

Zoom Resident Participation Committee Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2024

OPENING

Youa Thao, Resident Council Coordinator, called the quarterly meeting of the Resident Participation Committee (RPC) to order at 10:00 a.m. on December 4, 2024. Introductions followed.

The RPC is charged with being financially responsible for the federal RPC/PHA grant funds.

The RPC is part of the Presidents Council and consists of the Executive Committee of the PC, as well as other hi-rise residents and other interested individuals. The goal is to have the Committee representative of as many hi-rises as possible.

The Committee meets quarterly to discuss opportunities for additional participation for all hi-rises and its members receive a stipend for attending.

The RPC is expected to spend federal funding where the largest number of residents would benefit or where there is the greatest need among individual hi-rises. Funds are PHA/RPC funds and have restrictions on the way they are used.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Aado Perandi, PC/RPC Secretary, reminded us that a copy of the last meeting's Minutes can always be found on the Presidents Council website. Motion to accept the September 2024 RPC minute report was made by John Cardoza, Cleveland, and seconded by Pamela Davis, Dunedin. The motion carries.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Melissa Pappas, PC/RPC Treasurer, Seal gave a line-by-line rundown of income and expenditures for the month of November. The cleared balance is \$133,829.63. The ending balance is \$133,249.63. Melissa then took questions.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. First half of PHA/RPC Funds: Councils must meet the following requirements before they will become eligible for this first round of funding:
 - ◆ **September Minute Report**: Budget must be read and posted for 30 days.
 - ◆ **October Minute Report**: Budget must be approved.
 - ◆ All minute reports from June 2024 to October 2024 must be approved.

- ◆ Financial Audit: Complete financial audit through October.
- ◆ Submit your budget for July 2024 – June 2025.

The good news is that most of the hi-rises have completed the necessary corrections. However, a few of the councils still need to make the necessary corrections. Funds will be released soon to the councils that have met the requirements. A second financial audit will cover the period from November 2024 through June 2025.

2. Picnic Form and Receipts: Youa, Resident Council Coordinator informed us about the required paperwork for the summer picnic. If your council has not yet submitted your Picnic Form and receipts, please do so as soon as possible.

If your council does not provide proof of how the picnic funds were spent, you will be required to return the full amount to the Presidents Council. The Presidents Council, in turn, will return unused funds to the PHA. Please note, the Presidents Council cannot return any unused funds to the PHA until all sixteen hi-rise councils have submitted their documentation and unused funds.

Currently, we are still waiting on picnic receipts from three of the hi-rises and the return of unused funds from some of the councils. If your council has not submitted the required documents or returned unused funds, please do so immediately.

3. Interpreter funds: Each council is eligible for reimbursement for up to \$100 per council year to cover the cost of hiring an interpreter for council meetings or translating materials.

To receive reimbursement, councils must first use their own funds to pay for the service. Then, to submit an RPC request to the Presidents Council along with the receipt for reimbursement.

Our hi-rise residents are highly diverse, so please continue to encourage all residents to participate in council meetings and activities.

4. Partner Collaboration: Respect and professionalism are the foundation of our work within the council. Several officers have raised concerns about behavior, and it is essential to emphasize that respect should be maintained in all communications and interactions with fellow board members, staff, and partners, before focusing on paperwork or events. As a volunteer position, the role of council officers is to lead by example and we should collaborate with staff, partners, and residents in a professional manner. Officers are expected to uphold high standards of conduct and professionalism at all times.

Council leaders are held to a high standard. While most officers work diligently to serve their residents and support the council, there have been a few instances of inappropriate behavior. These include disrespectful communication with other council officers, staff and partners, and unprofessional conduct, such as inappropriate laughter

during meetings and sending disrespectful emails.

Repeated complaints regarding these behaviors highlight the need to remind everyone that unprofessional conduct will not be tolerated. Any officer engaging in such behavior will be subject to a formal warning. Prior to issuing a warning, there will be a discussion, and these warnings will be kept in your file.

Please reach out if you are experiencing inappropriate behavior or conducts from other officers. To ensure that the council meetings and activities continue to be an enjoyable event for officers and residents, please approach your colleagues, staff, or partners with respect. We are always willing to collaborate to find solutions for all concerns, but communication must focus on problem-solving, not creating conflict. Disrespectful or inappropriate emails and communication will not be tolerated as they hinder our efforts to resolve issues efficiently.

The role of an officer is to uplift and support residents, not to intimidate or bully others. Let us all work together to make this the best council year possible by acting with professionalism and respect.

CLOSING

Youa Thao, Resident Council Coordinator, thanked everyone who attended this quarterly RPC meeting. She also reminded us that our attitude will determine our success. No further RPC business was discussed or conducted and the meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Submitted by:

Aado Perandi
PC/RPC Secretary