

Presidents Council Meeting Minutes

December 28, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Lisa Lee, Wilson Hi-Rise, called the Presidents Council to order on December 28, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. And then proceeded with 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 the next meeting. *Cathy Hicks* made a Motion to accept the Minutes as they stand, which was seconded by *Mary Puente*. The Motion was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Melissa Pappas, PC/RPC Treasurer, Seal Hi-Rise, presented the November Treasurer's Report. The current balance is nineteen thousand eight hundred eighty dollars and fifty-nine cents (\$19,880.59). The Report will be filed for audit.

RESIDENT INITIATIVES REPORT

Alicia Huckleby, Resident Initiatives Director, spoke of the comments that were offered by residents and others, regarding HUD's proposed Rule to make all PHA hi-rise apartments across the country smoke-free. She distributed copies of the *Smoke-Free comments from HR Council Meetings Nov. 2015*, which contains various opinions from residents from each hi-rise. *Connie Lydon* made a Motion that the Presidents Council send a response to HUD regarding this matter. It was seconded by *Mary Puente* and passed by a majority. *Alicia* also announced that *Allina Health* was getting ready to open the application period for the *Allina Health Neighborhood Health Connection Grant*. *Connie Lydon* made a Motion to make the application for the *Allina Grant*, which was seconded by *Jon Cordoza*, and passed by a majority.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Board of Commissioner, *Mary Puente*, Front Hi-Rise, spoke about the Public Housing's unit offers, the waiting list, admission and occupancy policy for the Public Housing program. Some changes were made and she went on to describe what they were.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Dave Lang, Maintenance Contracts Manager, said they are putting together documents to replace all the plumbing at Ravoux Hi-Rise, and instead of having to do it over several years, it looks like they'll be able to do it under one contract in 14 to 18 months. He also announced that they will be putting in new windows at Valley Hi-Rise in 2016. They also have consultants hired to look at all of the buildings to make a determination of what the plumbing conditions are. He also talked about getting bids for replacing elevators at Front Hi-Rise, and expanding the parking lot at Cleveland Hi-Rise. Other projects are in the works as well.

CHALLENGE GRANT UPDATE

Connie Lydon, Neill Hi-Rise, stated there is a proposal that will be submitted to *Jon Gutzmann*, PHA Executive Director, regarding the \$25,000.00 Challenge Grant. Ten thousand would go for interpreter stipends for resident council events. Five thousand for “*QiGong*” (a meditative exercise program) for all sixteen hi-rises, that will run from January thru March of 2017. Five thousand for English learning software, earbuds, headphones, along with promotion for the program. And lastly, five thousand dollars to go toward wellness and community building, training and supplies.

SAFETY & SECURITY REPORT

Keith Draz, Safety & Security Coordinator, passed around a schedule of the *Hi-Rise Crime Prevention Presentations*. He also mentioned that at the January meeting he'll give everyone a recap of what happened in 2015, with printouts for each hi-rise regarding police calls, etc. Also, if you have any safety concerns, give him a call at **651-558-2305**. He returns all calls.

PHA MANAGEMENT REPORT

Charisse Brown, Assistant Resident Services Senior Manager, wanted to remind everyone about the notices included with rent statements regarding increases in flat rents; which will be going to the Board next month. Any questions or comments may be directed to *Mike Winston*, Hi-Rise Principal Manager.

OLD BUSINESS

Community Building Update, *Mary Puente*, Front Hi-Rise, spoke about activities that were currently being done in the hi-rises. There are arts & crafts happening at only some, and she spoke about using some of the Challenge Grant money – if approved -- towards starting more. Volunteers would be the best option for leading these groups, as hired leaders could cost as much as \$300.00. She also talked about ways to get residents interested in projects, and the different ways of lowering the costs.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

ROSS TEAM

AZ Jones, Program Coordinator, said they had an Employment Fair back in November, and everyone had been informed of that. Approximately 47 people attended, which included a number of people from the hi-rises. He also talked about a committee being formed to help expand educational opportunities.

SHIP GRANT UPDATES

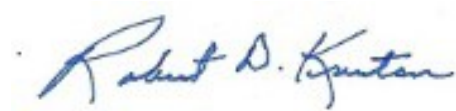
Ann Tranvik, Public Health Nurse, gave an update on SHIP. She also invited everyone to have lunch on them after next months' meeting in January, and along with lunch, have a conversation and get feedback about what you'd like to see in your buildings in the next couple of years to promote a healthier community. She also followed up on a conversation about the HUD smoking ban that's being proposed, and would like to work with the Resident Initiatives staff to research and define resources that may be in the community that could help people when they're ready to quit smoking. She handed out a pamphlet for Quit Plan Services, designed to help people stop smoking. She spoke of other resources as well.

CLOSING

Eileen Tittle, sitting in for Julia Hupperts, Resident Council Coordinator, spoke about the proper procedure for allocating resident council monies for interpreters, etc. She also reminded everyone that the grant checks that would be coming to the councils January through March.

No further Presidents Council business was discussed or conducted and the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Submitted by:



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Upcoming Meeting Reminders:

Next Presidents Council Meeting:

Monday, January 25, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

RPC Meeting: January 8 @ 9:30 a.m. - 3rd floor.

Executive Committee: January 15, 11:00 a.m. - 3rd floor.

Community Building: January 15, 9:30 a.m. - 3rd floor.

Computer Team: January 21, 1:30 p.m. - Board Room.

Insider Newsletter: January 8, 11:00 a.m.

Presidents Council Website:

www.stphapresidentscouncil.org