

March 5th, 2015 OAAB minutes

The March 5th, 2015 OAAB meeting was called to order at 10am by Chair Pam Martin followed by the pledge at 10am. A motion to accept the Minutes was passed. County Commissioner Heather Carruthers began the meeting by talking about the series of FIRM meetings being held up & down the Keys & their work on reducing our insurance premiums. Firm hired an analytical firm to do a study from the 710 Keys homes that were inspected to use as evidence that our strong building code & the fact that most damage is from flood & not wind damage to use as evidence to reduce our insurance costs. Work is expected to be done by the end of summer. Heather had been to Washington DC to talk on wind insurance, but ended up talking mostly on flood issues. There is a bill now in Congress to extend the Home Owners Affordability Act. This would extend the insurance savings & many are working to try to extend it to rental property. The re-authorization of Flood Insurance is up in 2017. Congress is looking at cost vs payout. There is a 13% to 15% profit to just process the paperwork. They may allow some height increase to raise houses for floods if you have to rebuild.

Maria Hernandez & Marielisa Amador of AHCA handed out brochures and talked about the new Medicaid Managed Care program for Seniors on Medicaid. There still is a lot of confusion about the program & it did have a bumpy start in the Keys. It was asked if anyone had come down to the Keys before the start of MMA to explain how it worked & for people to ask questions. They replied no, that most of the time was spent in Miami. Transportation to Miami for Medical issues came up along with how the new MMA - Medicaid Managed care plans would handle the transportation issue. You need to talk to your individual MMA plans customer service representatives to get a phone number to call to arrange pickup & a ride home for services for yourself. Maureen G. talks to them daily on this issue - to try to solve issues.

The question came up again over billing for a medical helicopter ride to Miami - if you had to be a full time Keys resident vs a snowbird property owner. (Remember to ask for Trauma Star vs another helicopter ride which might cost you up to \$45,000.)

Michael Cunningham head of AHEC spoke on the programs AHEC provides & the 4 Health Fairs they work on. He talked about how they funded & staffed clinics in our schools at no cost to students. At this time the clinics are only open during the school year, but he is looking for a grant to open in the summer for 3 days a week. The stop smoking tobacco program, skin cancer assessments, some RX help, CPR classes, 1st aid programs, Cardio/vascular program, career development program and Senior Fitness Classes are just some of the programs they have. Michael also handed out brochures about his different programs and answered questions.

Jenna announced that Island Home Care is now doing home health care & taking over the contract from VNA. She talked about respite care for Alzheimer's Caregivers, getting the re-cycle containers at the Senior Centers, BPK's new ramps, (even though they are still looking for expanded parking spaces) and the KW Senior Center's work

starting on April 20th & completed in August.

Island Home Care is now serving the entire Key's & adding physical therapy services. Kristen is overseeing the BOCC contract for the in home services program.

Dixie talked about Obamacare & open enrollment period which was extended if you didn't know you were going to be fined if you didn't have any insurance.

Keith said the Plantation Key Nursing Center is applying for 28 assisted living beds. Some minor work is being done to facilitate this.

Meeting adjourned

Next meeting April 2nd, 2015