

POA Membership Meeting

Tuesday, August 18, 2015

The meeting was called to order by the President, Elaine Dreidame, at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call indicated Jerry F and Donna Kempa were excused and Sal Torname absent.

The minutes of the July meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer's report showed expenses for July 2015 were \$8,855; receipts \$4,629 leaving a decrease in operating cash of \$4,226. We have 6,999 paid household members for 2015, 51 less than July 2014.

Membership report noted the Board's decision to offer multi-year membership options as many Villagers have requested. Members can join for 1, 2 or 3 years. Some Villagers believe they are members because they receive the monthly Bulletin. All Villagers need to be aware that the Bulletin is provided to all households, free, regardless of POA membership status. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join the POA for us to be able to address areas of concern to residents.

SHINE assured attendees that the rumor that the cost of Medicare part B is increasing significantly for 2016 is not true. Medicare has not announced the Part B rate for 2016. SHINE provides free, unbiased assistance in understanding how Medicare plans work.

Representatives from Seniors v Crime, SHINE, Lightning, and District gov. were available at the back of the room for individual questions and hand-outs.

The cash raffle yielded \$30 to each of three attendees.

Open Forum: Questions the response to which will appear in future Bulletin articles Included:

How does one request that shrubs interfering with driving need trimming?

What type of vehicles are allowed to cross highway #441, #27?

Will valet parking continue at Spanish Springs and Sumter Landing squares?

Any news from the sinkhole committee?

What is the status of cart path striping?

Speaker Bryan Lifsey of Seniors v. Crime, A Special Project of the Florida Attorney General's office, provided hand-outs and discussed the ways they can assist Villagers with issues involving service providers or contractors at no charge to you. The state of Florida does not license all types of businesses, it only licenses professionals. He encouraged attendees to feel free to call for assistance prior to signing a contract. They have grown and now have 4 offices in The Villages area.. You can call, leave a message, and a senior sleuth (counselor) will get back to you.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15, followed by coffee, donuts and good conversation with other Villagers.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carolyn Reichel, Secretary