

Computer Team
5/19/16

Attendees: David Owens, Melissa Pappas, Ronald Sexton, Yasmine Aminou, Gerard Forys, Aaron Smothers, Alicia Huckleby, Julia Hupperts, Diane Anastos

Computer use protocol:

The new protocol was discussed again. A few changes have been made since last month.

Drugs has been changed to illegal drugs in the blocked category list.

Wording was added stating that the resident would be liable for any damage they cause to computers and equipment.

If you notice damage to computers or equipment you should make a note of the date and time of the incident and let the manager know.

Questions were asked about the difference between pornography and nudity. Nudity would not be considered pornographic if it is medical or artistic in nature. Porn is nudity meant to titilate.

A question was asked about obscenity including things like bad language. There was also a question about where the line is crossed to censorship. Libraries do have the option of letting adults request an unfiltered Internet connection on their computers.

These changes are being done by PHA's initiative to avoid possible problems with HUD if illegal activity is allowed to happen on hi-rise computers.

Adding information about what could happen if illegal downloading is going on was suggested. A lot of people might not be aware that the hi-rise could lose its Internet access after repeated illegal downloading warnings. File sharing is a big problem and there is the very real possibility of being sued.

Phishing protection was clarified. That means either blocking scam/ phishing sites or sites that have tools hackers use. Phishing sites are sites that spoof legitimate sites such as EBay or Paypal in attempt to get people to enter their login or credit card information. The people running those sites then use the captured information for their own nefarious purposes.

Having someone with authority come to Residents Council meetings when the protocol is finished to explain it was suggested. That might make it easier for people to accept it and get their questions answered.

Having some of the rules as a desktop background was suggested. It was also suggested to have the flyer in color ink.

It was also suggested to have the flyer in multiple languages.

Hi-Rise Comcast accounts:

We want to combine all the hi-rise Comcast accounts into one online account. This would make managing things easier. Hi-rises would still get individual monthly bills.

The hi-rises that already have online accounts can keep those. The other hi-rises will be put on a linked online account. Having the linked account will allow us to pinpoint which computer is doing illegal downloading and possibly lock that computer out. (Only the IP address and MAC address would be known for that computer.)

This change should be put to the Presidents Council before anything is done.

Presidents Council website:

We are going to conduct a short survey about the PC website. We would like to know how many people use the site and if there are changes that need to be made.

We have changed a number of things recently and the site should be easier to use for people of all skill levels. The site is still a work in progress and always being updated.

Computer lab inventory status:

Aaron is working on the inventory list.

We want to know if hi-rises don't have working computers or aren't buying toner for their printer.

There is an issue with buying computers for two hi-rises. The problem is that Microcenter doesn't accept checks for large purchases and they have very high shipping costs.

Controlling printing costs:

Toner can be found cheaply on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and on [4inkjets.com](https://www.4inkjets.com).
There are issues at some sites with people printing very large amounts.
Requesting a donation per copy is one suggestion. Another option is not providing paper.