

Presidents Council Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

Mary Puente, Front Hi-Rise, called the Presidents Council to order on January 25, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. She then asked for introductions.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Bob Knutson, PC/RPC Secretary, Ravoux Hi-Rise, asked everyone to look over the Minutes from the last meeting, and if corrections are needed, bring them up at our next meeting. Lisa Lee made a Motion that the Minutes be accepted as they stand, Cathy Hicks seconded it and the Motion was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Melissa Pappas, PC/RPC Treasurer, Seal Hi-Rise, presented the December Treasurer's Report. The current balance is fifteen thousand, two hundred, thirteen dollars and sixty-nine cents (\$15,213.69). The Report will be filed for audit. She also gave an update on the Allina Grant and how the money was spent.

RESIDENT INITIATIVES REPORT

Alicia Huckleby reminded everyone that the application for the 2016 Allina Health Neighborhood Health Connections Grant, is due by February 1st. She said they will be going to the PHA's Board for approval to apply.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Board of Commissioner, *Mary Puente*, Front Hi-Rise, presented information from their meeting on November 25th. She said a purchase order was approved for updated computer software for the PHA business computers. They also approved amending Public Housing Admission & Occupancy policies, to revise the process of offering vacant hi-rise units to eligible applicants from a waiting list.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REPORT (continued)

Mary also mentioned a *25-Year Community Solar Garden Subscription* with *Geronimo Energy*. This will save on energy costs across the board for PHA. Currently it will cover ten hi-rises and the downtown office. The ten hi-rises are to be determined.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Dave Lang, Maintenance Contracts Manager, said they are putting together bid documents for the funding to replace all of the plumbing at Ravoux Hi-Rise, the windows at Valley Hi-Rise, and hopefully get to Wabasha Hi-Rise. *Tim Angaran* took questions about situations at other hi-rises. He also mentioned HUD inspections, and said how random apartments from each hi-rise will be chosen. Notification will be given prior to that taking place. Other hi-rise problems were discussed as well.

SAFETY & SECURITY REPORT

Keith Draz, Safety & Security Coordinator, passed around a list of the number of police calls to the hi-rises in 2015. He went through each type of call, and explained the reasons for some. He also reminded people to be sure and let their managers know about any incidents. If you have safety concerns, give Keith a call at **651-558-2305**. He returns all calls.

PHA MANAGEMENT REPORT

Charisse Brown, Assistant Resident Services Senior Manager, said all residents will receive a notice of changes to the charges that are made by sales and service. All are invited to take a look at it and offer their comments.

OLD BUSINESS

Challenge Grant Funds. *Alicia Huckleby*, Resident Initiatives Director, gave an update on the Challenge Grant. When the group met, the suggestions were narrowed down to four items, which were: \$10,000.00 for interpreter stipends for resident council events; \$5,000.00 for English learning software for the Computer Labs, which would include promotional materials and headphones; \$5,000.00 for wellness and community-building training and supplies, and \$5,000.00 for QiGong (meditative exercise) classes in all sixteen hi-rises. Because these proposed dollars would come out of the PHA's Operating Budget, all activities have to be Operating-Budget-eligible. Unfortunately, the QiGong is not authorized under budget policies. *Julia Hupperts*, Resident Council Coordinator, will get back with the planning group to consider other proposals, which will go before the PHA Board in March.

NEW BUSINESS

1. *Mary Puente*, Front Hi-Rise, gave a community building update. She said they've been looking into arts & crafts activities, and they want to find a way for all hi-rises to be involved. Another suggestion was to have a *Hi-Rise Crafts Show*, in which all hi-rises would participate, but would pay for their own supplies. They're looking into whether grant money could be used for that, as well. She mentioned other activities that could be done in the hi-rises to promote community building. She also said there's a need for a Presidents Council Executive Board member.
2. *Julia Hupperts*, Resident Council Coordinator, said she is currently looking to fill a vacancy on the Presidents Council Executive Board, and proceeded to explain what the responsibilities of the position are. *John Cordoza*, of Cleveland Hi-Rise, offered to fill the vacancy. A Motion was made by Connie Lydon to appoint John Cordoza as an officer of the Board, and it was seconded by Melanie Fox. It passed by unanimous vote, and Julia Hupperts swore him into office.

ROSS TEAM

Ed Petsche, ROSS Grant Coordinator, spoke about Lutheran Social Services, who offer financial education. They've offered to do presentations at our sites. We would have to guarantee a turnout of at least 20 people. They have other programs as well. Sign-up sheets and flyers have been distributed to some of the hi-rises. If your hi-rise didn't receive one, and is interested, contact Ed Petsche.

SHIP GRANT UPDATES

1. ***Ann Tranvik, Public Health Nurse***, thanked everyone who was taking them up on their offer of a free lunch and conversation after today's meeting. The conversation will focus around what the needs are in various areas, along with doing health and wellness work in the buildings. SHIP is interested in finding out how well we're working together. She also talked about PHA's efforts with *Smoking Workshops*, that will provide resource information and education for those who want to quit smoking. She passed out information of what the Workshops were about.
2. ***Betsy Christensen, SHIP Coordinator***, said they are working on an agreement that will allow them to get the University of Minnesota extension for their Nutritional Education Classes. She said they're working on finishing up that agreement, and then get classes scheduled at locations that support the CHSP Program. If you, or anybody you know, is interested, get in touch with Betsy.

CLOSING

Julia Hupperts, Resident Council Coordinator, asked if anyone had received negative remarks about the flyers that are posted in the hi-rises, and a discussion was had regarding that. She also said that the comments and suggestions in regard to the proposed No Smoking Rule by HUD, have been submitted to them. Also, she and Ruby Steward will be going over all of the vending contracts to make sure they're current and up-to-date. Julia thanked everyone for their hard work.

No further Presidents Council business was discussed or conducted and the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Submitted by:



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Upcoming Meeting Reminders:

Next Presidents Council Meeting:

Monday, February 22, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

RPC Meeting: April 8, 9:30 a.m. - 3rd floor.

Executive Committee: February 12, 11:00 a.m. - 3rd floor.

Community Building: February 5, 9:30 a.m. - 3rd floor.

Computer Team: February 18, 1:30 p.m. - Board Room.

Insider Newsletter: March 4, 11:00 a.m.

Peer Team: February 26.

Presidents Council Website:

www.stphapresidentscouncil.org