

# Presidents Council Minutes

10/27/14

**Take back to your councils:**

**Change to space use fee ( include whether or not individual hi-rises should be able to keep the fee at \$10 if they want and if someone should get the fee back if they cancel an event.)**

**Do you want no smoking in front of the hi-rise (This isn't required unless there is a resident request)?**

**What computer related items does your hi-rise need/want?**

**Cameras. Are more needed?**

## **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 by Lisa Lee from Wilson hi-rise. Hi-rise representatives, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

Staff in attendance: Keith Draz, Tim Angaran, Dave Lang, BettyLou Authier, Anne Tranvik, Betsy Christianson, Kim Nguyen, Alicia Huckleby,

## **Secretary's Report**

The minutes from last month had been sent out. PC Secretary Melissa Pappas called for a motion to accept them.

Cathy Hicks Made a motion to accept the minutes as sent out. Elette Taylor Seconded. Motion Carried.

### **Treasurer's Report**

PC Treasurer Jesse Thomas gave the financial report for August and September.

The budget for fiscal year 2014-2015 was also discussed. It will be voted on at the November meeting.

The first half of the PHA and RPC Grant checks were distributed. PHA fund amounts have been decreased this year.

### **Board of Commissioners Report**

Mary Puente reported on the September meeting.

Funding for window replacement at Valley, Edgerton, Wabasha, Seal, and Hamline hi-rises has been applied for. Funds for boiler replacement at several sites has also been applied for.

The late rent charge will go from \$20.00 to 8% of your rent charge.

Additional

SHIP funds have been accepted.

Highlights from the Board meeting are now featured in each issue of the Community Insider. Send Mary any feedback you have on Board things.

### **Maintenance and Maintenance Contracts**

Interim Manager, Tim Angaran spoke.

He talked more about the applications for maintenance improvement funds. Windows and boilers in some hi-rises are being studied as part of the application process. Some improvements will be done at Dunedin family site. The rest are at the hi-rises.

A proposal for new laundry machines is being worked on. Hopefully something will be in place by the beginning of next year. The current contract has been in place for five years. The current machines should be replaced.

Issues:

The front door at Ravoux is having problems.

Fixing broken blinds at Seal was asked about. Some of the blinds there have missing slats. The outside light at Seal was also mentioned. The light they had there in the seal sculpture is now gone and residents would like it

replaced. The question is whose responsibility that is. BettyLou will check into that.

There was an issue with the front door at Exchange over the weekend.

There are some roof leak issues at Iowa.

A question was raised about having the fire alarm announcement in different languages. There have been issues with non-English speakers not understanding what they were supposed to do.

### **PHA Report**

Principal Manager, Kim Nguyen gave the report.

There have been some management changes. Stephanie Long is at Valley and Exchange. Larry Ros is at Seal and Neill.

The late fee change was discussed. As mentioned above, the fee will now be 8% of your rent. This is retroactive to 2011 and people who were overcharged will receive a rent credit. Those who were undercharged will not be charged for the difference.

Some people might also get a credit because of the change in the flat rent. A reminder was given to talk to your building manager if you have any problems or concerns.

Taking pictures during inspections:

If there are housekeeping issues in your unit staff can take pictures. If it is a lease violation you cannot refuse the picture taking. Pictures may also be taken in other cases. You can decline in those situations.

Pictures are just taken of the overall apartment. They don't focus on private things like family pictures.

### **Resident Initiatives Report**

Alicia Huckleby spoke.

PHA has hired a Green Initiatives coordinator. They are working on new green projects for the hi-rises like urban beekeeping.

An update was given on the raised garden beds.



The type of beds that Ravoux and Hamline have are no longer made. As a result, a different type of bed will be ordered.

Maintenance will put the beds together when they arrive. They will be ready for spring.

Mobile markets:

This grocery bus will be coming to Iowa, Valley, and Mt. Airy. It will come weekly to those sites. They chose those hi-rises because they are not very near grocery stores.

This should start in mid November.

