

Computer Team

11/19/15

Attendees: Connie Lydon, Yasmine Aminou, Julia Hupperts, Clarence Severson, Melissa Pappas, Aaron Smothers, Gerard Forys, Lorraine Waters,

Aaron's schedule:

Aaron's latest schedule was handed out. He is trying to visit every hi-rise once a month. He will send out an email every month letting you know the date of his visit. It should be on the same week each month. (And same day so if he came on the first Monday this month he will come on the first Monday next month unless you are informed of a change.)

He checks the computer and does computer instruction when he visits a hi-rise. Flyers should be posted at your hi-rise.

Computer classes:

There are two tiers of computer classes. There are the informal ones when Aaron is out at a site and there are more official classes at some hi-rises.

This second type of class is usually a small group with Aaron and one or more of the other Ross Grant Coordinators teaching. They are usually computer basics classes but they can teach other things as well.

There should be a more official class schedule next year.

Computer updates:

It seems some sites aren't having updates done. Aaron does the updates at sites that don't have computer admins. If a site has an admin that person should be updating the computers monthly. (If someone needs help doing updates Aaron can do that.)

DeepFreeze:

The need for additional licenses was discussed. Right now we only have 23 active licenses. We would like to update all the licenses at the same time. There were questions about the necessity of the maintenance contract. It was decided that it would be good to have in case of major issues with the software.

There are other less expensive alternatives such as Drive Vaccine. There are also free options and security options like using group policy settings to lock down the computers.

Pros of DeepFreeze:

Pros:

- Keeps computers safe
- Makes restoring systems easy
- Makes recovering from a virus or malware easy
- Prevents permanent changes being made to the computers

Cons:

- Need to turn off and on for updates (makes the process more time consuming)
- Possibility of putting computer into a loop that is hard to get out of without re-installing the OS
- Learning curve for computer admins
- additional time and attention needed when doing updates
- Need to manage password and access
- Cost
- Licensing rules

The new version of DeepFreeze has improved the process a good bit so some of the cons might not apply.

OpenDNS:

OpenDNS settings have been changed to a higher level. This might cause more legitimate sites being blocked. Those can be whitelisted if needed. Currently only porn, P2P sites, and gambling sites are being blocked.

The changes are being made because of several serious incidents recently.

Concerns and issues:

There are concerns about the printer at Valley. The Brother printer has been put in the community room. There are reports that the community room printer is not working.

There was an issue at Wilson with people looking at porn. OpenDNS settings were changed and that seems to have taken care of the issue. OpenDNS was also put on the router at Wilson.

There is an issue at Mt. Airy with the computers staying connected to the Internet. A static IP address may be necessary there.

The router password is **seal2015! (replace seal with your site name)**.

The login is **admin**.

There is an issue with gambling and sports betting on the computers at Central. The question is whether or not that is against PHA rules. (Nothing illegal is going on. Just people using sites like DraftKing.)

Translation software is needed. There are options like Google Translate but they aren't always perfect in their translation.

Tutorials needed:

Are any other tutorials needed? Windows 10 tutorials are being worked on.

Rosetta Stone:

That would be helpful to have. The concern is cost and licensing. They mainly see subscriptions and not boxed software now.