

Presidents Council Meeting Minutes

December 23, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Ron Sexton, Exchange, called the Presidents Council Meeting to order at 10:05 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 at <https://www.stphapresidentscouncil.org> If any discrepancies or errors are found to be in the Minutes, bring them up during the Secretary's Report at the next meeting. A Motion was made by Phillip Stone, Cleveland, to accept the Minutes as they stand. It was seconded by Violet Brant, Wilson, and the Motion carried.

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 sixty-six thousand, one hundred seventeen dollars and seventeen cents (\$66,117.17). The ending balance is sixty-two thousand, eight hundred sixty-two dollars and forty-one cents (\$62,862.41). This report will be filed for audit.

PHA MAINTENANCE REPORT

Brent Feller, Construction Program Manager, spoke about projects that are currently on-going at various hi-rises concerning trash compactors, domestic water booster pumps, etc. They have visited resident council meetings to keep them up-to-date on projects.

PHA MANAGEMENT REPORT

Charisse Brown, Assistant Resident Services Senior Manager, stated:

1. Hi-rise office managers are moving from 555 Wabasha to Valley Hi-Rise. If you need to speak with one of the hi-rise managers, go to Valley Hi-Rise.
2. Security camera feeds in hi-rises. Charisse polled those present to get an idea of what the feeling was in their buildings to have the cameras taken out. Afterward she said she would take that information back to her IT Steering Committee and let us know what is said.
3. The grace period for paying your rent will be ten days instead of five days.
4. Effective December 27, they will be accepting rent payments using credit cards and debit cards, with a choice of non-recurring or recurring payment options. If you use a credit card there will be a fee of \$4.95. Managers and Human Services Coordinators at all buildings, will be offering four hours of training on how to pay your rent online. That training will be occurring in January and February.

SAFETY & SECURITY REPORT

Sgt. Amy Boyer, St. Paul Police Department, ACOP unit, talked again about the rash of auto thefts from the parking lots of the hi-rises. Never leave your car running unattended. She also stated that in the last couple of weeks there have been some Aggravated Robberies that have taken place and in one instance a man was shot during a robbery at Mt. Airy. Always be aware of your surroundings and take steps to stay safe. She answered questions. If you need further information or have questions, contact Sgt. Boyer at **651-558-2305**, or email her at Amy.Boyer@ci.stpaul.mn.us.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Resident Initiatives: Bounce Back Youth Program.at the Roosevelt site. How Bounce Back came to be at the PHA:

- Partnership with Allina Health.
- Finding health through happiness.
- Building more youth engagement with existing programs.
- Passing Bounce Back initiative from youth to parent.
- Empowering and teaching PHA youth self-sufficiency skills.

Resilience is made up of five pillars: self-awareness, mindfulness, self-care, positive relationships and purpose.

By strengthening these pillars, we in turn, become more resilient. Instead of experiencing an overwhelming downwards spiral when we encounter stress in our lives, these five pillars work together to lift us up out of the chaos we are feeling.

Obtaining and maintaining these skills takes practice. That is where Bounce Back Project comes in.

Our goal is to give everyone in the community – young and old – a set of tools that are quick, easy and simple to use that are proven to help make you feel better faster. We've all heard the saying "when life gives you lemons, make lemonade". We also know that it's not quite that simple. Bounce Back Project hopes to give everyone the lemon squeezer and the pitcher so that making lemonade seems possible.

If you want further information or have questions, contact Betsy Christensen at **651-298-4030**, or email her at betsy.christensen@stpha.org.

OLD BUSINESS

Julia Hupperts, Resident Council Coordinator, said we have one vacancy on the Presidents Council Executive Board, and asked if there were any hi-rise representatives present who would step up and fill that spot. Angela Graves, Hamline agreed to be on the Executive Committee. Yasmine Amanou, Central, made a Motion that Angela Graves be nominated for that position, which was seconded by Violet Brant, Wilson. A vote was taken and the Motion carried. Angela Graves was then sworn in.

