attend Legislative Breakfast sessions (handout at tables), throughout PA, there is no cost, and LeadingAgePA only needs a headcount for the session.

Programs: Bill Stelger, Chair, reported following presentations for 2017: **July 12th, 2017** – “Tax Issues for Seniors” (received highest score on Program Survey) presentation by Kenneth Watts, and **October 11th, 2017** – a “Futurist” presentation by Nancy Feichtl (recommended by member, Laura Dotterer).

If you have any specific areas or questions for the Tax Issues program, please contact Bill (his contact info is on PARCR.org website under “Officers”).

“PARCR POST”: Each community “key/contact person” receives the newsletter to share with residents. Contact your community key/contact person for copies of the newsletter. We have a need for someone to take over the newsletter editor position as a result of Bill Buehler stepping down. If you know of anyone who would consider the position, please email Ida Jeanne Smith (contact information above).

Send your community news (via email) to Bill Buehler, Editor, at rbuehler@gardenspotvillage.net as a pdf file, and let us know what “special” things are going on in your community.

Business: Check the top of each Agenda you receive for the upcoming Quarterly meetings; especially statement written in “red”: **CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR CANCELLATION OF MEETINGS** – weather can be unpredictable. We have also opted to join the WGAL8 (NBC) station’s weather cancellation scrolling system – so far this winter we did not need to use this service.

Check out our website (PARCR.org) – there is a lot of new information available.

The LeadingAgePA conference/expo will be at Hershey Lodge on June 21st to 23rd (more info can be found at: LeadingAgePA.org website). Residents may attend “general sessions”; not “workshops”. If you plan to attend, please let Ida Jeanne know by April 26th. Ida Jeanne needs your name, address and email address; contact information for Ida Jeanne listed above.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m., and included a tour of the new “Parker House” building.

Next Quarterly Meeting will be held July 12, 2017 – Ware Presbyterian, Oxford

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Polak, Secretary