

Presidents Council Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Ron Sexton, Chairperson, Exchange, called the Presidents Council Meeting to order on January 28, 2019 at 10:10 a.m. Introductions followed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Bob Knutson, PC/RPC Secretary, Ravoux, stated all Reps should have a copy of the Minutes from the last meeting, which are also posted at each hi-rise and on the P.C. website for a month. No discrepancies were reported and a Motion was made by Bill Hughes, Iowa, to accept the Minutes as they stand. It was seconded by Margaret Hockenberger, Mt. Airy and the Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Melissa Pappas, PC/RPC Treasurer, presented the report for December. The checkbook beginning balance as of December 31, 2018, was twenty-five thousand, three hundred sixty-one dollars and fifty-five cents (\$25,361.55). The ending balance is twenty-two thousand, three hundred thirty-five dollars and seventy-two cents (\$22,335.72). The report will be filed for audit.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Fay Simer, St. Paul Pedestrian Safety Coordinator, Public Works, gave a presentation on a new plan to make the City of St. Paul a safer, more appealing place to walk, and how you can participate in and share your opinions. After the presentation Fay took questions.

Jeffrey Prendergast, "Silver Sneakers". Silver Sneakers is in partnership with other organizations and is a free fitness program designed for Medicare individuals. They partner with U-Care, Medicare, Humana and Allina Aetna. They partner with fitness centers, as well. They offer the following:

1. It's offered FREE by more than 50 Medicare plans to help keep you healthy and independent.
2. Thousands of locations with pools, weights, cardio equipment and group classes to find the workout that works for you.
3. Specialized and safe classes with support from trained instructors.
4. Location finder, on-demand workout videos and more at our website listed below.

For more information or questions contact them Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. **at 1-888-423-4632 (TTY 711)**, or contact them via their website at: www.silversneakers.com/starthere. He passed out his business card and took questions.

PHA MAINTENANCE REPORT

Tim Angaran, Maintenance Director, spoke about the new LED lighting installed at some hi-rises and they are receiving positive input about that. They plan on installing them at all of the hi-rises. He then took questions.

PHA MAINTENANCE REPORT (continued)

Brent Feller, Construction Program Manager/Capital Improvements, said the Montreal plumbing renovation is moving along smoothly. New flooring was installed at Exchange Hi-Rise. A couple of updates on the family sites at Dunedin: They said they will be starting Phase 4 of the modernization. The work will start in early April and will be completed the end of October. He went on to list other projects that will be taking place at other sites in the future.

PHA MANAGEMENT REPORT

Charisse Brown, Assistant Resident Services Senior Manager, couldn't stress enough how important it is to keep hallway, laundry room and apartment windows closed during the frigid months. She again advised residents to get rental insurance. Insurance is about \$8.00 a month.

She talked about security in the hi-rises and said they have hired Capital Security, which alternates their services between hi-rises, and makes unplanned visits to the buildings. She also said to let her know if there are special situations taking place at other hi-rises, and she can move security around as needed.

SAFETY & SECURITY REPORT

Sgt. Grundhauser, St. Paul Police Department and head of the ACOP Unit, said when issues arise, be sure to let your managers know about it, or if you have his number, call him. He also stated the crime rate in the hi-rises is lower than that of the city. He talked about two officers who work with mental health issues and have a crisis unit to help them with that.

He also spoke about the severe, dangerous cold weather we're having, and reminded us that warming stations have been set up throughout the city and police have been helping to bring people to these safe havens. If you need any further information, call **291-1111**. He answered questions.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Julia Hupperts, Resident Council Coordinator, reported that there have been two resignations from the President Councils Executive Board, and the PC is in need of two representatives to serve on the Executive Board. She explained what the Executive Board was and what it did. To be on the Executive Board, you must be a permanent representative from your hi-rise. If the President of your resident council can't attend the meetings, another Board member will take on the responsibilities as Hi-Rise Representative. Julia asked if there were any attending hi-rise representatives who would be willing to be on the P.C. Executive Board. Bill Hughes, Iowa, volunteered to become a member of the Executive Board. John Cardoza, Cleveland, made a Motion that Bill Hughes, Iowa, be part of the P.C. Executive Board. The Motion was seconded by Edward Lane, Central and the Motion carried. Julia then proceeded to swear Bill Hughes into office.

Julia distributed two checks to the Reps. This is the first half of the PHA Grant and the first half of the Resident Participation Committee (RPC) funds for this fiscal year. The second half will come after the P.C. books have been audited.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

John Cardoza, Commissioner, gave updates from the December 2018 meeting of the PHA Board of Commissioners. He outlined what actions were taken at each of those meetings. He also referred questions to the P.C. website at: www.stpha.org. It explains what RAD is all about.

