



Pennsylvania Alliance of Retirement Community Residents

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MINUTES – PARCR Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, July 11, 2012 – Bethany Village, Mechanicsburg, PA

President George Tjiattas called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. George welcomed everyone, reminded us to listen carefully, and to take all information gained back to your community. Any information gained should be used to make your Resident Council more effective.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Vice President Ray Vaughan, we received Greetings from the Executive Director of Bethany Village, Melissa Hadley. Ms. Hadley shared information about Bethany Village, and we were then led in prayer by Chaplin Brand Eaton.

Susan Martin, PARCA Membership Secretary, took Roll Call. There were 18 of 23 communities present. George told us representatives from Long Community at Highland, Lancaster, PA, are visiting as guests today. We then had the opportunity to hear from Nick Luciano of Leading Age, a lobbying group for CCRC's in PA. Nick shared that the approved State Budget shows the Nursing Facilities line item will be the same as last year, instead of the 4% cut, that had been feared. He also mentioned a proposed amendment to the state constitution giving power to the legislature, instead of the Supreme Court, when a nonprofit agency is seeking approval from a local governing body. He stated that the Supreme Court had been ruling on an individual basis, instead of the using the same laws statewide. He reminded us that Retirement Facilities can provide photo identifications for voting purposes. He also stated that the National Health Care Act stands as written. George passed out "Leading Age PA 2011 Accomplishments."

Bud Endler, Program Chairman, introduced State Representative Mr. William Tallman. He discussed the 2013 Budget, and items referring to Welfare, Education, and Corrections. A possible increase in PA Sales Tax was mentioned, including many different possibilities for this tax. A very interesting Question & Answer session followed and covered many different topics, including the fact that both the tobacco tax and the gasoline tax no longer are large income producing taxes. This is due to the "stop smoking campaigns" and the fact that we are driving fuel-efficient cars. PARCR thanks you Mr. Tallman.

Following a delicious luncheon, we found out "What's Happening at Bethany Village," by visiting Bethany's Miniature Golf Course. Mr. John Currie explained that they were given a donation of \$10,000 for the Golf Course, and decided to have it built by professionals. He explained about

maintenance, the league that was set up and score sheets. Each of the communities present received a booklet from the company that built Bethany's Miniature Golf Course.

The next speaker was Susan Crossley, who is Recreation Director from Skilled Care at Bethany. She demonstrated a laser controlled "Beamz Player." This was a very different way that music therapy is being introduced to Bethany's Skilled Nursing neighborhoods. We received a numbered ticket when we checked in this morning. A free "Beamz Player" was won by Ida Jeanne Smith of Luther Ridge, Chambersburg, for use in her community. We all received literature to be given to the activity directors of our Communities. Again, thank you for an informative topic.

We continued with our Business Meeting. The Minutes of April 11, 2012, were approved as mailed. Jeanie Bentzel gave the Secretary's Report urging people to reply quickly when Susan or I send you communications. Remember, we are in need of someone to keep the Web Page updated. George reported for Jerry Kemmerer, Treasurer, that PARCR has a balance of \$5,697.26. It was moved and seconded to approve this report.

Susan Martin, Membership Secretary, thanked everyone for their prompt notification of any changes in officers, and the date this is effective. This allows Susan to keep our Membership List up to date. Remember when you send in luncheon reservations, please indicate **who** is coming, not just how many.

Bud Endler reported that we will hear about the "Supreme Court's Decision on the Health Care Act" at the Wednesday, October 10 meeting at **Ann's Choice, Warminster, PA (Buck's County)**. On January 9, 2013, at **The Long Community at Highland, Lancaster, PA**, our program is, "With everything going on in Health Care, how does this impact our Social Security—or does it?" Then on April 10, 2013, at **Quincy Retirement Community in Waynesboro**, our topic is undecided at this moment.

Copies of the PARCA Newsletter were handed out. The suggestion was made that the map shown on the web site is outdated. George agreed, and mentioned that any, and all, suggestions made by each person are important to the Executive Committee.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette M. Bentzel, Secretary