

# Presidents Council Meeting Minutes

November 25, 2019

## CALL TO ORDER

*John Cardoza*, Cleveland, called the Presidents Council Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Introductions followed.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

*Bob Knutson*, PC/RPC Secretary, Ravoux, stated all Reps had a copy of last month's Minutes in their information packets. The Presidents Council Minutes are also available on the P.C. website. If anyone finds discrepancies or errors in the Minutes, bring them up during the Secretary's Report at the next meeting. A Motion was made by Amy Seaman, Montreal, to accept the Minutes as they stand. It was seconded by Violet Brant, Wilson, and the Motion carried.

## GUEST POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

*City of St. Paul's Hour Car*. Twin Cities Electrical Vehicle Mobility Network. The Twin Cities Electric Vehicle Mobility Network will give residents, employees, and visitors a convenient, affordable, low-impact choice for getting around. Our region suffers from the lack of a flexible, one-way car-sharing option. This causes people to buy more cars and drive more, resulting in increased household transportation costs, increased congestion and increased tailpipe emissions and pollution. To meet this need, the Cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis are partnering with Xcel Energy and HOURCAR to create the Twin Cities EV Mobility Network. This ambitious new project will create a one-way car-sharing and public EV charging network:

- 35 sq. mi service area, covering much of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.
- Charging hubs will be built out with multimodal elements (i.e. bike parking) and sited with access to other modes like transit, scooters, bike-share, etc.
- The charging hubs will connect to more than 90% of the region's transit routes, including all of the commuter express routes.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

*Melissa Pappas*, PC/RPC Treasurer, Seal, gave a rundown of income and expenses for the month of October. The cleared balance is eighty-five thousand, nine hundred six dollars and forty-four cents (\$85,906.44). The ending balance is sixty-two thousand, one hundred forty-eight dollars and forty-one cents (\$62,148.41). The report will be filed for audit.

## PHA MAINTENANCE REPORT

*Brent Feller*, Construction Program Manager & Maintenance Contracts, spoke about projects they currently have going on at various hi-rises concerning trash compactors, domestic water booster pumps, etc. They have been visiting resident council meetings to keep them up-to-date on projects.

## **PHA MAINTENANCE REPORT** (continued)

*Mike Silvan*, Assistant Maintenance Director, talked about replacing hot water storage tanks at four buildings. The laundry machine swap-out will be happening in December. Be prepared for a little down time while they're being taken out and replaced. He also spoke about other on-going projects at the hi-rises. He then answered questions.

## **PHA MANAGEMENT REPORT**

*Charisse Brown*, Assistant Resident Services Senior Manager, stated that over half of all the RAD leases have been signed and thanked everyone for their cooperation and understanding during the process.

There is security access at all the hi-rises that allow residents to look at the cameras showing the lobby, etc. from your apartment. They are having issues with that and are thinking about phasing the cameras out and only the PHA will have access to them. They will look into the cost of upgrading the cameras, but if the cost is too prohibitive they would like to get rid of them altogether. She will update us at the next P.C. meeting on what their research came up with regarding cost factors. There will also be staff movement effective January 1, 2002, and different people will be relocating to different locations.

During the RAD presentations and meetings a lot of residents expressed dissatisfaction at rent being due on the fifth of the month and there will be a board meeting to look at extending it back to the tenth of the month again, along with adding a recurring payment so that bank account information wouldn't have to be entered each time you paid your rent. They're also looking at using credit and debit cards for rental payments. Any updates or changes will be announced by the end of this month.

## **SAFETY & SECURITY REPORT**

*Sgt. Amy Boyer*, St. Paul Police Department, ACOP unit, said there has been an increase in homeless people seeking shelter in the buildings by pushing random codes and offering residents money to let them into the buildings to sleep at night. Pass this information on to your neighbors so they can be on the look-out for this happening. There has also been a spike in auto thefts from hi-rise parking lots, so do not leave your car running while unattended. She answered questions. If you need information or have questions, contact Sgt. Boyer at **651-558-2305**, or email her at [Amy.Boyer@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Amy.Boyer@ci.stpaul.mn.us).

