

Presidents Council Emergency Meeting Minutes

Conducted Using the ZOOM Application

August 14, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

John Cardoza, Cleveland, called the Presidents Council Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., after which he went through the list of all hi-rises, so those Representatives who were present could introduce themselves.

ZOOM TUTORIAL

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, we will be conducting the P.C. and other meetings through the ZOOM application, Melissa Pappas, Seal, gave a brief tutorial on ZOOM's features and how to use them. She then answered questions any of the Representatives had.

ALICIA HUCKLEBY

Alicia Huckleby, Resident Initiatives Department, stated she was happy to see everyone again. She commended everyone for doing what they could to keep the P.C. meetings up and running. She will also work with the Boards of the hi-rises that weren't present at today's meeting, to ensure they get set up to participate in the ZOOM meetings. She would also like everyone to think about ways to conduct individual resident council meetings.

YOUA THAO

Youa Thao, Resident Council Coordinator, said the reason we're having this emergency P.C. meeting is because some councils will be meeting at the end of August, and some in September, and she wants to make sure that councils have some direction on how they can conduct the meetings. Today's meeting will allow all councils that are represented today, to give input on how they should go about this, while still following the guidelines regarding social distancing and following safety rules that are in place.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Bob Knutson, PC/RPC Secretary, Ravoux, stated that the P.C. Minutes from February have been posted on the P.C.'s website for the past six months and asked the Chair for a Motion to accept those Minutes as they stand. A Motion was made by Al Bacon, Front, that the February Minutes be accepted as they stand. The Motion was seconded by Yasmine Aminou, Central, and the Motion carried.

ALLINA HEALTH GRANT EXTENSION LETTER

Youa Thao, Resident Council Coordinator, read a letter that we will be sending to Allina regarding funding for the "*Bounce Back*" program for the hi-rises. Due to the pandemic, the P.C. was unable to utilize the monies allotted for that program, so now we are asking for an extension. Youa then read the letter, which is stated below.

ALLINA HEALTH GRANT EXTENSION LETTER (continued)

“Dear Ms. Peterson:

The Presidents Council of the St. Paul PHA Hi-Rises is requesting an extension for project completion to December 31, 2020. Due to the unforeseen circumstances of COVID-19 pandemic, PHA operations and resident activities have changed significantly to limit on-site, in-person interaction to support community health and reduce the spread of the virus. The Presidents Council meetings have been on hold since March 2020, with hopes to resume virtually September 2020. As a result, our initial plans for the Bounce Back program and stress reduction skill building project have been delayed and will need to adapt. We value the leadership and insight from working alongside council officers for resident activities. This timeline extension would allow us an opportunity to work together with council officers to thoughtfully plan and implement these healthy living projects at the public housing developments throughout St Paul. The Presidents Council appreciates Allina Health’s recognition of our efforts to increase active living projects for all of our residents.”

The letter will be signed by Melissa Pappas, Seal, on behalf of the Presidents Council. A Motion was made by Camille Gunderson, Neill, that the extension letter to Allina be approved and sent. The Motion was seconded by Melanie Fox, Montreal and the Motion carried.

John Cardoza, Cleveland, proceeded to call upon each hi-rise Representative in attendance, to have them give input about how they might conduct their individual resident council meetings. Each Representative was given three minutes time for their suggestions.

CLOSING

Youa Thao, Resident Council Coordinator, opened the floor for any last minute questions or discussions, after which she thanked everyone for attending this meeting

No further Presidents Council business was discussed or conducted, and the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Submitted by:



Bob Knutson
PC/RPC Secretary
peetiebird2@gmail.com