



**FLORIDA
OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM**
ADVOCATING FOR QUALITY LONG-TERM CARE

**WEST COAST DISTRICT
MID AND SOUTH PINELLAS MEETING MINUTES
08/13/2020**

OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVES			
Sue Boone	Present <input type="checkbox"/>	Mary Stein	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Donna Cottone	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barbara Timo	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Rebecca Creveling	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michelle Unterberger	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Philip Everett	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carol Wallace	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cyndi Floyd	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carol Weideman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kathleen Hall	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Darlene Westberg	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Susan Holderness	Present <input type="checkbox"/>	Annette Perry, District Ombudsman Manager	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ellen Lamparter	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Patti Ruscito, Secretary	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Irene Murphy	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nancy Lemke, Secretary	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sheila Ramsdell	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Alan Sherman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

GUEST(S)
Robin Baker, Regional Ombudsman Manager, Florida's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program Michael Phillips, State Ombudsman, LTCOP Jane Horowitz, Ombudsman, Pasco & N. Pinellas Ombudsman Council

OPEN SESSION

- Called to order at 12:15 PM Quorum Established: ☒ Yes ☐ No
- Open Session Statement Minutes Approved: ☒ Yes ☐ No

UPDATES/REPORTS

- Council Chair
 - Ombudsman Activity Report and Calendars were sent prior to the meeting. Council members were asked to send in their Activity Report and notify the office of their days of availability.
 - Ombudsman are receiving an Ombudsman Summary Report, providing an up-to-date list of facility assignments, open cases, cases accepted, assessments/visits, training, activities and consultations. Ombudsman were asked to review this report and contact the office with any discrepancies.
 - Council membership is at 17.
 - Introduction of Michael Phillips, new State Ombudsman
- State Ombudsman
 - State Ombudsman thanked all ombudsmen for their flexibility and bringing compassionate advocacy to residents during this difficult time of COVID-19 restrictions.
 - Announced the Governor formed Florida's Task Force on the Safe and Limited Re-Opening of Long-Term Care Facilities.



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- o State Council Workgroup is studying tablet purchase to be able to do virtual visits with residents. Now working on the security necessary before purchasing.
- o The LTCOP is creating a virtual training module for new volunteers that will allow new volunteers to receive a special certification until the field training option opens.
- o Background screening service for ombudsmen will now be the clearinghouse system. Announced that all ombudsman will be notified when they need to do a new background check.
- State Council Representative
 - o Discussed, motion made and approved to propose to the State Council a suggestion for advocacy regarding Personal Allowance for Assisted Living Facility Residents.
- District Ombudsman Manager
 - o Donna Cottone was recognized for 2 years of service with the LTCOP.
 - o The next Skype Quality Assurance Training will be held on 8/27/2020 at 1:00 pm.
 - o The next closed Conference Call Meeting will be held on 9/10/2020 at 12:15 pm.
 - o All ombudsmen will receive volunteer appreciation gifts in the mail.
 - o Reminder to submit any questions regarding facilities by close of business on 9/4/2020 for the presentation at the Interdisciplinary Team Meeting (IDT). The IDT is held every 2nd Tuesday of the month with multiple agencies attending.

NEW BUSINESS

- o Nominations and election of Council Chair will occur at the 11/12/2020 council meeting.
- o Discussed, motion made and unanimously carried to create a West Coast Advocacy Workgroup to research and gather information regarding systemic area concerns and issues affecting residents. The workgroup will provide collected cohesive information to the council for consideration and will leave all decisions to the council.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 12:53 PM