



**MEETING MINUTES  
PASCO AND N. PINELLAS  
WEST COAST DISTRICT  
02/21/2023**

**Starkey Ranch Theatre Library and Cultural Center  
12118 Lake Blanche Drive Odessa, FL 33556**

Phil Lachapelle - Chair	Present X	Terry Lonczak – Vice Chair	Present X
Michael Coleman - LOA	Present <input type="checkbox"/>	Susan Rodman - LOA	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
		Jane Horowitz	Present X
		Robert Fortney	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Judy Carlson, DOM	Present X		
Debbie Sitkowski, AA	Present X		
	Present		

Invited Guests –  
DCF representatives: Douglas Thomas and Diane Chilelli on line

**OPEN SESSION:**

Called to Order at 10:30 pm

OPEN Session Statement

Minutes Approved    X Yes     No

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Council Chair – Council Chair: Phil Lachapelle; Vice Chair - Terry Lonczak

**UPDATES/REPORTS**

District 7 – Certified OMB At 7 (including DOM), 3 OMB on leave.

Ombudsman Anniversaries: Susan Rodman - 3 years, January; Bob Fortney – 1 Year in February 20, 2023; Birthdays: Bob Fortney’s was 1/27 Michael Coleman’s was 2-6

**Recruitment Update:** Audra Peoples – Staff Director based in Tallahassee provided an update on the state’s efforts with recruitment of new volunteers.

**STATE OMBUDSMAN REPORT:** - Jane Horowitz is the State Representative for Dist 7; the position for Dist 6 is vacant at this time and Jane has been providing updates to council.

**DOM REPORT:**



- Request notification of planned absences – please submit dates you will be away or unavailable for two days or longer, so we can put them on the Volunteer calendar. Email or phone call works fine to let us know.
- An Ombudsman Education Conference is being planned for the end of April to be held in the Tampa/St. Petersburg area. We still do not have any firm dates. Last meeting, I mentioned that Tallahassee was considering holding a combined meeting with Tampa and our two districts for guest speaker Chris Mulroney, presenting the Florida Pioneer Network project. This is now planned as one of the speakers at the Educational Conference.
- Guest Speaker, Shantina Hardie, Supervisor for the Agency for Health Care Administration ALF team, will attend next month.
- Facility Communication Meeting is held the 2nd Tuesday of the month. If you have questions or concerns with your facilities that you would like AHCA or APS to know about, submit them to Judy as soon as possible.
- Ombudsman of the Year Nomination forms in folders; please submit to the office asap.
- Included in your folders is an article that was printed in the AARP News Bulletin in Jan. Also, please find the questions Tallahassee requested the volunteers complete regarding being a volunteer.
- Reminder to submit cases as soon as possible after closing/exiting with facility and complainant/resident.

TRAINING Concerns--- What kind do your want? Guest Speakers?

**Adjournment at: 12:30 p.m.**