

Presidents Council Zoom Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Yasmine Aminou, Central, Chairperson, called the Presidents Council Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and took a roll call of hi-rise Representatives present.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Bob Knutson, PC/RPC Secretary, Ravoux, stated there is always a copy of the Minutes 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. John Cardoza, Cleveland, made a Motion to accept the Minutes as they stand. Melanie Fox, Montreal, seconded and the Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Melissa Pappas, PC/RPC Treasurer, Seal, gave a rundown of income and expenses for the month of December. The cleared balance is seventy-four thousand two hundred dollars and forty-three cents (\$74,200.43). The ending balance is sixty-four thousand, two hundred thirty-three dollars and fifty-six cents (\$64,233.56). The report will be filed for audit. Melissa then answered any questions.

PHA MAINTENANCE REPORT

Brent Feller, Construction Program Manager / Maintenance Contracts, gave an update on construction projects that are going on throughout the hi-rises:

1. Replacement of the rear entry door at Exchange has been completed.
2. The plumbing project at Front is ongoing.
3. The work on elevator car one at Cleveland is nearing completion and should be finished shortly, after which work will begin on elevator car two.
4. Work continues on the Neill fire alarm project and should be completed in about three weeks.
5. The air conditioning unit at Ravoux is finishing up and will be tested when the weather is warmer.

Mike Silvan, Assistant Maintenance Director, stated not much has changed since his last update. They continue to not do non-emergency Work Orders due to the Covid-19 situation. The important Work Orders are being done. Preventative maintenance inspections are still on hold and likely won't resume this year. Pest control and fire alarm testing will continue and residents will be notified in advance. He also reminded everyone to watch for flyers going up regarding plowing or cleaning of parking lots and to make sure your cars are moved prior to that. Brent and Mike proceeded to take questions from Representatives.

PHA MANAGEMENT REPORT

Tara Johnson, Resident Services Senior Manager, stated the PHA has updated the Visitors' Policy. The Governor has relaxed the Covid-19 rules somewhat, making it possible for residents to have outside visitors. Just be sure to practice social distancing and adhere to the number of visitors allowed at any given time. Also wear your masks.

Tara currently doesn't have an update on when annual housekeeping inspections will resume for the remainder of the year, due to the Covid-19 pandemic. If she has any updates on that she will be in touch with your Managers and they, in turn, will be in touch with residents. She then answered questions.

SAFETY & SECURITY REPORT

Sgt. Amy Boyer, St. Paul Police Department, ACOP Unit, stated they have a new ACOP officer – Matthew (Matt) Brodin -- who started at ACOP last week and who's been with the department for six years and will be a welcome addition to the unit. He has been going floor-to-floor getting acquainted with the hi-rises. There is also a new Officer-In-Residence (OIR) at Iowa Hi-Rise who will be moving in in February and his name is Doug Wilson. Also, the OIR at Ravoux, Justin Groves, will be retiring soon so a new OIR will be selected to fill that vacancy. Sgt. Boyer then answered questions.

If you need further information regarding ACOP, or have any questions regarding policing activities, contact Sgt. Boyer at **651-558-2305**, or email her at Any.Boyer@ci.stpaul.mn.us.

In addition, if you're in need of information regarding Covid-19, the Minnesota Department of Health has a Covid-19 hotline number which is **651-201-3920**. It's open from **7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

OLD BUSINESS

Youa Thao, Resident Council Coordinator addressed the following:

1. Computer Administrators. At December's PC meeting she informed everyone that we will start recruiting for Computer Administrators and this should be announced at your resident council meetings to determine if there is anyone interested in assuming that role. If there are, have them contact Youa Thao, Resident Council Coordinator. She then took questions regarding that.
2. Officer Recognition Event for 2021. At December's PC meeting it was approved to have the Wilder Foundation rooms reserved, just in case the situation with the Covid virus changes to allow for that to take place. At their last meeting the PC Executive Board thought it would be best to cancel the event due to the pandemic; however, other ideas were put forward, such as having a virtual recognition event. She wanted to hear from each Representative at this meeting about what their thoughts are regarding having the Officers Recognition Event this year. Each Representative then offered any thoughts they had on this. In the end it was decided to table this discussion until next month so that everyone can have more time to think about it. Drusilla Garrett, Dunedin, made a Motion that the discussion regarding the 2021 Officer Recognition Event be tabled until next month. It was seconded by Darlene Fisher, Mt. Airy and the Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Vending Fair – February.** Youa Thao, Resident Council Coordinator, said they would like to hold a Vending Fair in February to collaborate with the City Wide officers. They're planning to do this through Zoom and invite the vendors to join in and do their presentations. The vendors will provide any materials they would like us to have prior to this Zoom meeting which will be sent to all resident councils prior to the meeting. All Board officers and residents are invited to attend. Any resident council that is interested in any of the vendors can connect with them and invite them to your individual council meetings for further discussion. Any new or existing Vendor Contracts must be signed in June. Questions were then answered.
2. **Recruiting for Election Judges – February Deadline.** This was discussed at last month's PC Executive Board meeting. Because of the pandemic, things will have to be done differently. She would like to have a discussion about how to conduct this in the safest way possible. Recruitment for Elections Judges is currently open until the end of February. Anyone interested in being an Election Judge should reach out to Youa Thao. Once all of the Election Judges are recruited she would like to gather together in March to determine how to do this in the most safe and efficient way. Also, any current Election Judges need to reapply again. She opened the floor for any discussion or questions Representatives have concerning this subject.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REPORT

John Cardoza, Cleveland, Commissioner, stated December's report was given at the last PC meeting and their January meeting isn't until Wednesday. John will give that update at February's meeting.

