



Surfcoast Chapter Newsletter

November 2015

Surfcoast Chapter

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Vacant

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The Chapter has been very busy this past year. It seems that every year is busier than the last! In addition to the regular planned events and programs, two additional events were added. These events included a member appreciation night and a community service project. The community service project was a State FPZA Initiative and the Chapter successfully completed this project with the assistance of our members.

In October, the Chapter cohosted an event with our VCARD colleagues. The program topic was 'Transit Oriented Development'. Chapter member, Joel Ivey, was a featured speaker at this event. A Member Appreciation night was held at Persimmon Hollow Brewery in November. The event was well attended and beer tasting was on tap! :-). In early December the Chapter participated in a community service project. The Chapter partnered with the City of Oak Hill to perform a park clean-up at Mary DeWees Park.

It has been a successful year for the Chapter. Not only did the chapter add additional events this year, but we also hosted a Regional Forum, received 'Chapter of the Year' award (again!) and increased membership to become the largest chapter in the state. We hope to carry this momentum into 2016.

We will end the year with our annual meeting and awards gala at Venetian Bay Country Club and then kickoff the new year by hosting a Regional Forum on January 22, 2016. The forum topic is *Community Redevelopment Agencies*.

The President's Corner... by

Helen LaValley

The Surfcoast Chapter wishes you a very

**Happy
Holiday
and
Prosperous
New Year**

Finally, on behalf of the Chapter I want to thank all our members for their participation and continued support. It is this combination that has made this chapter successful!

Hope to see you at an event soon,

Helen LaValley

Chapter President

Upcoming Events

January 22, 2016
Regional Forum -
Community Redevelopment Agencies (CRAs)

Visit our website to register on-line at fpzasurfcoast.org

Our Healthcare System

How We Can be Better Consumers

By: Tom Brooks, Volusia County Planner

I feel health care is a chess match between the various health care providers with us, the patients, as pawns clueless to the battles underneath. We are creatures of habit and often take the path of least resistance. Ignorance of our own plan makes us bad consumers.

The Emergency Room (ER) at a local hospital is expensive (15 to 20 times more than urgent care) and provide poor healthcare. You are stacked like cord wood either in the hall way or in a room. Unless it is a serious emergency, urgent care centers are the way to go. As consumers we need to be reminded to use the urgent care center more - why? because I see many people in the ER that have the flu, bacterial infections and injuries far more suitable for an urgent care center. Yet, like sheep, we flock to the ER.

Specific examples

I have sleep apnea. That means I have to go to a doctor to get an “okay” when I need a new mask, hoses and new breather equipment. Yet, the exam means nothing for me. They do not know anything about the hoses, masks and the breather equipment. I go for the quickest checkup known to man just so I can get a new mask or sleep apnea equipment. I lose time at work and my health plan gets billed for a worthless checkup. It is bureaucratic red tape that costs more money to the plan.

Add some chiropractors and physicians to the network (without a referral need), I know there is a segment of people that view chiropractors like witch doctors. Recently, I had experienced a terrible injury to my neck. In network doctors that were not chiropractors treated me with painkillers. I do not need to risk drug addiction for medication that does nothing to cure the pain but simply dulls it. The chiropractor performed physical therapy with electrode stimulation plus an inversion board exercise which did more for my neck than painkillers.

The toughest tradeoff is the cost. The argument in state politics is that Medicaid expansion is too expensive. Yet the million people in Florida who have no health care flock to the ER and cost consumers plenty in both insurance costs, doctor, and hospital bills. It is hidden in the price of what we pay as part of cost shifting from uninsured patients to insured patients. We have homeless and the mentally ill sent to the ER or that other expensive institution—jail/prison.

The State of Florida complained that the Affordable Care Act (ACA or Obamacare) was increasing Medicaid costs by telling mothers with sick children who were eligible under current rules that they were eligible to apply. The State of Florida does not want children eligible for Medicaid to apply because it costs them to treat the sick! The state was successfully sued (in Miami) for using a screening process that doctors were arguing was keeping sick children (i.e. heart ailments) from treatment. The state threatened to suspend all treatment after the court decision until they could develop a screening system that would meet its approval.

Conclusion

The toughest argument regarding health care cost is that costs for treating and insuring people are direct and can be seen in various health care budgets. The costs for not insuring people is invisible on our hospital bills, medical bankruptcies and the costs to the families who are not receiving the needed care. You can treat diabetes by prescription and supervised medical care or you can wait for the uninsured person to go into a diabetic coma, get a foot amputated, or suffer from kidney and liver failure. They are using the ER as their primary care for treatment - and it is not working for them or us as a society.

