

Presidents Council Minutes
3/24/14

**Take back to your Resident Councils:
Computer Administrator needed for each hi-rise
One Day On Earth Project
HAFA market survey**

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05AM by Connie Lydon from Neill hi-rise. Hi-rise representatives, PHA staff, and guests introduced themselves. Staff in attendance: Alicia Huckleby, BettyLou Authier, Keith Draz, Kim Nguyen, Mike Winston, Ann Tranvik, Jon Gutzman, Beth Pacunas, Betsy Christianson
Marc Warren and Travis Nicholson from Walgreens was also in attendance

Secretary's report

Copies of the minutes from February 24th were sent out. There were no changes or additions. Cathy Hicks made a motion to accept the minutes. Mary Peterson seconded. Motion carried.

Walgreens partnership

Alicia Huckleby talked more about the proposed partnership with Walgreens.

This came about because of some things they were doing at Seal hi-rise. It was suggested that the partnership idea be brought to the Presidents Council. Walgreens reps will be coming out to the hi-rises in April and May. Marc Warren talked more about the opportunities Walgreens is offering. Walgreens mission is to help the community with health improvement initiatives.

Services offered by Walgreens would not have any additional fees attached.

Offered services could include:

Medication management, education on Medicare open enrollment, medication plan recommendations. Prescription delivery, vaccination

services, smoking cessation, and health and wellness presentations could also be available.

A discount is available for seniors one day a month. Walgreens is working with Metro Mobility to arrange transportation for people on those days.

A question was raised about whether people would be educated about possible adverse effects from medications and vaccinations. That would be done. Pharmacists will talk about that with clients.

Another question was asked about flu shot clinics at the hi-rises.

That should be possible. Also, clinics on more than one date throughout the season.

There might still be a copayment depending on the insurance you have.

Cathy Hicks made a motion to accept Walgreens' proposal. Elette Taylor seconded. Motion carried.

RPC Report

Eileen Tittle talked about what was discussed at the last RPC meeting.

The budget was a big discussion item.

The RPC committee recommended that funds remaining be spent on hand sanitizer dispensers to have near the elevators, new recycling containers, and new printers.

We also received funds to purchase one new computer for each hi- rise.

Computers should be here at the end of the week. Printers haven't been purchased yet.

Eileen will be meeting with the boards at hi- rises that haven't spent their special call grant funds yet. Councils can purchase what they want and be reimbursed or submit three bids to the Presidents Council and the Council will make the purchase.

Marlys Zerahn made a motion to move funds between categories but not exceed the budget. Rick Palmer seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report

Jesse Thomas gave the reports for February

The report will be filed for audit.

The Presidents Council has not moved to the new bank yet.

The audits on the 21st went well. The remaining audits will be done on the 28th.

PHA Board of Commissioners

Mary Puente gave the report.

The board approved submitting an application to the Busch foundation for a grant.

Flat rents will be increased to 80% of PHA's published fair market rent. This applies to new residents of anyone shifting from income based to flat rent.

The RAB meeting will be held on March 25th at 2:00PM

Extending our liability insurance was approved.

SHIP Grant

Bonebuilders classes are still going on. Information is available on the PC Website.

NiceRide tours will be held again in the summer. They were held at six sites last year.

Information about Cycles For Change was handed out. This program teaches people how to repair their own bikes.

Bike tools will be available at the family sites. Bike helmets will be given out to kids there.

There will also be an athletic shoe giveaway at the family sites. This is through Allina Health and just for children.

Ramsey County Master Gardeners offered to mentor new gardens at Hamline, Ravoux, and Mt. Airy.

There will be diabetes assessments and foot clinics at several hi-rises.

Vendor fair:

Vendor fair went well. Please send a copy of the contract and insurance information to the Presidents Council for their records. Send the healthy vending agreement also.

Councils who weren't able to discuss vending in March have until April 30th to get the contract signed.

Each hi-rise needs a vending rep. This person would need to do audits on the machines periodically to ensure things are going well.

A reminder was given to avoid vendors that will sell your contract to a subcontractor. Be aware than some vendors do that. Be sure that all contract details are in writing.

You also need a list of what was sold each month to be sure you are getting the correct percentage.

Representatives from the HAFA markets were in attendance. (Paku Hang)
The market season would be ten weeks starting in mid July.

This year they will be using a CSA model. There would be three tiers of options for people.

One option would be \$20 a week for the whole season. (This is for early sign up. The regular price for the season is \$250.) There also will be an option to pay for a week or two at a time. There would be limited choice of what would be in the bags. Fees would be paid in advance of receiving the bags.