SECTION 3 UPDATE

Beth Pacunas, Section 3 Projects Coordinator/Youth Literacy, is a member of the Resident Initiatives Department. Her job as Section 3 Coordinator is to organize partnerships and find people jobs, field training, and education that will lead to employment.

She said she has met with all of the councils about the Science Museum coupons, and she wanted to know if any of them were getting requests for the vouchers. Several replied they've had numerous requests for them. She said they will be having the brainstorming session with the volunteers on February 20, 2019, 2:00 p.m. at McDonough and 5:00 p.m. at Mt. Airy Community Center. She will send emails to the contacts she currently has.

She also talked about an organization that offers "interview clothing" for people who don't have the means to acquire proper attire to attend a job interview. She will put up flyers with more information and update us at our next meeting. In the meantime, if you have questions or require any additional information, please contact Beth Pacunas at www.elizabeth.pacunas@stpha.org, or call her for more information at **651-228-3204**.

RESIDENT INITIATIVES REPORT

Alicia Huckleby, Resident Initiatives Director & Interim Human Resource Director, will give her report at the next meeting.

SHIP GRANT UPDATE

Ann Tranvik, St. Paul Public Health Department Nurse, works with Betsy Christensen, Resident Initiatives, and those involved with the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP).

Betsy Christensen, Resident Initiatives, spoke about the new pedestrian-friendly city streets that Fay Simer gave a presentation on earlier. She wants the sidewalks to become a place of safety. If you have comments or questions, she encourages you to visit www.stpaul.gov/walking, and she's also willing to submit comments for people who reach out to her. Her contact information is below. February 8th is the deadline for submitting comments.

When winter becomes a bit more tolerable, there's an outdoor winter event taking place at Lake Phalen at the end of February on a Saturday. There will be outdoor and indoor activities such as campfires, ice fishing, etc. Information flyers will go up. If you require more information, please contact Betsy Christensen, PHA SHIP Program at **651-298-4030**, or email her at: betsy.christensen@stpha.org.

Ann Tranvik, St. Paul Public Health Department Nurse gave an update on the Garden Mentor Program. The orientation was scheduled for today, but it's been rescheduled for next week due to the weather. Also, a couple of Garden Mentors from previous programs will also be coming back.

She gave an update on the "Cessation Stations". These were stations that were set up for an hour and a half, in a conspicuous place in most of the hi-rises. And because it went very well they would be willing to rotate around to different sites, on different days. Because it was such a success, nine sites have been chosen for this winter – based on input from the different hi-rises -- to find out if people are still interested in getting help with quitting smoking. She passed out flyers containing dates and times. Each station contains FREE quit kits and other aids to help in the quitting process. If there's a lot of interest this next time around, they will offer it again in the Fall.

CLOSING

Julia Hupperts, Resident Council Coordinator, said Election Judges are needed and explained what the requirements, responsibilities and duties of being an Election Judge are. In the Reps handout package is an application for Election Judge.

CLOSING (continued)

If anybody here now, or residents at your hi-rise, show an interest in being an Election Judge, contact Julia Hupperts at **651-228-3205**, or email her at Julia.hupperts@stpha.org. There will be election judge training in February.

Regarding Community Sharing; she wanted to remind all sixteen hi-rises that you may request up to \$50.00 in reimbursement – with valid receipt(s) -- from the Presidents Council, to purchase such things as games or other things that will benefit the residents where you live. There are also the Challenge Grant funds up to \$425.00 that can be used to purchase items residents agree to.

She's gotten a few questions about vendors. Vendor contracts expire June 30th. Councils should discuss whether or not they want to stay with their current vendor or change to another one. If you stay with your current vendor, a new contract would have to be signed. If you decide to switch vendors, you'll need to interview vendors and make your final decision at least by April or May to give the present vendor enough notice. Most contracts require 30 days' notice.

Julia handed out the checks to the Reps. They're to be deposited in your council's checking account as soon as possible.

No further Presidents Council business was discussed or conducted, and the meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Submitted by:



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

MEETING REMINDERS

Next Presidents Council Meeting: Monday, Feb. 25, 2019, 10 a.m.

Executive Committee: Feb. 15, 2019 @ 11:00 a.m.

Community Sharing: February 1, 2019 @ 10:00 a.m. – 3rd Floor

Computer Team: February 21, 2019 @ 1:30 p.m.