SECTION 3 UPDATE

Beth Pacunas, Section 3 Projects Coordinator/Youth Literacy, said she went to all of the resident council meetings last month and spoke about the *Twin Cities Ride* posters and she wanted to remind everyone again that these posters only have general information, so if anybody has questions about start dates and times, connect with Beth Pacunas at the email or phone numbers listed below.

Beth stated they have an immediate need for *Step Up* participants who are eighteen or older and are interested in construction training paying \$19.05 an hour. If you know of anyone who might be interested in that right now, let Beth know. She will try and put out notices to all Managers and HSC people to let them know about this.

There will be a flyer going out with your next Rent Statement regarding Janitorial Training. If you, or anyone you know is interested in this training, get in contact with Beth to put in your application.

If you or someone you know is trying to find a job, obtain job skills, education, employment counseling; or if they just need more information on Section 3, they can contact Beth Pacunas at: **651-228-3204**, or email her at elizabeth.pacunas@stpha.org. She also now has a PHA phone number which is **651-252-5799** if you need assistance in the areas mentioned above. She will do the best she can to provide it. Also, keep an eye out for flyers and posters in your hi-rises as well. She then answered any questions.

RESIDENT INITIATIVES REPORT

Alicia Huckleby, Resident Initiatives Director, spoke about the extended *RI Newsletter* that's sent out electronically every month. However, In December they provided a paper copy that every PHA resident should have received. She especially wanted to thank and remind everyone to take a look at all of the great resources and services that are included in the *RI Newsletter* insert. She then answered questions.

HIP REPORT

Betsy Christensen, *Health Improvement Programs* (HIP) Coordinator, spoke about the following:

1. Covid-19 testing / Covid-19 vaccination clinics. She doesn't have much information yet when vaccinations will be available. If *Open Cities Clinic* has not hosted Covid testing at your building and you are interested in having that, reach out to your Manager or HSC Coordinator and she will work with *Open Cities* to make that happen. It's very convenient, as *Open Cities* would come to your door to do the testing and get back to you with the results. Betsy said they are not able to set up Covid vaccination clinics right now, but they do have a meeting this week to learn more from the County on what they're thinking and if it's something that can be done. Presently, States are waiting for more vaccine to be delivered so that more people can receive it. If you do have opportunities through your health care provider, or some other opportunity to get the vaccination, do that. Don't wait for it to happen at your hi-rise, because they aren't sure if it will happen. She also wanted to remind everyone to continue to maintain social distancing, wearing face masks and washing your hands frequently. Resident Services does have face masks for those that need one.
2. Mini Art Kit. Flyers have gone up in all of the hi-rises regarding these Art Kits and they have been putting together 800 kits, so each of the sixteen hi-rises will have 50 kits available to them. You have until January 31st to put your name on the sign-up sheet in your hi-rise to receive one of the Art Kits. The Kits will allow you to make an artsy window sun catcher, or you could do a drawing on rainbow art paper (special pencils provided). Much more is contained in these Kits. Hopefully the Kits will be distributed in February. In addition, the State of Minnesota is launching a *Mental Wellness Campaign* in February called *Stay Connected MN* and Betsy will be printing out some of the resources which will be included in your Art Kits.


CLOSING

Youa Thao, Resident Council Coordinator, spoke about the Zoom training, for which there was a good turn-out. She was happy to see that after the training there was a big improvement in how the PC meeting proceeded this time around, proving the training was successful. She also provided everyone materials to review to get the most out of the training and she encourages everyone to look at those materials. There is also a recording of the training session if anyone is interested in that.

Youa said originally, the Managers wanted to obtain the Financial Reports every month, but because the QuickBook (QB) Peers are the ones who have to do the audit and generate the Financial Report, they have agreed that the Managers get the Financial Reports every other month to accommodate the schedule of the QB Peers. Make sure that these reports are given to the Managers on time. Youa then took questions.

No further Presidents Council business was discussed or conducted, and the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Submitted by:



Bob Knutson
PC/RPC Secretary
Peetiebird2@gmail.com

MEETING REMINDERS:

Next Presidents Council Zoom Meeting:

Monday, February 22, 10:00 a.m. – Noon.

Zoom Executive Committee Meeting: Friday, February 12 @ 11:00 a.m.

Zoom Computer Team Meeting: Thursday, February 25 @ 1:30 p.m.