

Presidents Council Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

Melanie Fox, Montreal Hi-Rise, called the Presidents Council Meeting to order on February 22, 2016 at 10:00 a.m., after which introductions were made.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Bob Knutson, PC/RPC Secretary, Ravoux Hi-Rise, asked everyone to read the Minutes from the last meeting, and if corrections are needed, bring them up at our next meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Melissa Pappas, PC/RPC Treasurer, Seal Hi-Rise, presented the January Treasurer's Report. The current balance is twenty seven thousand, five hundred sixty-four dollars and six cents. (\$27,564.06). The Report will be filed for audit.

RESIDENT INITIATIVES REPORT

Alicia Huckleby, PHA Resident Initiatives Director, began her report with some unfortunate news. We did not receive funding in response to our Allina Health Grant application. She explained what may have been the reason for that. However, that won't prohibit us from looking for additional grant opportunities elsewhere. She told everyone not to worry; that we were still going to have activities. Many opportunities are available through SHIP, along with other activities like *Bone Builders*, among others. She spoke of good news regarding talking internally at the PHA with our Health & Resource staff, where the conversation centered on jobs. She spoke of posting job opportunities on the Presidents Council website. She said they received many applications from housing residents for jobs. She would like to work with the Presidents Council leadership group to make sure that when the PHA has a job announcement, it's sent to the Presidents Council to be posted on that website as well. She opened that up for discussion and took questions and suggestions. In addition, she went on to introduce a new PHA volunteer. Her name is Jana Gegen, and she's a PhD student with Metro State Nursing.

RESIDENT INITIATIVES REPORT *(continued)*

Jana is very interested in working more with the PHA, and learning about the diverse communities. She said she's looking forward to working with everyone to find out what's important to us, and what needs to be looked at more closely. Alicia went on to update us on what *Aaron Smothers*, IT Coordinator, has been doing. Aaron's in charge of visiting hi-rises and conducting computer literacy classes, among other computer-related jobs.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REPORT

There was no Commissioners Report at this time.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Tim Angaran said everyone should begin receiving a Notification for the upcoming inspection by a HUD representative, who will be inspecting property conditions at various hi-rises. This will begin on February 29 and possibly last thru the first of March. This person will be looking at Seal, Hamline & Front Hi-Rises. Then will spend some time at the family area developments, and then go to Dunedin, Cleveland, Montreal; and will be looking at Mt. Airy and Valley Hi-Rises. Those will be the only hi-rises inspected this year. Central, Ravoux, Iowa, Edgerton, Exchange & Wabasha will be inspected in 2017. Tim then took questions from the hi-rise Representatives, and explained a bit about what the inspections would entail.

SAFETY & SECURITY REPORT

Keith Draz, Safety & Security Coordinator, wasn't present at the meeting, but as always, if you have any problems or concerns about safety, give him a call at **651-558-2305**. He returns all calls.

PHA MANAGEMENT REPORT

Charisse Brown, Assistant Resident Services Senior Manager, said that the HUD inspection was coming up on February 29 for Seal, Hamline & Front Hi-Rises, which everyone should have received a notice about. Dunedin will be March 14, followed by Montreal and Cleveland on March 5. Mt. Airy and Valley will be March 16 & 17. She also said the plumbing project at Ravoux was going well. We were also reminded that the Flat Rents will be increasing on April 1. The PHA also received a letter from HUD regarding community service. She said forms would be sent out, which must be completed and returned.

OLD BUSINESS

Challenge Grant Update: *Julia Hupperts*, Resident Council Coordinator, wanted to remind everyone that the Presidents Council Minutes are posted on the Presidents Council website, usually within a couple of days of the meeting, and she encouraged everyone to utilize the site. She talked about the updated Challenge Grant letter of proposals on how to spend the Grant money. She handed a copy of the letter out to everyone and said this will be the copy which will be submitted to the PHA. The letter is requesting up to \$15,000.00 for interpreters, translators, & possibly translation software or English-learning software, for the Computer Labs. The remaining \$10,000.00 would go toward wellness training. Julia thanked everyone for their hard work in regards to the Challenge Grant.

