

VHA Advisory Board (AB) Meeting Minutes
Laurel Manor 1:00 PM February 9, 2022

Advisory Board Members - Present: Karl Arps, Mike Burke, John Conboy, John Dean, Mike Dollard, Dave Fountaine, Roger Kass, Sandy Mott, Beth Musser, Kathy Porter, Peter Russell, Joan Sullivan, Roy Thacker, Phil Walker

Advisory Board Members - Absent: Bob Griffin, Barbara Gudgel, Nicolas Hemes, Walter Martin, Jan Palmer

Call to order: President Phil Walker called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Previous Minutes: Motion made to approve the meeting minutes from the January 12, 2022, seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report: VHA Treasurer John Conboy referred to the financials attached to this meeting's agenda noting membership dues were up in January. The 2022 budget has now been revised to be more realistic. John will ask Membership Chair Kathy Porter to research how many memberships are due to expire in 2022. The VHA newspaper the Voice came in under budget from this time last year. Donations show the amount of funding provided to VHA Helping Hands for 2022.

Phil noted the new item "Golf Cart Safety Donations" as a donation box is set out at each meeting. John C. ordered a new donation box that officers may use to set out at programs and events. A slotted panel allows for a print document to be inserted to promote the VHA, VHA Foundation Committee, and VHA Helping Hands. Bingo games will be starting in March. Phil stated Bingo Coordinator Debi Gorzka says she is all already for these games. Ads for VHA Bingo will begin in early March.

VHA North Area

VP North: Karl Arps reported that the north region will be hosting VHA New Resident Night (NRN) at La Hacienda in March.

Kathy stated attendance at La Hacienda is always very good with guests from all areas of The Villages.

Q. Is it possible to track how many new memberships sign up in the week following NRN?

A. Yes, but there is no way of knowing who had attended NRN.

Q. Can we get the name and phone number of those who signed up a last night's NRN at Ezell Rec Center?

A. Kathy offered to send the information to Asst VP Far South Dave Fountaine to contact the new members.

VHA Far South

VP Far South: Roger Kass noted that Asst VP Dave is going a great job! Dave explained the Far South region now has eleven (11) VHA Neighborhood Representatives (NR). Dave met with each one-on-one and directed them to www.districtgov.org to view the videos and learn more about CDDs. His goal is to target villas that have no NRs. Monthly programs have been scheduled from March through November with plans for December. Dave stated he encourages members and residents to use the "Inquiry" box on the District website to report area concerns. Kathy asked Dave to find an NR to train to take membership signups at the programs. Dave asked Phil who confirmed that a 50/50 raffle may be held at the programs.

Other VHA Meetings and Reports

Merchants to Members (M2M): Phil explained that a pet store M2M member is offering gift certificates to raffle at NRNs and will be featured in the April issue of the Voice as each month one merchant will be featured. Mike Burke reminded members this suggestion came from the November 2021 workshop.

Foundation Committee (FC): Executive Vice President Peter Russell reported the name VHA Community Foundation has been revised to The VHA Foundation Committee. Vivian Stephens is the Chair of this committee. A membership blast application to become a member of this committee was sent and the six (6) applicants will be interviewed this month. Others who are working to shape this new committee are Phil, Past President Fred Brigg, and Joan Sullivan. The goal is for this committee to become self-sustaining.

Helping Hands (HH): Phil reported VHA HH is close to 4000 transactions so far this year. The HH Board of Directors is considering what HH wishes to achieve.

New Resident Night (NRN): Phil: There are now two (2) VHA tables set up to promote the VHA and seek volunteers, which is another suggestion from the November workshop. Karl noted that all speakers thanked the VHA for allowing them to present. See also “VP North.”

Membership: Kathy Porter’s membership report combines January and February.

SEE APPENDIX

Kathy explained website data indicate a new member at the time of payment. Website signups paid by check do not show until the check arrives.

Kathy suggested that the VHA mailboxes be removed from mail kiosks. Phil stated this is under review and a decision will be made next month.

Golf Cart Safety (GCS): Phil: GCS is now being offered twice a month at Villages Insurance to small groups. The monthly program at the recreation centers is averaging 60 - 70 guests and a representative from the Sheriff’s department and Villages Insurance are speakers. The new donation box is beginning to bring in revenue.

Social Events: Social Events Coordinator Mike Burke commented on the great job the Area Vice Presidents in planning programs. Mike explained he will be providing entertainment at the March 9, 2022 VHA General Meeting ahead of the presentations to award winners. Dave will send membership blasts to promote Mike’s July 18 and October 17 programs.

Voice: Jan Palmer sent her report reminding members this is a short month and the deadline is February 14, 2022 for Voice articles in the March issue. Jan will include an article for the VHA Volunteer and VHA Partner Awards. The Don Hahnfeldt Memorial Service Award will be featured in the April issue as the award announcement is made at the meeting.

PWAC: Maintenance of the large package boxes in the mail kiosks north of CR 466 is needed. The Post Office states it only delivers mail and the Villages must maintain the boxes. This is still being researched. Director Region 7 Roy Thacker noted that there has been a crew at Duval mail kiosks cleaning and painting box frames.

Old Business

VHA General Meeting - Awards Night: See above “Voice” and “Social Events.”

VHA Blasts: Phil thanked Dave for handling membership blasts.

New Business

“Evening With the Developer”: Phil: We are still waiting to learn if this program will be offered again by the Developer.

Updating Program Ideas / Topics: Phil: Information compiled by Mike B. and the AVPs created a long list of program ideas and topics. Presenters’ contact information is being added and will be sent to AVPs soon. The list will continue to grow as AB members offer more suggestions.

Update- Position Responsibilities and Recruitment: Phil: Documents have been prepared and being finalized to help with recruitment and training of VHA Area VPs, Board members and Neighborhood Representatives. Succession planning had been non-existent but now preparation can take place to assist and train new officers.

Meeting adjourned at 2:19 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Sullivan

Appendix

MEMORANDUM

To: Phil Walker, President

From: Kathy Porter, Membership Chair

Date: February 9, 2022

Re: Combined Jan/Feb. 2022 Membership Report

From Jan. 1 to Feb. 8:

- 130 two-year memberships
- 25 lifetime memberships

Mail pick ups Jan/Feb:

- 6 VHA Boxes
- 32 US Mail

New Resident invitations sent:

- 649 – Jan.
- 561 – Feb.

Memberships from Meetings:

- 14 – Jan.NR Night
- 7 – Feb. NR Night
- 7 – Where Does Your Money Go