

President's Report
Ted Meyerson



United Seniors of Maryland Annual Meeting May
17, 2010

Membership

Membership:

Approaching 80 organizational members

Over 200 individual members

Goal – by 2011 Legislative Session:

90 to 100 organizational members

500 or more individual members

Executive Committee

- Played a major roll
 - Helped formulate and clarify ideas
 - Does a great job for USM
 - Rally – Dave Roseman
 - Treasurer – Victor Van De Moortel
 - Secretary – Virginia Crespo
 - Legislation – Bruce Kirk
 - Membership – Maureen Cavaiola
 - Immediate Past President – Charlie Culbertson
 - New executive committee
 - New Treasurer and VP Legislation

Legislation

- USM even more relevant than ever!
 - Played a major role in preserving funding for Department of Aging and Office of Health Care Quality
 - next fiscal year will be even tougher
- Input sought by legislators on proposed legislation
- Working on improving mechanism for monitoring, identifying legislation of interest to seniors, and encouraging participation of members

Financial

- Spent more on Rally and reimbursed for some expenses, but will end the year with more money than last year
- Would like to raise money – 501(c)3
 - Cover more expenses
 - Have paid staff
 - More advertising
 - More printed pieces

Meetings

- Attendance up – average now close to 40 at each meeting – would like it to be even more
- Good presenters – from all segments
 - Interesting information of importance to seniors
 - Legislators
 - Providers
 - Government representatives
 - Consumer groups

Rally

- Best rally ever – thanks to Dave Roseman and all who helped
- Guest MC Lou Davis, Moderator Len Lazarick
 - Town Hall Meeting format worked well
- Caucuses – well prepared, well attended
 - Helped impress legislators with importance of USM
- Reviewing and planning for next year to make it as good
 - Same format
 - No rain date
 - Electronic tickets

Awards

- Champion for Seniors Annual Award Recipients
 - Mike Lachance
 - Sue Ward
- President's Award
 - Dave Roseman

Miscellaneous

- Newsletter
 - On time every month since June 2008
 - Articles, please
- Revised Web page
 - Looks great – thanks to Paul Bessel
- What's next?
 - Blog, YouTube, Facebook, Twitter

New

- United Seniors Education Foundation - 50(c)3
 - Educate the public about senior issues
 - Raise money
 - Some funds available for advocacy
- United Seniors PAC
 - An incredibly good way to reach legislators

Outreach

- Members, legislators, guests, and media on email lists
 - 800 direct recipients of emails – be a multiplier!
 - Newsletter
 - Legislative updates
 - General notices
 - Press releases
- Presentations
 - Need more venues
 - Add members
 - Spread the word about USM

Current Climate

- The senior population is growing – world wide
- Most of the world is in a state of financial and/or political turmoil that could affect the well being of seniors
 - Property values
 - Retirement accounts
 - Stock values
 - Inflation
- It will be a struggle to preserve and enhance the mental, physical, and financial well being of Maryland seniors
- USM is growing and modernizing to meet that goal

Going forward

If USM didn't exist, someone would have to invent it.

USM will be the most effective advocate for seniors in the State.

Electronic communication makes it doable.

YOU make it possible.