NEW BUSINESS

- Julia Hupperts, Resident Council Coordinator, drew everybody's attention to a flyer in their packet that concerned honey for sale. The money from the sale of the honey provides scholarship money. And one of the scholarships it provides money to is the *Wilder Neighborhood Leadership Program* (NLP). The NLP is an immersive program that brings together up to 20 community members from diverse backgrounds on a journey of self-discovery and authentic leadership engagement; all while uncovering the unique history of Saint Paul. There is an application for this program in your packets and the applications are due tomorrow.
- The Ramsey County Sheriff's Office has donated ten computers to be used at the hi-rises. After the computers are refurbished and ready for use, hi-rises with the greatest need will be chosen to receive one. She asked that we send an already prepared thank you acknowledgement to them for their generosity. Amy Seaman, Montreal, made a Motion that we send a letter of thanks to the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office. It was seconded by Jasmine Amanou, Central, and the Motion carried. Everyone then signed the letter.
- Resident Council Mailbox Verification form. The Council Mailbox Verification form must be completely filled out and returned to the Presidents Council office, so they have the current mailbox names and numbers for all of the resident councils. A Motion was also made by Phillip Stone, Cleveland, to allow the Treasurers of all hi-rises to have a mailbox key. The Motion was seconded by Angela Graves, Hamline, and was carried.
- House Rules for Council Meetings. This form was discussed and a few minor changes were made. It delineates how to properly conduct a council meeting. A Motion was made by Violet Brant, Cleveland that the amended version of the House Rules for Council Meetings be approved. It was seconded by Camille Gunderson, Neill, and the Motion carried.

RESIDENT INITIATIVES REPORT

Alicia Huckleby, Resident Initiatives Director, will give a report at the next meeting of the P.C.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REPORT

John Cardoza, Commissioner, Cleveland, gave a report on their November meeting. More detailed information on Commissioner's meetings can be found on the P.C. website.

GREEN INITIATIVES REPORT

Natalie Mikkelson, PHA Green Initiatives Technician, stated the applications for the Garden Mentor Program are due on December 31, so if you're interested in gardening, get that in as soon as possible. They also have about 240 jars of honey left to sell. You can get 1.5 ounces for \$3.50. Please post the flyers and mention that at your resident council meetings.

The City of St. Paul has some sponsored locations for recycling holiday lights after the season. They can be recycled December 16 thru January 24. There is a list of locations in your packets of information. If you have any questions or need further information, contact Natalie Mikkelson at **651-298-5222**, or email her at Natalie.Mikkelson@stpha.org.

SHIP GRANT UPDATE

Ann Tranvik, Ramsey County Public Health Nurse. A six week series of Living Well with Diabetes will be held at Iowa Hi-Rise, Mondays, January 6 thru February 10, 2020 from 1-3 p.m. Scheduling classes are in progress for Seal and Wilson hi-rises. All are welcome to attend these classes. Ideally they would require eight people to sign up but not less than six. If you have questions or need more information, contact Ann Tranvik at **651-266-2509**, or email her at ann.tranvik@co.ramsey.mn.us.

A Food Resource Guide was previously handed out and because of a high demand, more will be printed and handed out.

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.

There are still some free rechargeable bicycle lights available for PHA resident bike riders and she's getting one hundred more soon. Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota "See and Be Seen Campaign" is providing them. 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 Christensen at **651-298-4030**, or email her at betsy.christensen@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**, or email her at Elizabeth.pacunas@stpha.org.

She said they are looking for volunteers for their Steering Committee to help with the core planning and facilitation of upcoming events.

CLOSING

Julia Hupperts, Resident Council Coordinator, thanked everyone for attending and also said she included a copy of the new Hi-Rise Space Use Agreement (SUA), which needed no explanation. Also, the next Community Sharing meeting is January 3 at Wilson Hi-Rise at 10:00 a.m.

No further Presidents Council business was discussed or conducted, and the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Submitted by:



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

Meeting Reminders:

Next Presidents Council Meeting:

Monday, January 27, 2020, 10:00 a.m. – Noon.

Executive Committee: January 17 @ 11:00 a.m. - 3rd floor.

Community Sharing: January 3 @ 10:00 a.m. at Wilson Hi-Rise.

Computer Team: January 23 @ 1:30 p.m. - Board Room.