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Melissa Pappas: *Community Insider Newsletter* is a newsletter that is distributed to all sixteen hi-rises on a quarterly basis. If you have something that you'd like to submit for publication, send it to [insider@stphapresidentscouncil.org](mailto:insider@stphapresidentscouncil.org), or if you have questions or comments, send them to [editor@stphapresidentscouncil.org](mailto:editor@stphapresidentscouncil.org). A copy of the newsletter is included in your packets.
- Julia Hupperts:
  - Two P.C. Executive Board positions have become available. Candy Pernell, Treasurer, Ravoux, volunteered to be considered for one of the open positions. Amy Seaman, Montreal, made a Motion that Candy Pernell be appointed to the P.C. Executive Board. The Motion was seconded by Angela Grace, Hamline, and the Motion carried. Candy Pernell was then sworn into office. One open position still remains.

## **NEW BUSINESS** (continued)

- Ten computers have been donated by the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office and a decision as to which hi-rises will receive them will be made soon. They will go to hi-rises that need them.
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Alicia Huckleby, Resident Initiatives Director, will talk more about this during her Resident Initiatives Report.
- Community Sharing / Challenge Grant Update Sheet. Julia referred everyone to a sheet in their packets showing which hi-rises have used their portion of the \$10,000.00 Challenge Grant Fund presented to the hi-rises from the PHA and which haven't. She went over the items and also went over the Request for RPC Reimbursement form.
- Resident Council office protocol. The P.C. has worked diligently with management to try to ensure that every resident council has an office and who has access to the computer in that office. The majority of hi-rise resident councils do have an office. The question is who should have access to the office and how does the QuickBook PEER gain access to it. Camille Gunderson, Neill, made a Motion that entrance to a resident council office be by a resident council officer or appointees, and at the end of the term, the key be returned to the PHA. Ron Sexton seconded and the Motion carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

No Old Business.

## **RESIDENT INITIATIVES REPORT**

*Alicia Huckleby*, Resident Initiatives Director, spoke about Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) between the PHA and the Presidents Council City Wide, as well as from all of the individual hi-rises and the St. Paul PHA. In your packets you will see a draft copy of the new MOU. Alicia read aloud the entire document for the P.C., pointing out the changes that were made to the original MOU's. After she was finished, a Motion was made by Ron Sexton, Exchange, that the MOU be adopted as it stands. The Motion was seconded by Amy Seaman, Montreal, and the Motion carried. Make sure that the MOU is on your Agenda for reading at your next regular council meetings.

## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REPORT**

*John Cardoza*, Commissioner, Cleveland, stated they haven't had their meeting yet, but wanted to point out that in your packet is a Dunedin Terrace Family Modernization Fact Sheet. Dunedin went through a major remodeling, and at its completion there were many distinguished speakers at the event. More detailed information on Commissioner meetings can be found on the P.C. website.

## **GREEN INITIATIVES REPORT**

Natalie Mikkelson, PHA Green Initiatives Technician, stated PHA is applying for the 2019 Nan McKay Development Award to recognize our sustainability efforts in our solar energy community garden subscription that we have. They currently have ten hi-rises in a solar garden subscription agreement and they are in the process of getting the other six hi-rises and three community centers under community solar. For this award they need three letters of support. Violet Grant, Wilson, made a Motion the P.C. send a letter of support. It was

## **GREEN INITIATIVES REPORT** (continued)

seconded by Melissa Pappas, Seal, and the Motion carried. She also mentioned that they have 1.5 ounce jars of honey for sale for \$3.50, payable by cash or check. If you have any questions or need further information, contact Natalie Mikkelson at **651-298-5222**, or email her at [Natalie.Mikkelson@stpha.org](mailto:Natalie.Mikkelson@stpha.org).

