

Presidents Council Zoom Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Leonardo Thomas, Seal, called the Presidents Council Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and took a roll call of hi-rise Representatives present, along with PHA staff members.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Aado Perandi, PC/RPC Secretary, Wabasha, stated you can always find a copy of the Minutes posted on the PC website. He also asked Representatives to instruct their resident council Secretaries to print a copy of the PC Minutes and post them along with the Minutes from their resident council meetings. Melanie Fox, Montreal, made a Motion to accept last month's Minutes as they stand. Al Bacon, Front, seconded and the Motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKER

Carissa Dillon, Food Security Coordinator, Ramsey County, updated us in the food security efforts by the Health and Wellness Service Team in Ramsey County. To help the county ultimately develop and/or improve programs, she asked us about our knowledge regarding the food security issues concerning our residents of public housing.

If people's physiological needs are not met, one of which is adequate food, it is hard for us to be a success in society. Food insecurity is defined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life.

Ramsey County allocated ten million dollars, covering April 2020 through April 2021, for its COVID-19 Food and Basic Needs response. This included: home-based meal deliveries; food shelves and basic needs; school meals for youth; SHIP helped support farmers markets; expanded funding for the homeless.

Ramsey County has a food resources web page at www.ramseycounty.us/foodresources/. Carissa opened the floor for discussion and questions. If there are any further questions, Carissa can be contacted by email at Carissa.Dillon@co.ramsey.mn.us.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Melissa Pappas, PC/RPC Treasurer, Seal, gave a rundown of income and expenses for December.

For December the cleared balance is one-hundred thousand, six hundred fifty six dollars and twenty six cents (\$100,656.26). The ending balance is eighty-eight thousand, seven hundred sixty-two dollars and sixty five cents (\$88,762.65). The report will be filed for audit. Melissa then took questions.

PHA MAINTENANCE REPORT

Brent Feller, Construction Program Manager / Maintenance Contracts, gave an update. Maintenance staff is busy budgeting, planning, and getting out contract and bid documents.

Current projects include: The Front plumbing project will be continuing and looking to complete in the next couple of months; Iowa will be getting a new hot water tank which has been ordered and looking to be installed in the Spring; Valley fire alarm panel work will start today and residents may hear some testing of the system; Edgerton has an elevator cab that is out of service until late January or early February; Central has an elevator cab that is being serviced; Dunedin had a sprinkler line that caused ceiling damage requiring repair and repainting which is currently in progress; Valley will have the electrical updated starting in two to three months; Wabasha will have bids going out for the repair of exterior brick and concrete.

PHA MAINTENANCE REPORT *(continued)*

Mike Silvan, Assistant Maintenance Director, had a few things to say during these winter months.

1. Preventative maintenance inspections are pretty much complete for all hi-rises. Work will continue on work orders tied to the maintenance inspections. There may be a few stragglers left to do.
2. Pest control inspections are coming in February for Dunedin, Valley, Front, and Iowa hi-rises.
3. Put on AC cover for your air conditioning unit. If you do not have a cover, please call in a work order so that a cover can get installed. Maintenance does not want any broken pipes. If there is insufficient heat in the unit, one may need to turn thermostat up and/or keep radiators clear of obstructions so that warm air can circulate throughout the apartment. Always call if there are any issues with heat so that they can get repaired.
4. Snow removal: please be prepared to move your vehicle off the lot so that the lot can be fully plowed.
5. Valley and Montreal: heat issue in hallway should have been corrected to some extent.
6. Hamline: front door issue should have been corrected so that the door works properly at night.
7. Ravoux: need to make further checks on the key for the sliding door.

Maintenance then took questions from the hi-rise representatives.

PHA MANAGEMENT REPORT

Tara Johnson, Resident Services Senior Manager, reported that we should put on the AC cover for our air conditioning unit. If you do not have a cover, call in a work order so that a cover can get installed. When you get your HUD-50059 form in the mail, please sign it and return it to your assistant manager. Also, promptly turn in any requested paperwork needed for rental re-certification. Current Human Service Coordinators are: Jen Jackson, Beth Forest, Laura Garaghty, Natalie Mikkelson and Hayley Nemmers. Tara then took questions from representatives.

