

GREATER PROVIDENCE BOARD OF REALTORS®

President Sussy DeLeon presented the following 2009 Annual Committee Report at our Annual Meeting & Installation of Officers & Directors on September 23, 2009

Awards Committee

The 2008 Circle of Sales Excellence Awards was celebrated at The Marriott in Providence. Chair, Ann Shackford and her committee did an outstanding job with the event! We had a total of 234 awardees. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful evening of celebration and we gratefully thank our many sponsors who made this event possible!

Cultural Diversity Committee

The committee, led by Joseph McCarthy, Cultural Diversity Chair, partnered with Housing Network and its Members to present free workshops to REALTORS® who were assisting clients with purchasing foreclosed properties. The workshops entitled “Details to Consider When Purchasing Foreclosures” assisted REALTORS® and their clients with understanding the obligations and pitfalls of the process. In September of 2009, President Sussy DeLeon met with members of the Latino Leadership in Washington, DC. Sussy has been re-appointed to NAR’s Cultural Diversity Committee. The Cultural Diversity Committee is sponsoring the Young Professionals Network Event on September 29th at 1149 East in Seekonk.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is chaired by Treasurer Bruce Lane and met this past year to update several financial policies, to develop the Board’s budget and to ensure that some components of that budget satisfy specific goals of our Strategic Plan. The committee would like to remind our members that their annual dues provide them with a membership and services from each level of the REALTOR® organization: the Greater Providence Board, the RI Association and the National Association of REALTORS®. The Committee also strongly encourages members to renew their 2010 dues online. As of September, 2009 there are 1,656 paid REALTOR® members.

Golf Committee

Our 13th Annual Charity Golf Classic was held on Monday, July 20, 2009 at the Alpine Country Club, Cranston and was an outstanding success. At this event, Co-chaired by Karl Martone, Don Coletti and Mike Pereira, we raised money for our three charities: Hasbro Children’s Hospital, Child Life Program, RI Community Food Bank and Marvin’s Fund at the RISPCA. The volunteer effort was amazing and we thank all the sponsors and guests who made this day a great time!

Government Affairs Committee

Chris Wall, served as Chair of our 2009 Government Affairs Committee. We continued to monitor activity on the local level and working closely with RIAR, our involvement included ensuring the property tax cap remained intact, independent contractors were not penalized unfairly with tax burdens, and transfer fees were kept in check. Once again, we attended the Legislative Luncheon, hosted by the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce and heard legislative leaders chart their agenda for this difficult fiscal year.

Grievance Committee/Professional Standards

All members of the Board have agreed to subscribe to the National Association’s REALTOR® Code of Ethics in their day-to-day business practices and must complete training on the Code once every four years (or every quadrennial). We are currently in the 3rd Quadrennial, which runs from 1/1/2009 – 12/31/2012. Our Grievance Committee is chaired by Ellen Kastle. This past year, the committee reviewed 4 cases at the Board office – all related to alleged violations of the REALTOR® Code of Ethics. Two were dismissed and two were sent forward for a formal Ethics Hearing to our Professional Standards Committee. That committee is chaired by Libby Isaacson, and they conducted 2 Ethics Hearings in 2009.

RPAC

Nominating Committee

Under the guidance of Jay Fluck, our nominating Committee met several times this year to consider our 2010 Slate of Officers and Directors. The slate has been brought to you today for your approval. We are pleased to announce that three of our members were nominated to fulfill Executive Committee Roles at the RI Association of REALTORS®: Karl Martone, 2010 President, Victoria Doran, 2010 Treasurer and Sussy DeLeon, 2010 Corporate Secretary.

Professional Development/Program Committee

Chair, Richard Zelano and the Program Committee did a great job this year offering a multitude of education programs. We started off with a successful event in cooperation with the other local boards and sponsored by Rhode Island Housing called “Show Me the Money”. We also co-presented “The Ins and Outs of Independent Contractor Law” with our sponsor, H. Landy Insurance Company. This month, we are offering a sold out presentation and certification program entitled “The Energy Smart Real Estate Specialist”, with Candace Lightner. Code of Ethics classes will continue all year long to prepare our members for the recertification requirement. The venue for this year’s Holiday Party, on December 3rd, is the Fabre Line Club. There will be cocktails and Hors d’Oeuvres. We look forward to seeing you there!

In 2009, our members contributed approximately \$14,000 to RPAC (REALTORS® Political Action Committee) to help protect your profession and fight harmful government proposals. In conjunction with the State Association, our local Committee hosted several fundraising events this past year, including RPAC Open House at The Westin in March, RPAC American Idol II at the Hi Hat in April, and RPAC After Hours at the Pinata Center in July. Over one hundred members attended these events and enjoyed the various venues and refreshments! In October, we look forward to hosting RPAC Arts Night on the Hill, in cooperation with 333 Atwells Avenue! Don’t miss it! If you would like to make a donation to RPAC, we urge you to join the 99 Club! Call the Board and support your business!

Technology Committee

This committee is chaired by Michael Pereira and this past year explored teleconferencing opportunities. The committee selected Connex International to provide those services for our Directors’ and committee meetings. The committee was responsible for further expanding the Board’s social networking presence and creating awareness regarding our Facebook page. If you are on Facebook, we invite you to join our group (Greater Providence Board of REALTORS®) so that you can kept up-to-date on our programs and services. The committee would like to explore providing informational sessions this fall on Microsoft applications, including Excel. We welcome your input on whether you feel this course would be of value to you, your experience as a user (beginner, intermediate or advanced) and whether you would prefer the focus be on Excel 2003 or Excel 2007.

Special Thanks to our RPAC Club 99 Members!

Abiodun Adekeye ~ Israel Akinbo ~ Donna Andrews ~ Vicki Antonelli ~ Mary Baron ~ Carol Bell ~ Anthony Caprio ~ Michele Caprio ~ Karen Chapman ~ Margaret Chapman ~ Donald B. Coletti ~ Antoinette DeMaio ~ Vicki Doran ~ Kerrie Doyle ~ Catherine Edington ~ Linda Elliott ~ Richard Epstein ~ Edward Hardie ~ Libby Isaacson ~ Diana Kryston ~ Bruce Lane ~ Richard Leone ~ Louise Leonetti ~ Karl Martone* ~ Joseph McCarthy ~ Sal Moio ~ Debra Moretti ~ Claire Puleo ~ Robert Ragosta ~ Jo Anne Samborsky ~ Ann Shackford ~ Suzanne Silva ~ Jillian Siqueland ~ Jason Smith ~ Manny Souza ~ Robert Sparn ~ Michael Voccola ~ Richard Wasserman ~ Richard Zelano.

* Denotes Golden R/President’s Circle