### **SHIP GRANT UPDATE**

*Betsy Christensen*, SHIP Coordinator. Betsy stated the SHIP acronym stands for **Statewide Health Improvement Partnership**. It's a partnership the PHA has with Ramsey County Public Health, to improve the health of our communities. This work takes place across the state of Minnesota, based on what the community's needs are. She handed out a flyer to be shared at your resident council meetings regarding:

**Free Rechargeable Bicycle Lights for PHA Residents**. Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota "See and Be Seen Campaign" is providing rechargeable bicycle lights to PHA residents. These lights are intended for PHA residents (adults and youth ages 16 years or older) who ride a bicycle. One set of lights per person. First come, first served while supplies last. To request bicycle lights, contact **Betsy, PHA SHIP Program at 651-298-4030, or email her at [betsy.christensen@stpha.org](mailto:betsy.christensen@stpha.org)**.

**Smoking Cessation Support Stations** completed at 6 of 7 hi-rises in October and November. They were Valley, Central, Edgerton, Neill, Wabasha and Wilson – average 10 per site. Any questions, contact Ann Tranvik at **651-266-2509**.

**Mini-Quit Mondays QuitCash Challenge**. Sign up online at [www.quitplan.com/quitcash-challenge/mini-quit-mondays.html](http://www.quitplan.com/quitcash-challenge/mini-quit-mondays.html).

- **December 9, 2019 Identify the Trigger**: Identify one of your personal triggers for tobacco use; i.e., driving in the car, drinking coffee, etc, and don't give into it.

**Living Well with Diabetes Series**. Improve your health and get support living with diabetes in a 6-week series led by trained diabetes facilitators. Registration required, with a minimum of 8 people per class. We will be scheduling classes in the near future.

**Garden Mentor Training**. 6-week training is Monday, February 24, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2020 from 4-6 p.m. at Mt. Airy Community Center, 91 E. Arch St. Master Gardeners provide hands on and classroom instruction on gardening basics – soil, fertilizer, pest control, starting seeds indoors and community garden resources. Bus cards, refreshments and t-shirts are provided. Applications are available from your building manager. **Deadline to apply: 12/31/19**. Any questions, contact Natalie Mikkelson, Green Initiatives Technician at [natalie.mikkelson@stpha.org](mailto:natalie.mikkelson@stpha.org).

### **SECTION 3 UPDATE**

Beth Pacunas, Section 3 Projects Coordinator/Youth Literacy. Her job as Section 3 Coordinator is to organize partnerships and find people jobs, field training, and education that will lead to employment; anything that will help people get skills for work. She's aware that some people don't actually know what Section 3 is about, so she explained in more detail what it is, what they do and how they do it. If you or someone you know is trying to find a job, obtain job skills or education, or if they just need more information on Section 3, call Beth Pacunas at: **651-228-3204**.

### **SECTION 3 UPDATE** (continued)

Beth also spoke about the ride-share company called Lyft. They're currently offering grants to organizations in the form of Lyft Ride Credits. They offer them every quarter and usually award about \$1,000.00, depending on the strength of the application and your pitch for the grant. It can be anywhere between \$5,000.00 and \$20,000.00 in Lyft Ride Credits. She went on and spoke in more detail about the grant A Motion was made by Candy Pernell, Ravoux, that we approve the application form for the grant, which was seconded by Camille Gunderson, Neill. The Motion was tabled pending further research and discussion.

### **CLOSING**

*Julia Hupperts*, Resident Council Coordinator, thanked everyone for attending and wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

No further Presidents Council business was discussed or conducted, and the meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Submitted by:



Bob Knutson, PC/RPC Secretary  
peetiebird2@gmail.com

## **Meeting Reminders:**

### **Next Presidents Council Meeting:**

Monday, December 23, 10:00 a.m. – Noon.

**Executive Committee:** December 13 @ 11:00 a.m. - 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

**Community Sharing:** December 6 @ 10:00 a.m. at Central Hi-Rise.

**Computer Team:** December 19 @ 1:30 p.m. - Board Room.