

Community Building

Nov. 6, 2015

What does community building mean to you?

Ruby: community building should be an effort build each hi-rise to a community and all community builders to make their hi-rise a community.

Lisa: Get people involved and get volunteers to be more involved.

Karen: Get folks together. Reach the language barrier to make people more comfortable.

Marlys: Get people together. Many ethnic groups and cultures. Some people attend the parties.

Cathy: Learn other peoples ethnic groups. What are the differences to us. We should encourage one another.

Mary (Iowa): Keep encouraging folks to come to meetings.

Connie: Language barrier is the biggest problem across the hi-rises.

Jim Ranisch: Hamline is most active. It's still difficult to getting people together. We need some outside the building activities. Low attendance the first 2 meetings.

Elected officer vs volunteer community builder. Marlys: not many know what community building meetings are about. Reviewed why participation is low at hi-rises. Transportation issues.

Jim: Festival of nations went well but now what?

Ruby: Disappointed this isn't an elected position. Each hi-rise should be told what community building is about. Ask residents what they would like to do as a CB activity. We should reach out to residents focus on what CB is. Community building should be on the agenda and reports given at each hi-rise. Julia will be visiting all hi-rises and will bring up CB and try to encourage more participation.

Some ideas, pot lucks, regularly scheduled movie nights, card playing, bengo night. A few hi-rises do have an event each month. Where does the money come from? It's hard to get volunteers. Some say 'Its not my job'. The resident council officers are not responsible to plan activities. Grant monies have changed as to how the funds can be spent. This has made the planning more difficult. Ruby commented this year has so many conflicts and many officers have changed

Julia mentioned computer labs, wi-fi capability, gardening and healthy eating have fostered community.

Connie: We need calming activities. Some took ownership of the garden beds not allowing others to plant. This was the first year for garden beds, we'll need to bring new guidelines so all can participate. At Wilson gardening class given discouraged folks because they felt they knew everything.

Where do we go from here? Exercise groups at your building. Strength and balance may not be appropriate to the buildings age group. Craft activities directed by an outside source.

Julia: Good ideas, what's relevant today. We need to change along with changes happening at the high-rise. Poll people at your next resident council meeting and bring back the results.

Next Community Building Meeting

Dec. 4, 2015 at 9:30 AM

SEE YOU THERE!