



Pennsylvania Alliance of Retirement Community Residents

Dr. George Tjiattas, PARCR President

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MINUTES – PARCR Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, January 9, 2013

The Long Community at Highland, Lancaster, PA

President George Tjiattas called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. George welcomed everyone, and reviewed the objectives of PARCR. Remember to take any handouts or ideas back to your villages and share them with your resident council, and to share with one another while here in Lancaster.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, led by President Tjiattas, we received Greetings from Mr. Paul Taylor, Campus Administrator, who told us about the history of The Long Community at Highland. This community is one year old this month. We then heard from Mr. Steve Procter, CEO of Presbyterian Church Senior Living, who then led us in prayer.

Susan Martin, PARCR Membership Secretary, took Roll Call. There were 65 people and two guests present, representing 18 of the 23 member communities. We then heard from Russ McDaid, Senior VP of Public Policy for Leading Age PA, a lobbying group for CCRC's in PA. Russ told of several changes being made, and of the fact that Beth Greenberg was recently promoted to VP of Strategic Knowledge and Research. He told of Leading Age's advocacy efforts and urged us to stay aware of what was going on in the legislature. He also urged us to contact his office with questions at either russ@leadingagepa.org or beth@leadingagepa.org.

Julia Hix told us what is happening at NaCCRA. Asst. Treasurer, Bob Allen, introduced the new CEO at the Brethren Village in Lancaster--Mr. John N. Snader. We continued with the Business Meeting. The Minutes for the October 10, 2012 meeting at Ann's Choice, Warminster, PA, were approved as distributed. Jeanie Bentzel, Secretary, urged people to RSVP, to Susan ASAP if they are planning to attend a Quarterly Meeting. She also asked people to use their past experience and serve as a member of the PARCR Executive Committee. Please talk to George Tjiattas or any member of the committee.

Jerry Kemmerer, Treasurer, reported that PARCR has a current balance of \$7,232.34. He stated that there is one copy of the Treasurer's Report for each community. You can photocopy it if you need more copies. He also urged any member with computer experience, interested in serving as our Web Master, to contact the committee.

George Tjiattas, acting Program chair, is working on a possible program for the April Meeting at Quincy Retirement Community. It is Mr. David Freed, District Attorney of Cumberland County, speaking about "Senior Fraud and Senior Abuse."

Membership Chairman, Susan Martin mentioned that she would appreciate if she had the name of one person at each community who would be her contact person. Please let her know. This person could send in all the reservations at one time, thus making it easier for her. If for any reason, you no longer wish to receive PARCR information, please let her know. Susan said, **"If you keep me up to date, I'll keep you up to date."**

President Tjiattas then introduced our speaker, Mr. Brain M. Duke, PA Secretary of Aging. Also in attendance at our meeting was the Lancaster County Office of Aging Director. Mr. Duke had a very interesting presentation about the role of the Department of Aging. He reviewed the many facets of their programs, and stressed that there are 52 offices for the 67 counties in PA. We were also told that Pennsylvania is the fourth "grayest state," following Florida, West Virginia, and Maine. He said that the goal of the Department of Aging was "Prevention and Protection."

No money from the general fund goes to the Dept. of Aging. The funds are from the PA Lottery and Federal Funds. He suggested staying active by volunteering: not just in your community, but also in the surrounding local governments and churches. He answered many questions about many different subjects, including outsourcing of the lottery. He stated that, "The answer to a question is just a telephone call away." **He suggested that we either call the County Office of Aging or contact the State office at (717)783-1550. You could also e-mail your question to bduke@pa.gov.**

Following a delicious lunch, we continued our business meeting. Evert Fuller, presented the newsletter and reminded people that the closing date to receive news for the next issue is **April 1**. Evert urged every community to send in pictures/articles for the newsletter—let others know what is happening.

Paul Taylor, Campus Administrator of The Long Community at Highland introduced their speaker. Mr. Gary Dwyer is Veterans Assistance Specialist for Presbyterian Senior Living. He passed out worksheets about *Pensions for Veterans & Surviving Spouses and who qualifies for this pension*. He gave us much information and told us that you do not have to pay for any information or forms from the Veterans Administration—no matter what the Internet site may say, as this may be a swindle. **Contact Gary Dwyer, PSL Veteran Assistance Specialist (717) 795-0404, visit www.va.gov, or call 1-800-827-1000 Veterans Affairs.**

A suggestion was made for a future program: "Are you a NOTCH Baby?"

Don't forget that you can bring a friend to a future meeting. Be sure to add their name when you make reservations with Susan. This is a great way for PARCR to get future members.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette M. Bentzel, Secretary