



## **BETTER LIVING FOR SENIORS MONTHLY MEETING**

October 16, 2013

### **Board Members Present:**

Cindy Clouse  
Randy Brock  
Temi Charrier  
Liz Craven  
Larry Powell  
Greg West  
Dorene Yates

### **HOST AND MEETING LOCATION:**

- Our meeting was hosted by At Home Senior Services and the location was St. John's United Methodist Church, 1800 Cypress Gardens Boulevard, Winter Haven. Cindy Clouse, BLFS President is also CEO of At Home Senior Services. Thank you for the delicious breakfast!

### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

- The meeting was called to order by Cindy Clouse, President, at 9:12 a.m.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A motion was made that the minutes from the September 2013 Meeting, now posted on the website at [www.blfspolk.com](http://www.blfspolk.com), be approved. The motion was seconded, a vote taken and the minutes were approved unanimously with no changes.

### **BLFS BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR**

A part-time position for BLFS Business Administrator is being offered. It is a contract position. The job description and how to apply can be found at [BLFSPOLK.org](http://BLFSPOLK.org).

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

- YDT inflows: \$8,752.87
- YDT outflows: \$7,473.36
- YTD net income total \$11,279.51
- Account Balances \$20,201.93

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

- Randy Brock reported that BLFS has 203 current active members and 6 inactive. There are membership lists available at this meeting so attendees can check their status and expiration dates.
- A motion was made that the treasurer's report be approved. The motion was seconded, a vote taken and the report was approved unanimously.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- **Advertising in the Directory:** Liz Craven revealed the front cover of the new directory and announced that Friday, October 18, 2013, is the deadline for submitting an advertisement for the directory. The directory is printed every other year so this is a very good opportunity to advertise at a reasonable rate. Larry Powell announced that 20,000 directories will be put out this year; it is a valuable tool for resources in our community.
- **Better Season for Seniors:** Tamara Rowland gave details about the program that provides gifts for seniors in our community who have no family and would receive no Christmas gift. There are usually 400 or more people on this list. A list is collected from caregivers so the seniors receive what they need. Members can contact Tamara Rowland at Trowalnd@Hometown-Homecare.com if they wish to participate. Assistance is needed in the following areas:
  - Step 1 is to get businesses to sponsor ornaments, this is the current challenge.
  - December 20, 2013, is “Elf Day” when the gifts are distributed; elves will be needed!
- **Cribbage Sponsor at Polk Senior Games:** Cindy announced that BLFS will be sponsoring the Cribbage Event at the Polk Senior Games. This event will give BLFS significant exposure.
- **Grandparents Essay Contest:** Temi Charrier made an announcement about Polk County Week starting November 15-22, and that BLFS is sponsoring Grandparents Essay Contest. Essays are being accepted through October 31, 2013.

## **SPEAKERS AND LOCATIONS:**

- The November 20, 2013, meeting location is Spring Haven Retirement, 1225 Havendale Blvd NW, Winter Haven, Florida. The speaker is Jean Berken of SHINE, Healthcare Reform and Medicare program.
- The December 18, 2013, meeting location is The Estates at Carpenter’s, 1001 Carpenter’s Way, Lakeland, Florida. This will be our annual Christmas Event where BLFS will give special financial donations to local non-profits that serve seniors, as well as our Yankee Swap (bring a gift to exchange!).

## **SOCIAL MEDIA:**

- Dorene Yates let members know that photos of today’s event will be posted on the BLFS Face Book page and encouraged them to tag themselves as well as like the page.

## **GUESTS AND MEMBER INTRODUCTION**

- Cecile Morgrage of Emeritus at Oakbridge, took the names of guests at the door and introduced them, giving them an opportunity to share their area of business with BLFS.
- Members introduced themselves and gave a short explanation of their services, agencies, businesses and upcoming events.

## **GUEST SPEAKER**

- Today's program is the Florida Ombudsman Advocacy Program, and the guest speaker was Terre Anne Lindstamer, District Ombudsman Manager. This program advocates for residents in facilities, educates, is a spokesperson for residents, investigates and resolves complaints from the viewpoint of the residents to ensure quality of care and quality of life.

## **Adjournment**

- A motion to adjourn was made; it was seconded. A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted by Dorene Yates, Secretary, on October 16, 2013.*