There would also be a smaller bag at a lower price each week. This would be good for individuals and those that would just want to try it out. This bag would have three items and cost \$5.00.

A survey packet was passed out. Surveys should be handed out at your hi-rises. Surveys are due no later than April 28th.

Someone from the SHIP team will pick up the surveys.

There needs to be at least twenty people signed up per site for HAFA to make deliveries there.

Bags would contain a mixture of old favorites and new vegetables you might not have tried.

A question was asked about fruit. There may be some fruits available this year. (There will be more next year). Watermelon will be available this year.

A question was raised about whether or not the markets will still be coming to the hi-rises besides delivering the bags. Unfortunately they won't be. (It was too much work last year for too little return.)

Another question was asked about recipes. Recipes for items in the bags will be included each week.

CHSP participants will still receive bags this year.

HAFA now has their own farm.

A question was raised about insecticide use. HAFA farmers are not certified organic. They do not use many chemicals though. Chemicals used will be recorded and that information will be available to residents. Farmers go through good agricultural practices and food safety training. They also use practices to attract good insects to protect from harmful ones.

Ross Grant Update

New Service Coordinator Beth Pacunas introduced herself. She Spoke about a project to get a computer administrator for each hi-rise. She also talked about the One Day On Earth project. That is a collaborative film project taking place on April 26th. It will be taking place in eleven different cities including the Twin Cities. Filming PHA residents and events will be part of this. There will likely only be time to film two or three stories. The final film will be shown on public television.

Computer admins:

Administrators would be part of a sub-team working with the computer team. These people would need basic skills like how to install software and do updates. There could be training for this.

The main job of the computer admin is keeping the computer stations running and assisting residents with things like email, word processing, etc. the admin would need to be available regularly and be dependable.

There are some hi-rises that have admins already.

Administrator names should be sent to Beth and Eileen. Beth's email is elizabeth.pacunas@stpha.org.

A question was asked about computer classes. That is being worked on. Volunteers are needed to teach basic computer classes. Funding for stipends for volunteers is being worked on.

Maintenance and Maintenance Contracts

BettyLou Authier asked for issues.

Pat Kramer thanked maintenance for finally fixing the community room door at Seal.

PHA management report

Kim Nguyen gave the report.

No major updates this month.

A question was raised about how to get more shopping carts for a hi-rise. It is up to the council to purchase those. Getting donations is another option. Some stores like Cub do donate old carts if asked. (Seal got more carts this way.) someone from the hi-rise would be responsible for picking up donated carts.

Talk to your building manager if there are issues with people keeping carts or flat beds in their apartments. Posting signs reminding residents to return carts is also an option.

A question was raised about the Babylon software. Because of costs we had to purchase a server license for it. Once the server is up and running the software will be available.

You can use a program like Google Translate in the interim. (Be aware that the translation it offers isn't perfect.)

Resident Initiatives

Alicia Huckleby spoke.

We applied for a \$20,000 General Mills grant for SHIP activities along with the Busch Foundation grant. We should hear if we qualified at the end of May.

There was funding to purchase new recycling containers for each hi-rise. There will be four per site.

Community building

A community building activities list was handed out. These are things hi-rises could try to get people more involved.

There may be a Festival of Nations trip this year. There is a \$10 group rate for the Festival. Tickets are \$11.00 in advance and \$13.50 at the door. Advance tickets are available at Byerly's. The Festival runs from May 1st to May 4th.

There is the "Passage to China" event at the MOA on April 5th and 6th. The event will be held in the rotunda. This is a free event.

They are hoping to get the first issue of the newsletter out by April 4th. The newsletter will be reviewed by Eileen before publication. It will be posted on the PC website and two copies will be sent to each hi-rise. Submissions can be sent to the newsletter address: insider@stphapresidentscouncil.org. Questions for the editor can be sent to editor@stphapresidentscouncil.org. Volunteers are still needed to work on the newsletter.

Old Business

The Presidents Council will be on the second floor starting next month.

We'd be sharing space with Resident Initiatives and SHIP.

There will be much more space and better facilities.

A reminder was given to download and post the Presidents Council minutes. They are posted on the PC site within a day or two of the meeting.

New Business

A committee is needed to plan the annual luncheon. Karen Arnold, Lisa Lee, Melissa Pappas volunteered.

Gary Laskowski from Hamline spoke about their walking club. They walk Monday through Saturday at 8:00AM. They walk inside or out, depending on the weather.

A question about entrance security at Central was raised. Part of the issue is that signs about not letting people in are needed in different languages. That should be brought to Resident Services and Maintenance.

Meeting adjourned at 12:14PM

Next meeting: April 28th

