

Community Building Meeting 2/3/17

Attendees: Jesse Thomas, Melissa Pappas, Roxanne Sands, Mary Puente, Marlys Zerahn, Jim Ramish, Eric Clark, Cathy Hicks, Ruby Steward

Diversity:

Diversity is the acceptance of all people no matter what race, religion, culture, sexual orientation they are. We need to promote diversity in the hi-rises to help build community and bring people together.

All Hi-Rise event:

Issues making planning difficult:

- ❖ Lack of time in the year
- ❖ Lack of budget (we would need to fund the event through donations from the hi-rises)
- ❖ Lack of buy in from hi-rise councils
- ❖ Transportation to event

We need to get feedback and ideas for an all hi-rise event. Bring it up at your Resident Council meeting.

Having some kind of sports tournament at the field by Dunedin was suggested. This could be all different outdoors activities including horseshoes and croquet. We would have to work with Neighborhood House on that since they are in charge of field use.

Strengthening self:

Self strengthening is important in order to encourage people to share their unique talents and gifts. We all have talents that are beneficial to others. Our talents are also useful when planning things. All our combined talents together make a great event possible.

Encouraging people's talents was discussed. Praising people and offering words of encouragement were suggested. Recognize the skill or talent and let the person know how valuable it is to the community. Everyone likes praise and positive reinforcement.

Strengthening the community building team:

It seems we are having some issues with keeping motivated and getting things going. Some of that may be that our 'oomphometers' are low. Another factor may be lack of support and buy in from hi-rise boards. If ideas keep getting shot down it makes people less likely to suggest things.

There is supposed to be a yearly training about what the resident council is for and what the resident council is about per HUD regulations. This type of training would include information about diversity and the importance of volunteering. This meeting is meant to be for all residents of the hi-rise. It seems this is not being done.

The issue of getting residents to come to a meeting like this was brought up. It's hard enough to get people to come to the Residents Council meetings.

Having the Community Building team spearhead the orientation meeting was suggested. The issue with that is some boards won't let non-officers be in charge of things. There are questions about what the board has power to do and what they don't. Putting the words to the "Smile" song in the Community Insider was suggested.

Handout: 13 Habits of exceptionally likeable people.

These are all important things to keep in mind when interacting with others.

Concerns and suggestions:

The proposed multi-cultural fashion show was asked about. That and a Black History event are still being thought about but there are a number of issues that might make them hard to do. (Getting people involved, finding space, funding the event.) There also is the transportation issue.

Suggestions: talent show/open mike, all hi-rise bengo, craft show.