

# COMMUNITY BUILDING

## TEAM MINUTES

Friday April 4, 2014

Jesse Thomas – Co-Chair

Secretary's Report – Mary Puente

Jesse began the meeting with introductions. The minutes from March were read and a motion was made to accept the minutes as read. Motion carried.

**Newsletter Report** – Copies of a draft were handed out to the team. Some reactions were great – wonderful achievement. The plan is to send 50 copies of the premier issue to each hi-rise. Subsequent issues will include two copies to each cb team member. Additional copies will be made at each hi-rise.

Ruby suggested we try to motivate those at other hi-rises to submit articles about what is going on at their hi-rise.

Eileen informed us that we make a presentation to at the RID meeting. A video is being made and the newsletter team will be included working on the newsletter. Smile everyone!

Activity Report, Jimmy Mach & Adam O'Connor – A flier for the Passage to China was sent electronically and should be posted. The Festival of Nations organization suggested hi-rise residents attend on the weekend and come in groups of 10 to receive the reduced rate of \$10 per person. If we plan to do an all hi-rise event we should consider doing it no later than October before the snow flies. We haven't finished this year's snow and we are thinking of next year's snow? JIMMY! We should look into Saints tickets as an all hi-rise event. No decision was made.

### **How do we get people to feel better about volunteering?**

Erik Clark – Market the volunteer party held each year at each hi-rise. You have to volunteer at least once in a given year to attend.

How do we let folks know what volunteer opportunities are available in the hi-rise? We should all have a flier posted with opportunities listed in each hi-rise. Mary – We need to get away from negative attitudes and portray positive attitudes about volunteering. We can't have anything because of the restriction on how to spend money. Eileen – We can spend the funds on "Black History month", "Women's month", opportunities such as these. Have fun when you're doing events. Lead by example to motivate residents. Roxanne Sands – Communication is the key. We need to post opportunities. Acknowledge volunteers using the badge system used in scouting or something similar. Jesse Thomas – In order to communicate we need to get away from 'me' and 'I' and we need to think in terms of 'we'. Erik Clark – Deal with the outside world, our community around us. Have 'resident council' ownership. None of our resources support something like that. Encourage residents to donate plants to plant around the building and have a garden tour. Jimmy Mach – Change the menus for events. Display a calendar of events and post for all to see. Seal hi-rise has the 'Seal Chit-Chat' newsletter. Adam O'Connor – Edgerton provides food such as angel food cake and fruit to help meet diabetic needs.

**Round Table discussion – What is my dream? Where would you like to see the cb team this time next year.**

Ruby Steward – Like to see the newsletter give inspiration to those who want to and don't know where to find information. Maybe have 2 community builders per hi-rise. In the summer have a baseball team league. Bring more people to get involved with the community insider.

Jimmy Mach – Recruit folks in and motivate them to get involved.

Marlys Zerahn – Hire a coordinator to have craft classes at the hi-rise and get better attendance to resident council meetings.

Lisa Lee – Have a representative from every hi-rise.

Erik Clark – Each hi-rise have a t least two classes.

Ida Okafor – Each hi-rise have a craft activity to share with other hi-rises.

Adam O'Connor – Liked Ruby's idea to get information from each hi-rise.

Jesse Thomas – In the past 3-4 years we haven't moved anywhere. We now have more volunteers, sub committees working as a team looking for a positive change.

Roxanne Sands – Improve the councils by being an enthusiastic example. 'Fake it till you make it' if you need to.

Eileen – Doesn't want to see the Community Insider fall by the wayside. Please continue to work on helping councils plan events, list of activities at each resident council meeting to share information and give ideas to plan something. Help each volunteer reach their goals. There has been a big difference in the last years is so improved. The team is willing to share and discuss ideas amongst each other.

Jesse- Good agenda. Some topics getting people thinking.

Maryp – Change the cb meeting to focus on the community insider and put all of our efforts into getting the insider off the ground.

Jimmy Mach – Change the meeting time next year to avoid cancellations due to weather.

Ruby Steward – It's Minnesota , snow happens.

Roxanne Sands – Grants, the community building team can look into finding grants we might qualify for to use for projects.

**Next Community Building meeting: Friday May 9, 2014 at 9:30 AM**