

Presidents Council Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Donna Kay Walters, Chairperson, Seal, called the Presidents Council Meeting to order on March 25, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Introductions followed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Bob Knutson, PC/RPC Secretary, Ravoux, stated all Reps should have a copy of the Minutes from the last meeting, which are also posted at each hi-rise and on the P.C. website for a month. No discrepancies were reported and a Motion was made by Bill Hughes, Iowa, to accept the Minutes as they stand. It was seconded by Jamell Thomas and the Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Melissa Pappas, PC/RPC Treasurer, presented the report for February. The checkbook beginning balance as of February 28, 1919, was thirty-five thousand, eight hundred eighty-eight dollars and 15 cents (35,888.15). The ending balance is thirty thousand, four hundred sixty-seven dollars and one cent (\$30,467.01). The report will be filed for audit.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Sally Ann McShane, Representative, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, passed around her business card and gave a presentation on how to apply for Lifeline and TAP (Telephone Assistance Program). She also stated anyone having problems with their telephone, gas, etc. should get in touch with her. To apply for Lifeline/TAP:

1. Inquire with the telephone company about their application.
2. Receive the application via mail, fax, email, or go to their website at <https://mn.gov/puc/consumers/help/telephone>.
3. Fill out the application in its entirety.
4. Attach proof of income or proof of government program participation to applications.
5. Send application back to telephone company.
6. The customer must re-certify each year.

She handed out brochures to be posted in conspicuous areas of your buildings, or at community centers.

Luca Cowles, (CMT), Illumine Massage Therapy passed around her business card and she stated she's a self-employed Massage Therapist, who organizes on-site chair massage events. She has a crew of 35-40 people that also help with these events. She brings a special chair that was specifically designed for massages and each session lasts for five to ten minutes per person. Massage reduces stress and increase blood flow and general circulation of body fluids. She's willing to come to your resident council meetings to speak further on this.

PHA MAINTENANCE REPORT

Tim Angaran, Assistant Maintenance Director gave some updates on some projects that are in progress or will be coming up shortly:

- The plumbing renovation at Montreal Hi-Rise has reached the half-way point. They are also working on repairing the elevators.
- Elevator repairs are taking place at Front Hi-Rise and they're close to completing the first elevator car and then move on to the second car.
- This month they are bringing to the Board, a contract to do some parking lot surface replacement at a couple of parking lots; Front Hi-Rise being their prime focus. That lot will be done completely. Edgerton Hi-Rise will also get some parking lot repair work, as will Iowa Hi-Rise.

PHA MANAGEMENT REPORT

Charisse Brown, Assistant Resident Services Senior Manager, said they're going to be having some safety training from ACOP. They will be coming to resident council meetings next month. More information will be forthcoming regarding specific dates, which will be posted.

The paperwork for the annual ACO's may seem a little bit different, due to the PHA switching over to a new system. If you have any questions about the forms, please see your Manager. Rent statement account numbers will be a little different as well. She reminded people that the computers in the Computer Labs can be used to pay your rent online.

She spoke about the switch over to RAD, and they will be going over new lease signings, etc. That should be starting in July.

SAFETY & SECURITY REPORT

Officer Andy of the St. Paul Police Department, ACOP Unit, talked about "floppers" -- people coming into the buildings and getting acquainted with a vulnerable resident for the purpose of using their apartment as a place to stay. They'll also bring other people with them over time. He urged residents who see this type of activity to call the police so they can address the issue. He then took questions.

OLD BUSINESS

Julia Hupperts is away on medical leave until the middle of April, so Alicia Huckleby will be filling in. There is a vacancy on the P.C.'s Executive Board. Alicia called for a volunteer and Melanie Fox, Montreal agreed to be considered for that position. Tim Gjerdahl, Ravoux, made a Motion to consider Melanie Fox for the Executive Board position. It was seconded by Thomas Janell and the Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Alicia Huckleby, reminded everyone to post the meeting Minutes, posting a notice for the upcoming council meeting, and make sure you send a copy of the Minutes to the PHA staff person who is assigned to attend your council meeting. There needs to be a PHA staff person at every resident council meeting. No exceptions. If a PHA staff person is not there, notify Alicia Huckleby or Julia Hupperts as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS (continued)

During council meetings, residents who aren't actively participating in the meeting sometimes come in and use the vending machines, etc. It's best to post signs on the doors of the room you're meeting in stating that a meeting is in progress and vending services, etc. will not be available.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

John Cardoza, Commissioner, gave updates from the February meeting of the PHA Board of Commissioners. He outlined what actions were taken at the meeting. He also referred questions to the P.C. website at: www.stpha.org, for further clarification of the RADS Program. All the information is there. He took questions.

ANNUAL RECOGNITION EVENT

The Recognition Event will be on Friday, May 24, 2019. It'll be held at the Wilder Foundation as it was last year. The R.C. Executive Board will meet before the Recognition Event. They are also looking for volunteers to help at the next planning committee, which will be held April 12, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. If anyone wants to volunteer, be at that meeting and be involved in the planning.

SECTION 3 UPDATE

Beth Pacunas, Section 3 Projects Coordinator/Youth Literacy, is a member of the Resident Initiatives Department. Her job as Section 3 Coordinator is to organize partnerships and find people jobs, field training, and education that will lead to employment.

