

Written Committee Reports

January 2016

Business Partner Committee:

The Business Partner Committee has decided to have Spring Fling at the South Office on March 16th. After consideration of combining FallFest and Changing of the Season, they decided to change the FallFest to RASM Business Partner Expo and hold it during the summer at Manatee Tech College. Changing of the Season will be on October 19th at the South Office. In 2016 4 Smart Lunches are scheduled: February 24, April 13, August 3 and December 7. Business Partner After Hours will continue on the 4th Tuesday of each month at Gecko's on Hillview and the 2nd Wednesday of the 2nd month of each quarter at Gecko's on SR 64. The Business Partners will hold two or three Networking Luncheons in 2016. New this year, the RASM Facebook page will spotlight a Business Partner each week. Sign-ups for sponsorships through March were completed.

Eighty members attended the 4th Quarter Smart Lunch on December 16th at our South Office. Unwrapped toys were collected at the December After Hours Event Toys for Tots, and purchased additional items using the tip money from Spring Fling and Changing of the Season.

Communications Committee:

At the first meeting, the Committee determined they will have three subcommittees: one for the consumer-facing website, one for internal communications (to members), and one for external communications (to public). The consumer site will be transferred to a WordPress platform and additional edits will be incorporated, with the goal to launch by March 31. The Committee will be monitoring magazine costs, and considered a few ideas that could shave costs. Authors were secured for the Neighborhood Report in the next two magazines, and a solicitation will be added to the Weekly Update for authors for other areas.

Community Outreach:

Another Habitat for Humanity work day was held on January 9. The National Association of Realtors announced its new partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of America. Local associations are encouraged to get involved with the local clubs, so the Committee will be reviewing it along with other possible projects for 2016. The first meeting is January 22nd.

Facility Task Force:

Since the last meeting, Task Force members had driven by properties that had been submitted and they were reviewed at a meeting last week. The boundaries of the search area were also tightened, as the members concluded that SR 70 was too far south. A new request will be sent to all members with the new search parameters: 43rd Street West to 27th Street East, between the Manatee River and 26th Avenue. Properties near the SR 64 corridor are highly desirable. An announcement will be made at the CID Meeting on January 19th and another e-blast will be sent for members to submit suitable properties.

Global Business Committee:

The GBC now has 334 members and our goal for the year is 500. Moneycorp has renewed their \$5,000 sponsorship for the Global Business Council in 2016--the fourth year in a row. The first seminar will be held Feb. 4: "The Feng Shui Cure." The next seminar will be on the effect of the changes to the visa waiver program on international real estate sales on April 7. The first social with an ethnic Chamber of Commerce has been set for March 17 with the Hispanic Chamber. Members volunteered to make MLS announcements and to monitor the CIPS program in June. Holding Sept. 28 for International Congress.

Grievance Committee:

The Grievance Committee issued its first citation at the last meeting of 2015, which was accepted by the Respondent. We also held our first meeting with the new 2016 Grievance Committee, last week. We did not have any cases to review, so a brief orientation and review of how the committee functions was held.

Leadership Academy:

The applications have been posted and the deadline for application is January 31, 2016.

Member Benefits Committee:

The Member Benefits Committee had a presentation from Edible Arrangements, who will offer our members 15% off any arrangement by using a designated code online, and also approved two more benefits: Charmley Photography and Marketing will offer member \$10 off any of his products if they mention RASM. IAS is offering members 1 month Free Social Media Management with a purchase of a 3 month subscription, a \$100 saving for our members. For several years, a photographer has provided services at both locations for head shots of members. Recently, more photographers have joined, and desire to do the same. The committee decided that since any Business Partner wishing to hold a seminar or meeting would need to rent the space, photographers will no longer be provided free use of the space, and they would need to do their own marketing.

MLS Express Committee:

Attendance at Zone One West on January 6th was better than previous months with about 50 attendees. Linda Formella will be looking for potential speakers to attend those meetings and give Updates / Tips & Info, etc. to encourage attendance. Zone One East was an average crowd with around 80 in attendance. Representatives from the Whole Foods project (Honore and University) were there to give an update on the project and speak about the "Whole Foods Effect", and how will it impact residential, multi-family and commercial real estate values along University Parkway in Sarasota and Manatee Counties. Zone Two attendance was nearly standing-room only. In an effort to spread the workload and duties, the Committee invited Olga Ovchian (Inspectors, Inc.) to help M.C.

Political Action Advisory Committee:

Chair and Vice-Chair will host an upcoming conference call to review 2016 races.

Professional Development:

Professional Development is forming 8 subcommittees for 2016: Green, property management, New Member Orientation, Leadership, Boot Camp, Florida Realtors convention, Tech U, and Call for Presenters. Boot Camp seminars for 2016 were almost completely developed. Plans are in the works including an expanded Tech U (providing a suitable location can be found), a bus excursion to the Florida Realtors convention, a co-sponsored green event with the Manatee-Sarasota Building Industry Association (which includes a luncheon and a SAM-TRAM tour of green homes in Lakewood Ranch). Committee members volunteered to make announcements and to monitor GRI programs.

Public Policy Committee:

RASM had 15 representatives at Florida Realtors® Great American Realtor® Days in Tallahassee. Renee Marquis was appointed to chair efforts to design comprehensive GOTV activities. Ideas for members to notify Public Policy Committee will be presented at the next meeting.

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RPAC Committee:

Florida Realtors® is stressing to no longer use the term ‘RPAC’ and use Florida Realtors® PAC. Goals for 2016 are found below with emphasis on 50% Participation (\$15+ counts as a participant). To date, we have \$57,782, a 13.5 % Participation, and one Major Investor. Strong focus will be on Broker buy in to help promote within their brokerage. Committee is preparing liquor baskets to be donated to Florida Realtors® PAC Auction during FR Midwinter Meetings. The date for the Casino Night is May 6th, which will include the Major Investor Reception.

District 13							
Englewood	724	\$	14,480.00		0.0%	0%	4
Punta Gorda	1082	\$	21,640.00		0.0%	0%	5
Sarasota/Manatee*	5738	\$	114,760.00		0.0%	0%	29
Venice	719	\$	14,380.00		0.0%	0%	4
	8263	\$	165,260.00	\$	-	0.0%	41
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Realtor–Attorney Joint Committee:

The RAJC considered a full agenda of seminars, articles, and suggestions for revisions to the FR/Bar Contract at the first meeting. The idea of putting on a Real Estate Law Symposium did not receive support. Many other issues suggested for seminars included a Mock Closing, Escrow and Liability Issues, HOA and Condo Docs.

Scholarship Committee:

First meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 27 at 9 a.m. at the south office. Members will review and finalize applications before they are released for submission.

YPN Committee:

The RASM YPN Committee held its 2016 kick-off at Mandeville Beer Garden. It was a huge success with about 50 YPN Members, including lots of new faces, in attendance. We held a Peanut Butter Drive and collected 61 jars of Peanut Butter. The Committee had its first meeting of 2016 on Monday, Jan. 18th and discussed upcoming Events. We will be holding a “Turning Actions into Results” Seminar at the South Office on Jan. 27th. We will be having a tour and networking at the Ringling Museum on Feb. 4th. Groundwork was also laid for other events this year.