



*Pennsylvania Alliance of Retirement Community Residents*

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**Minutes – Quarterly Meeting – Wednesday, January 11, 2006 – Bethany Village**

The PARCR meeting was called to order by **President Elma Kreps at Bethany Village, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania** at 10:05 AM. The opening prayer was offered by **Chaplin Jim Browning** of Bethany Village. We were warmly welcomed by **Angela Dohrman**, Executive Director of Bethany Village.

**Dr. George Tjiattas**, Program Chairman, introduced our speaker, **Senator Pat Vance** of Pennsylvania's 31<sup>st</sup> Senate District which includes Cumberland & parts of York Counties. Senator Vance covered a wide range of subjects from the legislative pay raise (she voted against it & never accepted the raise), Social Security offset (no longer in force), employer immunity & background checks on health care employees, ban on admission to nursing homes which are poorly managed & maintained, medical assistance for dental care (cleaning teeth), cost of medical assistance is rising rapidly, retaining physicians in Pennsylvania by paying for their malpractice insurance, also paying part of premium for nursing homes, property taxes – it will be a tax shifting, rent rebate for seniors, an up-skirting law passed, eminent domain law in process, a need to clean up the Chesapeake Bay by 2010, hunters should be concerned about chronic wasting disease in deer, "Mercer" an incurable air borne disease which resists antibiotics, Harrisburg State Hospital is officially closed & patients are being transferred elsewhere, bed tax (Bethany Village & Messiah Village are exempt as they are licensed as continuing care facilities), Pennsylvania used 100% of tobacco money for health care, reduce size of legislature in Pennsylvania, malpractice venue – trials must be held where malpractice occurs, shortage of nurses – Harrisburg Area Community College graduates most RNs in PA and there is a shortage of faculty in nursing schools due to poor pay.

**William George**, Nominating Committee Chairman, called the roll of member communities of PARCR. Each community reports on the activities on their campuses. Their reports are always interesting and informative.

The Secretary's minutes of the previous meeting were approved as mailed to the members.

**Dr. George Tjiattas** delivered the PARCR Treasury Report covering the period from July 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005. The report was prepared by **F. R. Morris**, Garden Spot Village, Treasurer, who was on vacation as was Assistant Treasurer Robert Baughan. The ending balance was \$2,530.09. The Treasurer's report was approved as read.

**William George**, Nominating Committee Chairman reported that we need officers for the PARCR election of July 1, 2006.

**Stuart Dickson**, Green Ridge Village, Newsletter Editor asked that information be sent to him for the next edition of the newsletter.

**Dr. George Tjiattas**, Assistant Secretary, presented timely information on the "Medicare Modernization Act". This is Medicare, Part B, The Prescription Drug Plan. His advice is to "select a company you trust, go with company you already know, check the formulary and enroll ASAP." Benefit period starts in January 1<sup>st</sup> and end on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

A "sit down" lunch was provided by Bethany Village. It included assorted sandwiches and pecan pie.

**Eric Blanc**, Menno Haven reported on a lawsuit resulting from failure to include minorities in their advertising. The law suit was in excess of \$100,000.

**Elma Kreps**, President reported on NaCCRA. They currently have 9 states and 12 communities as members. The spring meeting will be held at Ingleside @ Rock Creek, Washington, DC on April 6 & 7, 2006.

A general discussion was held on the pet policy in various communities.

**Evert Fuller**, Secretary reported that the PARCR Web Site is up and running. Garden Spot Village and PARCR have linked their respective web sites by placing a PARCR logo on Garden Spot's web site and linking it to the PARCR web site. By the same token, Garden Spot's website can be accessed by clicking on their logo on the PARCR web site. PARCR is requesting that all communities belonging to PARCR link their web sites to PARCR's web site.

He also made a plea to turn in your badges. It was necessary to purchase more badges for this meeting & they are expensive.

Ev also advises that the Bethany Village Railroad club has both an "O" gauge & an "HO" gauge rooms which will be open after the meeting. They are located in Bethany Village West.

Finally, Ev asked each community to designate an emergency contact person in the event a meeting needs to be cancelled due to inclement weather or other emergencies.

A short discussion followed on the policy for nursing beds. At Garden Spot Village, if a resident needs a bed occupied by a non-resident, the non-resident must move out. At Bethany Village, the current policy is to retain beds for residents only.

Our next meeting will be held at Quincy Village Retirement Community, Orphanage Road, Quincy, PA 17247-0217. You are invited to visit the Quincy Village model train room after the meeting

**Regular Quarterly Meetings**

April 12, 2006 -- Quincy UM Homes

July 12, 2006 -- Green Ridge Village

October 12, 2006 – Normandie Ridge

January 10, 2007 – Bethany Village

**Executive Committee Meetings.**

Monday, March 13, 2006 at Bethany Village

Monday, June 12, 2006 at Bethany Village

Monday, September 11, 2006 at Bethany Village

Monday, December 11, 2006 at Bethany Village.

**Mrs. Kreps** adjourned the meeting at 1:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Evert Fuller, Secretary