NEW BUSINESS

Community Building Update: *Cheryl Eastwold*, Neil Hi-Rise, gave a community building update. She said there were many ideas for activities around the city. Ruby Steward and Jesse Thomas will be sending out surveys to events, to inquire about discounts and handicapped-accessibility, etc. She said transportation still remains a problem, however.

ROSS TEAM

Ed Petsche, ROSS Grant Coordinator, spoke once again about *Financial Literacy Classes*, with a focus on budgeting, through *Lutheran Social Services*. A minimum number of twenty (20) people would have to sign up for the classes. Unfortunately there wasn't a large response and not enough signatures. Ed is looking at another organization that would require only ten (10) sign-ups. Classes will be starting up at Seal Hi-Rise this week. Eventually he'd like to work with all of the hi-rise Councils. He then passed out his business card.

SHIP GRANT UPDATES

Ann Tranvik, Public Health Nurse, said *Betsy Christensen*, SHIP Coordinator, won't attend today, so she'll give an update for the both of them. She began by talking about *Cessation Workshops*, three of which are already completed, and hopefully with thirteen more to go. She handed out information on how much money would be saved by quitting smoking. She also distributed a Quit Plan pocket card. Quit Plan makes many free resources available to those wanting to give up smoking. They are also sponsoring a *Quit Plan Challenge*, that could potentially win someone \$5,000.00 in cash. Ann went on to give an update on *Healthy living Check-In*. They will keep working with the hi-rises on things they have expressed an interest in. Healthy eating is the priority. She went on to talk about "*Everyone With Diabetes Counts*", after which she handed out some information pertaining to it, and explained briefly what it was about.

SHIP GRANT UPDATES (continued)

The next subject was the four-week *Snap Ed Series*, which is a University of Minnesota extension Nutrition Education Program, which is currently being held at Ravoux. She wants to extend it to other hi-rises as well. Another subject was walking groups. If you're interested in being part of a walking group, contact Betsy Christenson, SHIP Coordinator. In closing, Ann spoke about *Bone Builders*, which is offered at all of the hi-rises.

GREEN INITIATIVES

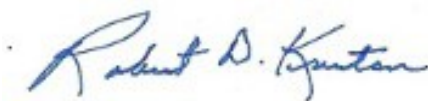
Yen Tran, Green Initiatives Technician talked about two events that are coming up in March. One is the *Garden Committee Mandatory Training*, which will be held on March 23. A lot of garden resources will be handed out during that event, items that gardeners asked for last year. Interesting topics will also be discussed. The other event will be happening earlier in March, which is a green gathering around the Rondo Community, and which will be open to everyone.

CLOSING

Julia Hupperts, Resident Council Coordinator, said she had RPC checks for the Councils and explained what it could be used for. She also brought laminated signs for Exercise Rooms, that must be posted by the exercise equipment. It's a disclaimer that protects your Resident Council, and informs anyone using the equipment, that they use it at their own risk. On another topic, *Connie Lydon* won't be able to take on the responsibility of being a signee on the Presidents Council checking account, so *Julia* asked if anyone on the Exexutive Board would take on that responsibility. She described what the duties would be, etc. *John Cardoza*, from Cleveland Hi-Rise, agreed to be the third signee on the checkbook. *Melanie Fox*, Montreal Hi-Rise made a Motion that *John Cardoza* be added to the list of Presidents Council bank signees. *Mary Wiley*, Seal Hi-Rise, Seconded the Motion, and it was unanimously passed. *John Cardoza* is our third signee on the Presidents Council checkbook.

No further Presidents Council business was discussed or conducted and the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Submitted by:



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Meeting Reminders:

Next Presidents Council Meeting:

Monday, March 28, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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

Executive Committee: March 18, 11:00 a.m. - 3rd floor.

Community Building: March 4, 9:30 a.m. - 3rd floor.

Computer Team: March 17, 1:30 p.m. - Board Room.

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

Peer Team: February 26, 10:00 a.m. - 3rd floor.

Presidents Council Website:

www.stphapresidentscouncil.org