There are gift certificates from St. Paul College for each hi-rise. They are good for a 60 minute massage. They should be raffled off at November meetings. There should be no cost for the raffle tickets.

If this works out well certificates can be requested again.

A question was raised about putting stipulations on the certificates. There have been issues with people selling things like gift certificates.

That is up to the individual councils.

### **SHIP Grant Report**

Anne Tranvik and Betsy Christianson spoke.

They gave a vending update. Surveys should be in by the end of the month. The minimum number of responses requested is 20.

The SHIP team will be coming to each building to inventory the machines. Appointments still need to be scheduled at Cleveland and Edgerton.

A reminder was given to have the healthy vending agreement signed if you start with a new vendor.

Thanks was given to the vendor reps for all their hard work. There will be another training on December 10th.

A progress report was handed out. We haven't met the 25% across the board yet but we are doing well.

NiceRide bikes will be removed in early November. They will be put back in April.

Walking assessments are being done at some sites. Similar walks with residents may be done in the spring.

There will be bike giveaways at the family sites again. Hamline, Montreal, Cleveland, Mt. Airy homes now have walking groups.

Yoga classes were offered at Several sites. Tai Chi is being offered at Seal and McDonough homes.

BoneBuilders may be expanded to other sites. Currently it is only at Hamline, Ravoux, and Mt. Airy.

### **Safety and Security Report**

Keith Draz spoke.

The security camera system is being reviewed. Some cameras will be replaced. Others will be refocused. The effects of light on the cameras is being looked at.

Please let management know if the front door cameras aren't working. Remember to tell what site you are at and the date and time the problem occurred. Also mention whether you have cable or are using the building antenna.

Keith will be doing a winter presentation at upcoming council meetings. This could also be done separate from the council meeting. It will be in January or February.

There have been a lot of issues with unauthorized people coming into buildings. A reminder was given not to target any particular people or group of people. Also don't harass people you may not recognize.

All the OIRs have been doing a good job.

Parking lot cameras were mentioned. There are a number of issues with putting more cameras in parking lots. (A lot related to light and electronics.)

### **Old Business**

The proposed change to the space use fee was discussed. The majority of councils said no. Some haven't discussed it yet.

The damage deposit would not be changed. Raising it to \$20 instead of \$25 was suggested by Montreal. Mt. Airy was discouraged by the higher amount and was against the change.

It will be discussed in more detail next month.

The entrance door system at all hi-rises will be changed to shut off at 10:00PM. This will go into effect in the beginning of November.

### **New Business**

Smoking at the entryways of hi-rises was discussed. We do not fall under the clean air act regulation that applies to public buildings.

This is a Resident Council initiative and not a PHA one. It is up to the individual sites if they want to implement a no smoking rule.

Every resident needs a voice in this. If a council wants to do this they need to discuss it at the November meeting. There will be a second discussion in December. It would be voted on in January. Proper notification needs to be given before the meetings. Notification should be in multiple languages.

It is not required to do this. (Have a no smoking rule)

A question was raised about enforcement. That is a somewhat touchy issue since residents should not be policing other residents.

November Council meetings: If your meeting is scheduled for November 11th, please reschedule it for the 10th or 12th. This is necessary because PHA is closed on the 11th for Veteran's Day.

We would like to request a portion of the \$30,000 wi-Fi funds to hire Aaron Smothers to upgrade building wi-fi. He will not be troubleshooting computers. He will be supervised by Eileen and will be working on a set schedule.

Cathy Hicks made a motion to use a portion of the wi-Fi funds to hire Aaron Smothers as a contractor to upgrade building wi-fi. Connie Lydon seconded. Motion carried.

A request was made to go back to your hi-rises and find out what computer related things you need. We will be getting funding for technology and we need to know how to spend it.

### **Resident Council Coordinator**

Eileen Tittle spoke. A reminder was given to be sure the Presidents Council report is on your meeting agendas.

Information will be forthcoming about the Wilder leadership training.

Thanks were given to Ravoux, Edgerton, Iowa, Hamline for providing their books for another audit.

## **Next meeting: November 24th**