She said she has met with all of the councils about the Science Museum coupons, and she wanted to know if any of them were getting requests for the vouchers, and several replied they've had numerous requests for them. With the Voucher it costs \$3.00 to get in, and \$5.00 for both the museum and Omni Theatre. Once you get ten different people to use those vouchers, your organization will be given 100 free tickets to the museum.

They are having a hiring event on May 2nd and it is going to be held at the Rondo Library on Dale and University, at 10:30 a.m. There will be individuals there to talk about the dos and don'ts of applying for a job. They will also talk about on-line scams. An offsite location was chosen because it is more centrally located. As an incentive, the first twenty PHA residents who attend will receive a \$5.00 Subway gift card. Flyers will go up regarding this. Be prepared to provide proof of residency.

She said they work with *Dress for Success* which is strictly for women, *Ready For Success* handles both men and women, and if you're interested in that, they will be at the hiring event. If you're interested in the outside event, get in touch with Beth Pacunas either by email elizabeth.pacunas@stpha.org, or call her at: **651-228-3204**.

RESIDENT INITIATIVES REPORT

Alicia Huckleby, Resident Initiatives Director & Human Resource Director, reminded us that we were in election season at your individual hi-rises and resident councils. By now you should know what your council plans are' i.e. people who are running or rerunning for office.

RESIDENT INITIATIVES REPORT (continued)

Your Election Judge should have been assigned but if you're not sure who that person is, please email Alicia at alicia.huckleby@stpha.org and she will get that figured out. Likewise, if you're having any issues with the process, please email her. The Election Judge should be at the top of your council Agenda directly after the Secretaries Report. Each Election Judge at the meeting gave the names of the hi-rise they will be at.

QuickBooks PEERS have been reassigned, so learn who you will be working with. There are two new QuickBooks PEERS and hi-rises will be notified who their Election Judge is. There will be an open meeting on April 3rd at 10:00 a.m. and all are welcome to attend.

Joan Underwood, who was volunteering for the Presidents Council is no longer in that position.

Alicia wanted to thank everyone for their patience and understanding as she, Youa Thao and Diane Anastos have been covering for Julia Hupperts during her absence.

NOTE: Eileen Tittle (a former Resident Council Coordinator and now with CHSP Coordinator): will be retiring after fifteen years with the PHA, and there will be a retirement party on April 3, 2019 at 12:15 p.m. at Ravoux Hi-Rise in their Community Room. Refreshments will be served

SHIP GRANT UPDATE

Ann Tranvik, St. Paul Public Health Department Nurse, works with Betsy Christensen, PHA SHIP coordinator, along with the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP).

- Betsy Christensen, Resident Initiatives, passed around a Summary of the updates that Ann Tranvik and she will be sharing. **St. Paul Park & Recreation Park Ambassadors** received grant funding from the *Capital Regional Watershed District*, to continue park trips for PHA in 2019. An educational component will be incorporated into each trip. More details will be coming. If you need additional information get in touch with Betsy Christensen at **651-298-4030**, or email her at: betsy.christensen@stpha.org.
- They also partner with **Volunteers of America (VOA)** who will provide a range of services for the community to support healthy ageing, including health screenings, memory screenings and care-giver support. Services are available in English, Hmong, Somali and Oromo. For further information, call the VOP helpline at **952-945-4034** or visit their web site at <https://www.voamnwi.org/caregiver-support>. Flyers will be coming soon.
- **Stop for Me Crosswalk Safety Campaign 2019** is a partnership with the St. Paul Police Department who go to dangerous crossings and issue tickets to drivers who don't stop for people in the crosswalk. They will now be scheduling for spring/summer events at Ravoux, Edgerton, Iowa, Cleveland, Valley, Central and Seal. If your hi-rise is not on this list contact Betsy at the number above. Or email her. She then took questions.

Ann Tranvik, St. Paul Public Health Department Nurse gave an update on the Garden Mentor Program. The orientation was scheduled for today. Also, a couple of Garden Mentors from previous programs will also be coming back and this information should be mentioned at resident council meetings. They will also go on a field trip to Frog Town Farm to gather information.

SHIP GRANT UPDATE (continued)

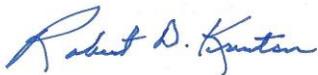
Am gave an update on the “Smoking “Cessation Stations”. These were stations that were set up for an hour and a half, in a conspicuous place in most of the hi-rises. And because it went very well they would be willing to rotate around to different sites, on different days. Because it was such a success, more sites have been chosen for this, based on input from the different hi-rises -- to find out if people are still interested in getting help with quitting smoking. She passed out flyers containing dates and times. Each station contains FREE quit kits and other aids to help in the quitting process.

They can also offer the *Living Well with Diabetes*, which is a six-week diabetes self-management series that is provided for FREE though our partnership with Stratus Health and Wilder. They will offer up to two classes this spring **and they will require a minimum of eight registrations**. She would like each hi-rise to have a Diabetes Ambassador who will meet and greet the people who come to the event. She passed around a sign-up list for those hi-rises that are interested in the series.

CLOSING

No further Presidents Council business was discussed or conducted, and the meeting adjourned at 11:55 p.m.

Submitted by:



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

Meeting Reminders:

Next Presidents Council Meeting:

Monday, April 22, 10:00 a.m. – Noon (first floor)

Executive Committee: Monday, April 12 @ 11:00 a.m. - 3rd floor.

Community Sharing Circle: April 5 @ 10:00 a.m. - 3rd floor.

Computer Team: April 18 @ 1:30 p.m. - Board Room.