SAFETY & SECURITY REPORT

Sgt. Amy Boyer, St. Paul Police Department, ACOP Unit, stated that ACOP Unit has made trips to Central, Hamline, and Montreal. Some hi-rises have reported thefts of catalytic converters from cars in parking lot. Please call ACOP if you see people milling around your parking lot that you do not recognize. The police department has occasionally done clinics regarding catalytic converters—sometimes the converters can be marked to identify them in case they are recovered at a later time. If you see a parking lot light or streetlight out please report it so that it can get fixed. If you see an unauthorized person in your building please notify ACOP or the police.

There is a Federal high profile court case going on in downtown Saint Paul. There are some road closures and some areas closed or restricted. Currently there are no problems anticipated.

There is a new Officer in Residence (OIR) at Hamline, Officer Muhammad Dahir. The non-emergency number is 651-291-1111. Sgt. Amy can be reached at amy.boyer@ci.stpaul.mn.us or at her cell phone 651-703-7141. She then took questions.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Mileage**. Youa Thao informed the Councils that the new mileage rate for 2022 is 58.5 cents per mile which is effective immediately. The Treasurer should keep a copy of the mileage form in the Treasurer book. This form should also be printed out and posted.
2. **Vending Fair**. Youa Thao informed the Resident Councils that the 2022 Vending Fair will be held on Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom. The resident councils should invite the vendors that they are interested in to this Zoom meeting. The residents of the hi-rises should be informed of the fair. Flyers will be sent to the hi-rises. Also, do not wait until June to select your vendor for 2022.
3. **Bylaw Proposal**. Youa Thao presented the proposed Presidents Council Constitution and Bylaws. All council members should have received an email containing a copy of the proposed bylaws. After thirty days there will be a ballot vote on the proposed bylaws and the result will be announced at the next Presidents Council meeting.

There is additional language to the bylaws that give officers the right to resign if they end up with a lot going on in their lives and to focus on themselves.

There is additional language describing when an officer can be removed or can be recalled.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REPORT

John Cardoza, Cleveland, Commissioner, reported the approval on December 22 for the following items:

1. contract for life safety equipment monitoring, for the testing and maintenance
2. contract for City Employees Union 363
3. Congregate Housing Services Program (CHSP) contract was renewed with Presbyterian Homes and upgraded
4. Agency goals for fiscal year 2022 and 2023, pretty much the same [as previous] except for a few modifications due to Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD)

In the next couple months the commission will be working on their budget for 2022 through 2023. John then took questions.

SECTION 3 UPDATE

Beth Pacunas, Section 3 Projects Coordinator/Youth Literacy, was not able to attend this meeting.

If we have any questions regarding employment, education or training please contact Beth at 651-252-5799.

RESIDENT INITIATIVES REPORT

Alicia Huckleby, Resident Initiatives Director & Human Services Director had to step away for another meeting. Alicia left a message with Betsy Christensen that Leonardo is doing a good job as chairing the meeting. Alicia thanks him.

HIP REPORT

Betsy Christensen, *Health Improvement Programs* (HIP) Coordinator, had a few updates. Last week all PHA hi-rises except for Dunedin hosted a Covid-19 booster clinic in partnership with Cub Pharmacy. Cub administered 272 Covid-19 vaccine booster and flu shots across the fifteen hi-rises. Dunedin is near Neighborhood House - Wellstone Center which has been hosting weekly Covid-19 vaccine clinics.

Copies of Ramsey County Food Resources will be made available to the PHA high-rises.

Free at-home Covid-19 tests, which are rapid antigen at-home tests, not PCR tests, are available to order. Each household is eligible to receive a total of four tests. The tests can be ordered by visiting www.covidtests.gov website or by calling 1-800-232-0233.

In the next few weeks a gratitude poster will be hung up at each PHA hi-rise, one can post notes of what one is grateful for.

Each high-rise will receive a supply of thank you notes that residents can use.

CLOSING

Youa Thao, Resident Council Coordinator would like to remind all Resident Councils that the three documents that must be submitted by the end of June are: Election Sheet, Vending Machine Contract and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

No further Presidents Council business was discussed or conducted, and the meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Submitted by:

Aado Perandi
PC/RPC Secretary

MEETING REMINDERS:

(Meeting through Zoom)

Next Presidents Council Meeting:

Monday, February 28, 10:00 a.m. – Noon.

Executive Committee Meeting: Friday, February 18 @ 11:00 a.m.

Computer Team Meeting: Thursday, February 24 @ 1:30 p.m.