



Pennsylvania Alliance of Retirement Community Residents

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MINUTES - PARCR Quarterly Meeting - Wednesday, January 9, 2019
Bethany Village
325 Wesley Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

MISSION STATEMENT: "To educate and inform residents of not-for-profit retirement communities in Pennsylvania by promoting the exchange of ideas, education and civic responsibilities of residents, and to encourage members to seek to be a part of informed decision-making in their communities."

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

PRAYER: Judith Clovsky, Vice President, Bethany Village Resident's Council

HOSTING COMMUNITY: Brian Grundusky, Executive Director of Bethany Village (part of Asbury organization), gave the membership a very warm welcome before the meeting.

ROLL CALL: There were 99 people in attendance representing 23 out of 25 member communities.

LEADINGAGE PA: Anne Henry – New faces in Harrisburg; 50 new members in General Assembly and 3 more to be filled. It's important for CCRC communities to invite new representatives to visit their facility. Let them know where and who you are, if they are unfamiliar with some of their territory. LeadingAge PA is always a resource, and if you need assistance to make these contacts, please let us know. LeadingAge PA is available to also visit your communities.

Governor Wolf has his 2nd term. New budget will be presented on February 5th, 2019 – and we have no idea what is in the new budget. Would hope it will contain broad based incentives. Nursing facilities that receive medical assistance are having difficulty with appropriate funding. Gap between Medicaid and Medicare can be \$100 or \$150 a day. We are working behind the scenes on this issue, and it affects residents.

New chairman in the House for Aging Committee (Tom Murt), and Senate Aging Committee (John DiSantos) – if you have a relationship with either new chair, please let LeadingAge PA know.

House Bill 2291 (IL Senior Living Privacy Act) number will be changed upon resubmission. Alerts will be sent out when resident help is needed – we need to have your voices heard. Hopefully, we will get it across the finish line. DHS (Dept. of Human Svcs.) has formed a "work group" to review the issue. There are 2 volunteers from PARCR who will attend the meetings with this group.

New President, Adam Marles, will be attending a PARCR meeting soon to share views of LeadingAge PA, and where we're headed.

There are many licenses in nursing facilities, whether they are Federal or State for PC (personal care) or AL (assisted living). Some sense of senior care should be addressed.

Staffing pattern should be looked at with regards to training (F/T vs P/T) in uniqueness of buildings which requires facility assessment to determine staffing.

A coroner in another county wants law for every death in nursing facility be reviewed by coroner. Might become legislative possibility.

NaCCRA: Dan Seeger – NaCCRA a nationwide organization representing CCRC's was originated by residents, run by residents, to help residents. Primary objective is collective learning: what is happening in this field. How to preserve and strengthen the CCRC way of life by empowering residents who have invested heavily.

A report in the Kiplinger Report last month was "CCRC's Raise Financial Questions for Retirees", giving an account of the impact on the resident when series of retirement systems went bankrupt. Residents are last in line in the courts of bankruptcy.

Another article in the NY Times discussed issues with CCRC financing. There could be a reputation of the industry, as a whole, if too many stories appear and enrollments become depressed because people assume that

investment in a CCRC is risky. NaCCRA believes the industry should remain strong and residents and their investments are to be kept strong and safe. NaCCRA has developed a consumer's guide that focuses on: Finance, Contracts, Health Care, and Government. The guide is a free download from the NaCCRA website (NaCCRA.org)

PROGRAM: Bill Stelger, Chair, introduced speaker, Attorney General Representative, David Shallcross. Mr. Shallcross presented quite an informative talk on "Dept. of Aging and/or PA Attorney General's Role in Safeguarding CCRC Residents", and pointed out that the Senior Protection Unit is available in many different ways. Some of the areas he spoke about were: Criminal Law Division (including drug units), Insurance Fraud, Medicaid Fraud, Public Protection Unit, Civil Law Division, Executive Section (Office of Public Engagement) and Senior Protection Unit.

Attorney General, Josh Shapiro, has a seat on the Elder Justice Advisory Council for Supreme Court, where he provides information to judges on guardianships. Statewide guardianship tracking system has been started for all 67 counties in PA, to be on same page.

Any concerns or issues you may have, please file a "Senior Complaint Form" (available from website www.attorneygeneral.gov), in writing OR call office (866-623-2137).

Programming (free resources and visitations) are available for your communities. Topics discussed were: ID Theft, Protecting Credit, Bullying, Cybersafety, Scam Prevention, Drug Diversion and Consumer Protection.

SPECIAL NOTES: It is against the law in the U.S. to participate in foreign country lotteries. Protect yourself from scams/frauds by NOT answering your phone; let the answering machine do the job. DO NOT CALL LIST was established to prevent legitimate businesses from telemarketing you – does not stop criminals from calling you and pretending to be charitable organizations or businesses. You can report scams to: scams@attorneygeneral.gov.