Membership Appreciation Event November 12, 2015 Persimmon Hollow Microbrewery



The Surfcoast Chapter hosted a member appreciation night at Persimmon Hollow Microbrewery in downtown DeLand. Catering was provided by the new Jimmy Johns Sub Shop. Members enjoyed sampling of the different brews.

A tour of the brewing facility was included. Our tour guide, Dawson, stated that it seems as if local brewing consists of 90% cleaning and 10% paperwork. It

was surprising to learn how much time and effort is spent on cleaning the tanks and the brewing operation. The group was shown how the tanks are loaded with all of the fine ingredients and the bottling process was explained and how it was done in small batches. Most of the brew is put into kegs or is picked-up by customers in re-usable growlers. These growlers are now allowed to be greater than 32-oz. based on a recent law passed by the State of Florida.

The microbrewery trend is one that continues to grow across the country, along with micro distilleries, micro wineries, and brewpubs. Jurisdictions across the country are modifying their zoning codes to regulate these facilities and allow them to be located in commercial and mixed use areas.



The planning bulletin published in 2013 by APA explains the reasons why these uses should be in the zoning code. The regulations actually help these establishments so that they can be located in areas that will be compatible and beneficial for them. It also addresses customer uses, whether it be in a tasting or tap room or in the form of a restaurant as a brew pub.

Surfcoast Chapter Partners with the City of Oak Hill for a Community Service Project

On Saturday December 5th, the Chapter participated in a park clean-up project at Mary DeWees Park in Oak Hill. Lunch was sponsored by Planning Solutions Corp. The weather was great! The Chapter helped by painting picnic tables and benches, clean up of the playground area and general park cleanup including weeding and raking. The Chapter was happy to assist the City with its clean up efforts.



Back row from left to right:
John Thomson, Joel Ivey, Tom Harowski, John Stockham, Colleen Miles, Scott Ashley

Front row from left to right:
Kohn Evans, Oak Hill City Administrator, Helen LaValley, Anna Canna Grosso, Tom Brooks

Colleen Miles, Tom Brooks, and John Thomson cleaning the pavilion area and painting the picnic tables.



Tom Harowski, Scott Ashley, and John Stockham cleaning the playground area.



SAVE THE DATE

Florida Planning and Zoning Association

Surfcoast Chapter

REGIONAL FORUM

Community Redevelopment Agencies

Community redevelopment is an economic development strategy which many local governments are currently using successfully to eliminate and prevent conditions of blight in their communities. CRAs provide the tools needed to foster and support this redevelopment. Discussion topics will include information related to programs and funding, cooperative partnerships, brownfields, and economic/redevelopment incentives.

Friday, January 22, 2016

11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Dennis McGee Room fka Volusia Room

at Daytona Beach International Airport



Register now on-line at www.fpzasurfcoast.org

Members \$30 Non -Members \$40

State Board Meeting

Saturday, January 23, 2016

9:00 am to Noon

CiCi & Hyatt Brown Museum of Arts Conference Room

Thank You 2014 Gala Sponsors
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2015 Surfcoast Chapter Officers and Directors

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Helen LaValley—President
 Vacant—Vice President
 Colleen Miles—Interim Secretary
 Becky Mendez—Treasurer
 John Stockham—Newsletter Editor
 Tom Brooks—Professional Development Officer

Directors:

John Dillard
 Tom Harowski
 Joel Ivey
 John Thomson
 Scott Ashley

Past President:

Scott McGrath

Your officers are also well represented at the State FPZA Board level. John Thomson serves as the state FPZA President. In addition, Helen LaValley serves as VP of Membership on the State Executive Committee.

Treasurer's Report

Becky Mendez, AICP – Chapter Treasurer

The Chapter's closing balance as of December 2, 2015 was \$12,426.99.

Your Contacts for Officers and Committees for 2015

Name	Email Address	Board Position/ Committee Chair
Helen LaValley	hvalley@planningsolutionscorp.com	President
Vacant		Vice President/Programs
Colleen Miles	colleen@ldrgdaytona.com	Interim Secretary/Bylaws
Becky Mendez	bmendez@ourorangecity.com	Treasurer/Awards
John Stockham	jstockham@volusia.org	Newsletter/Sponsorship
Tom Brooks	tbrooks@volusia.org	Professional Development Officer/ Legislative
Joel Ivey	joeli@iveypg.com	Membership



Surfcoast Chapter
WWW.FPZASURFCOAST.ORG

To get to the State Surfcoast Chapter website, go to http://www.fpza.org/main/page_chapters_surfcoast_surfcoast_chapter_officers.html

AND REMEMBER TO JOIN OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!