



Pennsylvania Alliance of Retirement Community Residents

Dr. George Tjiattas, PARCR President

Jeanette Bentzel, PARCR Secretary, 546 Dogwood Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

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MINUTES – PARCR Quarterly Meeting Wednesday, October 8, 2014 Brethren Village, Lancaster, PA 17606

President George Tjiattas called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. George welcomed everyone, and commented on the great crowd we had today. George reviewed the objectives of PARCR: to help with village resident councils, education (our programs), and sharing ideas with each other. Our First Vice President, David McIntosh, led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. John Snader, President & CEO of Brethren Village, extended greetings to PARCR. He gave us some interesting information about the 118-year history of the Brethren Village, including the various names it has been called. The Rev. Mark Tedford, Chaplain at the Brethren Village led us in prayer.

Susan Martin, PARCR Membership Secretary, took Roll Call. There were 92 people present, representing 23 of our 24 member communities. George Tjiattas told us a little bit about Leading Age, and explained exactly what they do. We were fortunate to have a visit from Alicia Titus, who told us that it is still uncertain who will be assigned to be our Leading Age Representative. She assured us that if we were to contact her at alicia@leadingagepa.org, she would answer any questions. Since this an election year, things are at a standstill in the government. George urged our local Residents Councils to have our State Senators and Representatives as speakers at their meetings. George also reminded us to be sure to vote in November.

Dan Seeger, President of NaCCRA, and a member of PARCR, told us about NaCCRA (National Continuing Care Residents Association). Some facts that he shared with us include that nationally there are 1,900 CCRCs, representing 600,000 residents. PA is one of 11 states that have a state organization. Remember, Dan is willing to visit your village residential council, and speak about issues and developments in the CCRC field. Contact Dan at CCRCLife@gmail.com.

Former Vice President in charge of Programs, Bud Endler, then introduced our speaker, Ms. Kandi Noel from Brockie Pharmacy. Her presentation is entitled "Talking with Your Pharmacist." Ms. Noel talked about Vaccinations (Shingles, Pneumonia, and Flu); Medical Administration (using only one pharmacy and why, carrying an up-to-date list of all medicines & medical information, to crush or not to crush, etc.); Side Effects and Allergy; Generic Medicines; Pain Medications; Medication Disposal (Do Not Flush but check at pharmacies and local government). The best and most appreciated part of our presentation was her willingness to answer questions. If you had questions and didn't ask, it was your own fault. Many thanks to Ms. Kandi Noel for a job well done.

Lunch Break

Before and during this break, Brethren Village invited interested persons to view their train display. Many people took advantage of this invitation since there are some villages that are interested in starting train clubs and displays.

After a delicious luncheon, we heard a very interesting presentation by Mr. John Baker, Manager of Affordable Housing at the Brethren Village. There are two HUD apartment buildings on the Brethren Village campus. Mr. Baker told us that the residents of these buildings have to meet a low-income level that is set by HUD, which is a Federal Government Program. He also told us that there is a very long waiting list for acceptance into this program.

We were quite fortunate to see videos of both of these apartment buildings and one featuring two residents telling how pleased they were to live where they do. Mr. Baker said that these residents are able to take part in many of the activities at the Brethren Village, but do not have guaranteed access to Enhanced Living or Nursing Care. The Village is planning to build another apartment unit; however, this depends upon the ability to get financing. Mr. Baker was quite willing to answer questions from the PARCR attendees.

PARCR Business Meeting

The Minutes of the July 9, 2014 meeting at Masonic Village, Elizabethtown, PA, were approved as distributed. Jeanie Bentzel, **Secretary**, suggested that perhaps YOUR village would like to be the host at a future meeting, and if so, to see George Tjiattas. She reminded the members that what they did in "their former life," might be of use to the Executive Committee. She mentioned that we are looking for photographer to bring their camera to each meeting. Again, see George if you would like to volunteer. Jerry Kemmerer, **Treasurer**, gave us an up-to-date treasurer's report, which was approved. We have a balance of \$6,517.18.

Susan Martin, **Membership**, reported that the contacts at each village are doing well and sharing information with their residents. She suggested that you become a Member (get the application at www.parcr.org) and you will receive all information directly. A big part of PARCR is village helping village, so if you have a question, just ask!

Gail Stelger, **Legislation**, told us to check the PARCR website for updates of the "Legislative Tidbits," and if you have a government question to contact her at gailstelger@hotmail.com. Gail also said that she is in touch with the people at Leading Age PA. She mentioned that the Department of Welfare will be known at the Department of Health Services.

Henry Mathers, **2nd Vice President**, told us that programs for 2015 include The Future of CCRCs, Hospitals and Medicare, Bill of Rights for Seniors, and the Future of Social Security and Medicare. If you have a suggestion for a future program contact Henry at hrmathers@comcast.net.



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Bill Buehler, **Newsletter**, told us that there were copies of the latest "**PARCR Post**" on the stage. Members of PARCR received this via Email. Please send him information for the next edition as soon as possible. The pictures will be in black and white and should be of good quality when you send them to Bill. "**PARCR POST**" is a great way to share your Village life with other Villages. Send the news to Bill Buehler at rwuebler@gardenspotvillage.net.

Evert Fuller, **By-Laws Committee**, told us that the committee has brought the 1996 By-Laws up to date, so it reflects more accurately exactly how PARCR has been operating. These will be presented to the Executive Committee at their meeting in December and will be available on the PARCR website in the future. George Tjiattas presented our nominee for Assistant Treasurer--Paul Noyes who lives at Green Ridge Village. Our new Assistant Treasurer was elected unanimously.

Community Sharing - News about your community

Masonic Village – Jerry Kemmerer told us about the dedication of an "Eternal Flame" at Masonic Village on September 22, 2014. This was in memory and appreciation of all past, present, and future veterans. He said the quote on the flame says: "All gave some, some gave all."

Bethany Village – George Tjiattas reported that Bethany recently celebrated their 50th anniversary.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Our next quarterly Meeting will be held January 14, 2015 – Bethany Village, Mechanicsburg, PA

Someone asked for locations of our meetings in 2015. We have confirmed locations for April 8 at Green Ridge Village, Newville, PA and July 8, 2015 at Wood Crest Villa, Lancaster, PA. The October meeting is pending.

Jeanette M. Bentzel, Secretary