

12/1/17

## Community Building meeting

Attendees: Julia Hupperts, David Owens, Marlys Zerahn, Tim Gjerdahl, Melissa Pappas, Roxanne Sands, Jesse Thomas

The meeting time was clarified. It is held on the first Friday of the month at 10am. (It was moved later in November so Julia could attend.)

The community building inventory was updated. (Mt. Airy, Seal, and Ravoux this month.) We are trying to find out what activities and events hi-rises have.

Mt. Airy has an issue getting volunteers for things. Asking people personally to help was suggested. (Sometimes the personal touch works better than just posting a sign up sheet.)

Seal has a number of activities. There is an issue getting people to come down for movie day. Having three movie choices and letting people vote was suggested. (That was tried in the past and people still didn't come down.)

Seal has a regular small group of volunteers. Other people volunteer occasionally.

Getting volunteers seems to be a big issue everywhere.

Ravoux is talking about getting a Wii. They have a number of activities like bengo, movie night, pool tournaments.

### New business:

There are concerns about the focus of the community building committee. (And things like Julia being involved in editing the Community Insider.) Should we be working on all hi-rise events? What direction should we be going in? The original purpose of the committee was to plan all hi-rise events. (It started out first as the Diversity committee and then became Community Building.)

There used to be events like the all hi-rise picnic and the Festival of Nations event. Last year no all hi-rise event was planned.

Finding out why people have stopped attending meetings would be a good first step. There used to be a large group that came every month. Now there is just a small group. What has changed to make people stop coming? Some people stopped coming because they didn't want to come to meetings where nothing got done. (That raises the question why they didn't voice those concerns or do something to try and get things done.)

Asking people what would you like to get done? What are you willing and able to do to make that possible? Would be good. Get some concrete answers and a plan of action in place.

Are all hi-rise events viable anymore? The hi-rise resident base has changed. Do we need to change too? Do we need different types of activities to reach populations like seniors and younger people?

Identifying leaders of different communities (like Somali, Hmong, etc.) And meeting with them would be a good first step. They could then talk to other members of their communities in the hi-rise.

There are concerns about what the Presidents Council has to show for the over \$1700 spent in stipends over the past two years.

Having hi-rises do more things together was suggested. Transportation was a big issue with the all hi-rise picnic and why doing that was stopped. Location for events is another issue. Discussing how we go forward at the January meeting was suggested. Having council representatives ask at their hi-rises what kinds of things they would like was suggested.

David Owens recommended Jesse as committee chairperson. Julia would just be an advisor. He made a motion to that effect. Melissa seconded. There was a question about whether changing leadership would make a difference or not. Motion carried.

**Next meeting: January 5<sup>th</sup> at 10am**