

**Our Charlotte Elder Affairs Network (OCEAN)
Steering Committee Meeting
September 21, 2011**

In attendance: **Karen Amador, Pres.** **Dale Phillips Vice Pres.**
 Marge Davis, Treas. **Barb Patton, Secretary**
 Karen Spencer, Fund Raising
 Lisa Vogell **Zara Anderson**
 Rick Schlem

Karen called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM. She reported that Sally Wickman (excused from tonight's meeting) is working on the next After Hours gathering.

There is an issue unresolved with Sun Trust Bank relating to a defective credit card machine sold to OCEAN by one of their representatives who no longer works for the bank. There is a considerable amount of money still not collected for the publication of the Resource Directory. The bank is claiming "no responsibility" as they state it was not a product for sale by the bank, rather by the individual. Since it was presented differently when purchased by one of their employees, Karen is trying to convince them to replace the machine. It was suggested by some that failure by Sun Trust to replace the defective machine will result in the their loss of our OCEAN account. It was suggested that Charlotte Bank would be preferable.

Resource Directory: Karen shared the brochure put together by Aging in Place and believes it can be incorporated into a reprint of our Directory as there is nothing include that is outside the area we serve and all information has been verified. There will be some minor changes to ensure it is not a "verbatim" piece.

The second printing and update of the Directory needs a committee and new leadership as Melissa spent an inordinate amount of time putting the initial publication together and should not be asked to take on this task again.

Kim Spencer: Fund raising activities possibilities were discussed, e.g., Christmas Card Lane - Elizabeth Spicer has offered some assistance and location if OCEAN decides that is what we would like to do, however, as Karen reminded us, there must be committed volunteers to make this or any event a success.

There will be a Celebrity Waiter night on January 17th at Goal Posts and we could consider something similar. **Marge Davis** mentioned that she is planning another Murder Mystery Play in November. Suggestions included having other things there to attract people, e.g., hand made jewelry as long as the vendor will share a portion of the profits.

Zara suggested an ice cream social "build your own sundae" event, Game night, with different tables offering a variety of games. **Kim** also suggested Dart Boards.

The two activities that have support are the Goal Post event and Dart Boards.

It was agreed that new volunteers are needed to organize these events so that the same people aren't doing everything again and again.

***Marge** advised the committee that the Consulate House would again be hold a Veteran's Appreciation BBQ on February 18th. Support is need to fill the "goodie" bags with various business promo's and gifts.*

***Dale:** presented the slate of speakers for the General meetings through March. December will be the Christmas party, Jan. Dr. Gross, Feb. Christine Haas, March Jennifer Howell. The speakers will be on topics appropriate for the OCEAN audience and they have been given a 20 minute time limit.*

*There was a discussion on how best to get financial support from the OCEAN members for the purchase of Christmas gifts for Seniors. Marge would prefer shopping for the gifts rather than have people bring things in. This project needs participation by all of the OCEAN members. **Barb** agreed to bring it before the group.*

***Marge Davis** advised the group that she will be working on the fund raiser **Beautiful Expressions** scheduled for April 28, 2011 and will be looking for a lot of support and participation.*

***Kim** shared the results of a recent survey distributed to the OCEAN membership. Only 23 responded. Those results are attached to these minutes.*

***Karen** reminded the committee that October is the month for nominating new officers followed by the election at the November general meeting.*

It was concurred by all that OCEAN needs to expand it's membership and bring more business in to share in the funding, ideas, workload. How exactly to do this is still a subject for future discussion.

Meeting adjourned by Karen Amador at 5:20 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Barb Patton, Secretary