Brief Executive Committee Meeting: New appointee, Cheryl Rhodes (Quincy Village), unanimously approved by Committee, and June/July 2019 meetings were reassigned to Bethany Village with cancellation of Cross Keys Village.

An appreciative "thank you" to Bethany Village for hosting PARCR during our winter session, and for a wonderfully prepared breakfast, and a delicious buffet lunch from Dining Services that was enjoyed by everyone.

"SHARING AN IDEA": Mr. George West, President of Bethany Village Resident Council, introduced Justin Margut, BV Director of Wellness. This presentation is an update from last January 2018's Quarterly meeting topic on PlaneTree (Planetree.org), a person centered care program to provide information, education and collaborative efforts to anyone regarding person centered care.

Resident committees give feedback to help have their voices heard (options to get up in their time of the morning, plan to eat whenever they wish, and other preferences, even before they move to Bethany). Allows more time for staff to spend one-on-one interaction with residents, including lunches. Also developed an ambassador program, available to all levels of living who can help in transitioning to new environment.

A Guiding Team sets up all initiatives (associates, residents, family members) promoting engagement which is very vital, and interactive for the program.

Technology is moving forward, and Ipads are a tool to keep everyone advancing, along with verbal communications. Bethany Village is 1st CCRC in U.S. to receive "gold level" status through PlaneTree, and 1 of 2 in the world.

PARCR BUSINESS MEETING: The Minutes of the October 10, 2018 meeting at Pleasant View Retirement Community in Manheim, were approved as written.

Treasurer: Henry Mathers – Budget report shows the cash flow: income at top and expenses at bottom – they are self-explanatory. The Category report details income by various categories. We have 2 means of income: individual memberships and community memberships. The actual checkbook balance is \$6,692.67, and in the same time period last year, it was \$6,472.00.

Informal poll: how many feel it would be to your advantage to have online payment of your memberships on our website? No overwhelming response.

Membership: Susan Martin – Memberships: When officers change, someone from your community, needs to notify me of the change. The 3 names on your community yearly application form are considered the "contacts" for your community. Also, the contact person should notify me who are attending the quarterly meetings. Deadline dates for response to attendance is extremely important so that the "hosting" community has made space arrangements and food service.

Fiscal year for PARCR is July 1 to June 30. In April, just before renewal time, an announcement is made to alert you for the upcoming application process.

When you are out socializing, why not suggest if someone would like to accompany you to next PARCR quarterly meeting. This could be the start of another community relationship.

Agendas that are sent out to members, state (in red) “CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR ANY CANCELLATION NOTICE ON DAY OF SCHEDULED MEETING” – please pay attention to this request. The contacts we have for your communities will also be sent an email of any cancellations.

Legislation: Gail Stelger – Anne Henry of LeadingAge PA notifies us to contact legislators for advocacy on any issues that are pending and need our support, and in turn, they are sent out to all members of PARCR.

Also sent out are “Tidbits” of some of the things that have happened within the last couple of months. These “Tidbits” have links to get more specific information, for those of you who are interested.

The budget will be coming up soon, and we may be asked to contact your representatives and advocate for increases for Medicaid, and there might be more information coming out about the “Work Group” Anne spoke about.

Programs: Bill Stelger – Our next program in *April* at Quincy Village, Waynesboro will be: “Current Scams, Frauds, Identity Theft, Latest Schemes” by Bruce Myers of AARP. *July* meeting will be: “The Future of Social Security Benefits and Its Future” by John Johnson, and *October* will be: “Dealing with Dementia” by Kenneth Brubaker.

"PARCR POST": Linda Heck – Editor is on vacation. Please, please pay attention to **deadline** dates listed in the PARCR Post, they are very important to our editor.

Business: Our Executive Committee meeting in December warranted us to find a replacement for David McIntosh, who had resigned. We were able to find someone, Cheryl Rhodes, has accepted to the appointed position, and then she will be eligible for elections come June 2019.

We want to take this time to thank Bethany Village; they have become our “home”, and they are willing to continue as our registered office, as stated in our By-Laws; our mail comes to Bethany Village, rightfully so, because all of the presidents, up until now, have lived at Bethany Village (Elma Kreps and George Tjiattas). We met with Administration, and they are more than willing to continue being our registered office. Changing By-Laws every two or three years is bothersome and expensive.

Even though we are here at Bethany Village every January, they are more than willing to help us this July 2019, due to a cancellation of Cross Keys Village. We will be looking for people to find a host community (smaller communities who cannot host large numbers of attendees), and an afternoon program speaker (“Sharing an Idea”), when January 2020 comes around. We are set, at the moment, for January 2020, and Green Ridge Village will be the hosting community.

We truly, truly appreciate Bethany Village’s care and compassion for PARCR – we can’t thank you enough.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Next Quarterly Meeting will be held April 9, 2019 – Quincy Village in Waynesboro.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Polak, Secretary