

POA Membership Meeting

Tuesday, October 17, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence to remember those who gave their lives for us.

Roll call indicated members excused included: Elaine, Bill Y, and Susan. All others present.

The minutes of the September meeting were approved as read.

The Treasurer's report showed receipts for September 2017 were \$17,686, expenses \$16,937 with the Bulletin being our largest item, and operating funds of \$170,599.

The Membership reported that 2018 membership request forms will be coming out sometime around the 2nd week of November. Attendees were reminded that now dues can be paid by credit card either on line at POA4us.org and at our meetings.

At the back tables, we have representatives from Seniors v. Crime, SHINE and District gov. for your convenience and individual questions.

Cliff announced that with the membership's recent vote to increase the size of the POA Board, we are looking for Villagers interested in becoming members. See Cliff or any current board member for further information.

Open Forum – the time to hear from Villagers included the following questions. If we don't know the answer, we will find out.

What is the status of the cracked lanai issues?

How come there is so much vegetation in our ponds?

How does an owner locate the boundary lines of his/her property?

Is the vegetation collected from the hurricane being mulched or burned?

What is the cause of odor emitted from a treatment plant?

How does a Villager sign up for E-notify?

Are plans being developed to provide more assistance for residents on the historic side in the event of another hurricane or other weather event?

Speaker – Everybody's favorite this time of year, Betty Cunningham spoke to the group about Medicare changes announced for 2018.

A reminder to all beneficiaries – if you are considering moving from an Medicare Advantage plan to regular Medicare and want to join a Medicare supplement – apply before you have been with the

Advantage plan for 12 months and do not change your current plan until you receive notification in writing that the supplement has accepted you.

Drug prices can change at any time during the year.

Medicare has plans to issue all beneficiaries a new Medicare card starting in April 2018 which will replace your social security number with an 11 digit number/letter ID.

Hospitals must provide all inpatients with a notice to let them know if you receiving services as inpatient or have been admitted for observation. You must be admitted to the hospital and have been there for three days to be qualified for transfer to a nursing home where Medicare will cover the first 20 days. If, on the other hand, you are admitted for observation, Medicare pays 80% of the bill and you pay the remaining 20%.

Social Security currently plans roughly a 2% increase for 2018. That's the good news. Medicare has not released the amount of the Medicare Part B premium for 2018. (Most beneficiaries have this deducted from their SS check).

If a beneficiary receives intravenous medications in the hospital they are covered under Part B, however, if you receive them at home, they are billed under your Part D coverage.

A provider who does not accept Medicare coverage (called a non-participating provider) may charge you an additional 15%.

Medicare Supplement Plans C and F will be ending in 2020. The good news is, if you have one of these plans you can continue with it; new beneficiaries may not sign up with it.

If you have questions, check the newspaper for times and dates of SHINE counselors at the rec centers.

Many questions were answered.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Reichel, secretary