



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

March 20, 2013

### **Board Members Present:**

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

### **MEETING LOCATION:**

- The location and breakfast was hosted at Southland Suites, located at 4250 Lakeland Highlands Road, Lakeland.

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

- The meeting was called to order by Cindy Clouse, President, at 9:10 a.m.
- A motion was made that the minutes from the February 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.

### **REPORT ON POLK SENIOR GAMES**

- Larry Powell and Cindy Clouse represented BLFS at the Cribbage Games and the Closing Ceremonies. Eight hundred directories were placed in event bags.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

- The Treasurer's Report was presented by Randy Brock. BLFS currently has \$9,920.66 in the bank account.
- A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded, a vote taken and the report was approved unanimously with no changes.

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

- The Membership Report was presented by Randy Brock. There are currently 180 members and friends. Twenty-four memberships have expired and members were encouraged to look carefully at their expiration dates.
- Renewal notices for BLFS membership are going out, please go on line and renew and update your information in the data base. If you have moved to a new position, please enter your name on the web site so you will get on the mailing list and not miss important information and updates.
- If your business/organization has multiple representatives at the monthly BLFS Meeting, they can also be a friend and receive BLFS e-mails, simply go to the [www.blfspolk.com](http://www.blfspolk.com) web site home page and join as a friend.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND BOARD UPDATES:**

- **Education Committee:** Ashley Vogel, Education Committee Chair, announced a new program that they are taking to various forums; it is titled “Exposed” and dispels myths with regard to legal planning, health planning, facility and financial planning. The ideal audience is 55+ communities. Members who are aware of senior communities who wish to host the program can contact Ashley to set a date and time.

### **Publications Committee:**

- We are coming into a directory year and friends were encouraged to become members and current members were asked to keep their membership renewed.

### **Speakers and Locations:**

- Temi Charrier asked attendees to contact the board if they know of a facility that can host the monthly meeting or can suggest a guest speaker for the program.

### **Social Media:**

- Dorene Yates announced that photos are being taken at all events and will be posted on the BLFS Face Book page; members and friends were asked look at the page and tag themselves. Members were encouraged to link BLFS on their web site as well as 'like' the BLFS Face Book Page.

### **Event Committee:**

- Grandparent Day Essay Contest: This is the second year BLFS is participating. Schools are targeted to have their children submit the essays. Polk Family Week is in the fall and BLFS will be presenting awards. A committee will be formed to assist with this project.

## **GUESTS AND MEMBER INTRODUCTION**

- Cecile Morgrage 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 agencies and businesses as well as upcoming events.
- An announcement was made about Caregivers Day at Bok Tower, organized by the Alzheimer's Association. Those who wish to obtain more information can contact Stefanie Thompson.

## **HOST**

- Southland Suites of Lakeland, offering personalized assisted living and Alzheimer and dementia care for seniors, was the host of the March 2013 Monthly Meeting. Donna Schoenenberger gave a welcome and offered tours of the facility after the meeting. Southland Suites arranged for Tri-County Human Services to be the caterers of the event. Thank you for the delicious breakfast enjoyed by all!

## **GUEST SPEAKER**

- Attorneys Ben and Tim Darby of the Darby Law Group, P.A. presented Medicaid Planning qualifications, recent changes in the law with regard to Medicaid and pending legislation that may affect Polk County seniors.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

- The next meeting will be held on April 17, 2013, at Astoria Health and Rehabilitation/Bellatage Assisted Living located at 701 Overlook Drive, SE, Winter Haven, FL 33884. Ginny Wolf, Cornerstone Hospice, will be presenting on the topic "Hospice 101."
- A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted by Dorene Yates, Secretary, on March 20, 2013.*