



## **Resident Association Council Meeting Minutes**

9:00 a.m. February 26, 2021

FP Auditorium

President Sweet called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members present via roll call: Jean Aronson, Phyllis Black, Penny Boyne, Tim Broad, Veanna Cape, Sarah Chambers, Bill Ciota, Carolyn Clark, Carol Croll, Janis Harris, David Mohl, Helen McAninch, Jeanne Nenarella, Carolyn O'Neill, Ron Sweet, Janet Warren.

New RAC Representatives: Pat Gillis, Helen Halm, Al Roberts

No absences.

The roll call confirmed a quorum.

The January 22, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes were previously approved via email distribution and response confirmed by Secretary Warren.

A motion to adopt the Agenda was made by VP Sarah Chambers, seconded by Carolyn O'Neill and passed unanimously.

Oath of Office: President Ron Sweet administered the Oath of Office to RAC Representatives Pat Gillis 1DE, Helen Halm 3BC, and Al Roberts 4DE.

### **Unfinished Business: President Ronald Sweet**

President Sweet has met with Executive Director Angie Roher to address GVT concerns that were brought forth at the January 2021 Council meeting.

According to Angie Roher, all tradesmen check in to the front desk before being "buzzed in" to enter the GVT buildings. Because some GVT residents have given the code to friends and relatives who are entering the buildings, a new code will be issued in due time with the request to not give the code to others.

At the present time, the security patrol notes the GVT garage doors that have been left open. There is a need to number the garage doors, so the security patrol can make an immediate report to the front desk who will then call to notify the resident about their open garage door. A request has been made to number the garage doors.

Work to renovate the GVT gazebo has already begun.

When memos are issued, it will be noted that GVT may have a different configuration, and that will be addressed in future memos.

## **President's Report: Ronald Sweet**

Because there has been confusion as to who should be notified when a resident changes their phone number. President Sweet has asked management to establish a policy regarding this procedure.

Because the KN95 mask has been deemed the most effective protection from the COVID 19 virus, President Sweet asked management to supply associates with these masks.

A personal Touchtown code has been issued for each FP resident in order to make the site secure. Residents who have problems using the site, should be directed to file a request for help to the Technology Committee.

Some residents have expressed difficulty with understanding the advanced technology involved in Freedom Plaza communication systems and feel alienated. It is important for them to be reminded that they can still use their telephone and personal communication to ask for needed services and meals, sign-up for trips and programs at Susie Burt's office, and read a paper copy of RAC Council and Committee minutes housed in the Resident Resource Room.

The patio on the Plaza second floor has been repainted and furnished with new cushions.

Sarah Chambers will be the liaison for the Technology Committee and Penny Boyne the liaison for the Housekeeping Committee.

President Sweet, VP Chambers and Secretary Warren attended a meeting in February involving interested residents and Dining Room staff to discuss issues involving quality of food, how food is purchased, how they buy it, how they cook it, etc. The dining room chef and dining room staff gave specific answers to all the questions, assuring them that top quality foods were provided by Sysco and every effort has been made to retain quality as much as possible under extenuating circumstances and having to deliver meals individually to each apartment during the COVID lockdown. If residents have a specific request involving meal preparation, they should write it down on the sign-up sheet, because Chef Chris Wynn tries to honor requests. The Dining Room staff wants residents to be happy about their meals and encourages attendance at Menu Chats. VP Chambers noted that there were new residents at the meeting and all should be aware that the management is eager to please. The dining services motto "We just say yes" has not changed with LCS management.

A recent survey was given to residents to determine their interest in ACS providing internet service at three different levels of speed and quality at a competitive cost and provide technology support to residents on request. President Sweet has asked management to provide more clarification that will explain what can be offered in more detail.

## **Vice-President's Report: Sarah Chambers**

VP Chambers distributed a pictorial directory specific for each RAC Rep's floor. She will follow-up with a digital copy.

She distributed birthday posters to each RAC Rep.

The three new RAC Reps Pat Gillis, Helen Halm and Al Roberts have attended a RAC Rep orientation meeting with VP Chambers.

At a February meeting, the ExComm Committee voted to authorize GVT RAC Reps to recruit a "Building Buddy" in order to reduce the workload for the RAC Rep.

The ExComm Committee voted to give VP Chambers a waiver to the standing rule that prevents two people in the same apartment from serving on the same RAC committee. This permits her to fill the office of liaison to the Technology Committee. She volunteered to assist the Technology Committee to organize help sessions to be held in the Resident Resource Room for residents who need assistance with technology concerns.

The Orientation Handbook, given to all new residents, has been updated to include a section that explains the internet website RACRep.org. This was written by President Sweet.

There are host positions available. There were five new move-ins during January and February who are being supported by the floor RAC Reps and Hosts. Several have been in-house moves.

In late April, there will be an orientation meeting for all new residents who have moved in during the past 2020 year.

### **Secretary's Report: Janet Warren**

RAC Committees have been asked to submit minutes or a report each month and meet at least once every two months. Four committees have not submitted minutes or a report since December. There is a need for all liaisons to follow-up on RAC Committee activities by reading the minutes they submit on RACRep.org, note when they should be submitting minutes or reports each month, and encourage committees to honor the RAC reporting process in order to keep residents informed on a current basis. We are now at a point in time where we can meet each month as a group, so it will be easier for committees to meet on a regular basis.

President Sweet encouraged RAC Reps as well as Liaisons to read minutes from all the committees in order to be informed about what is happening within the whole RAC organization. RAC is not just the Council, but involves over a dozen committees who are active in enhancing the effectiveness of RAC, and we are proud of what they do. Residents who read the minutes and reports stay informed about the work RAC is doing for their benefit.

### **New Business:**

Some residents expressed concerns that the RACRep.org website was not secure. They didn't understand that any requests or scheduling by residents has always been secure. President Sweet discussed this with Executive Director Roher and has made the entire site secure.

A General Meeting has been scheduled for March 26, 10:00 a.m. after the 9:00 a.m. Council Meeting. Each RAC Rep should invite two persons from their floor to attend, one of which could be a committee chair, because attendance, at this time, is limited to 50 in the auditorium. Selections are due to the RAC secretary by March 15. ROC will be asked to record the meeting for replay on Channel 732.

Plaza floor and GVT building activities can resume now that COVID restrictions have been revised. VP Chambers announced that The Jade Room can be reserved for get-together luncheons.

### **Reports from Council Members:**

Carol Croll: Residents on her floor are not able to maneuver in the Trash Room because of the position of the trash cans. Previous requests have not helped. Action: Call Bill Turcotte, Chair of the Housekeeping Committee to address these concerns because the Director of Housekeeping is in charge of the trash. Also, ask for assistance from the Liaison, Penny Boyne.

Tim Broad: Will the General Meeting start promptly at 10:00 a.m. Action: Yes. The Council meeting will adjourn before the General Meeting.

Phyllis Black: Residents have expressed the desire to have a place where electric cars can recharge. Action: Director of Maintenance Siby Thadathil has been briefing the maintenance committee about this and Freedom Plaza management is aware. It is expensive to install, but it is on the list.

Carol Croll: There is a need to inform residents that there is a shredder on the third floor where residents can shred directories. Action: There is a secured bin where documents can be left to be shredded. Hosts are asked to mention this during resident orientation tours.

**Adjournment:** Jean Aronson moved and it was seconded that the meeting adjourn. As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2021 in the FP auditorium. This will precede the General Meeting which will be at 10:00 a.m. in the auditorium.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Warren, RAC Secretary