



## **Resident Association Council Meeting Minutes**

9:00 a.m. June 28, 2021

Freedom Plaza Clubroom

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, Pat Gillis, Helen Halm, Janis Harris, Helen McAninch, David Mohl, Brigid Guarino sub. for Jeanne Nenarella, Carolyn O'Neil, Jean Bonhaus sub. for Al Roberts, Ron Sweet, Janet Warren.

The roll call confirmed a quorum.

The May 28, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes were previously approved via email distribution and response confirmed by Secretary Warren.

A motion to adopt the agenda made by V.P. Sarah Chambers was passed unanimously.

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

President Sweet and VP Chambers met with LCS officials Jill Sorenson and Mary Mackey who were very positive in their comments about Freedom Plaza and desire to work productively with management and the residents. LCS is considering an initiative to improve air quality at facilities, however when this method has been used elsewhere it created ozone which has been proven to be unhealthy. He suggested that some of the RAC Committees look into this further.

Problems that have arisen during the year appear to be resolved. There are only a few complaints such as persons parking near the pickle ball courts during the day and several residents are missing the Freedom Plaza call out messages which show up as spam on their cell phones. New monitors have been installed in the GVT buildings. The person in charge of the bulletin boards should be responding to turn the monitors back on again, when needed. As well, RAC Reps can switch back on the switch and should be checking intermittently.

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

The committee selection process has been completed. All chairs have received a list of committee members/volunteers. She asked Council Liaisons to ensure that elections for Chairs will take place in July. She asked floor leader RAC Reps to select a person who will act in their absence when leaving the premises for an extended time, and submit the name to the RAC secretary. RAC Reps should be holding an event for their floor residents at least once during a quarter. Almost all RAC Reps have had at least one event for their floor residents since the COVID guidelines have been revised.

An orientation meeting will be scheduled during September for Committee Chairs, Liaisons and Secretaries.

There is a need to begin planning for the RAC December party by establishing a planning committee.

There is a need to fill the position of Host Coordinator who knows the resident population and has organization and computer skills. There were nine new residents since March and each was serviced by a host. There will be a Host Orientation Training session on July 5, 10:30 in the auditorium. RAC Reps were encouraged to attend.

### **New Business:**

President Sweet raised the question and opened for discussion: “How often should committees meet? There is a need for a general policy”. After discussion, a motion was made by Carolyn Clark “I make a motion” (second unknown). (Completed by RAC secretary) “to establish as policy the requirement that all committees meet once a month, with no exceptions”. The motion was carried with the exception of one opposed.

Tim Broad suggested that in the occasion that there was no business, a report could be submitted to that effect and that would suffice for minutes. President Sweet added that meetings could be brief, e.g., a short meeting on the tennis court, and reported as such. The goal is for each committee to report their activities once a month which are posted to keep residents informed on a monthly basis.

### **Requests from Council Members:**

A question was asked: “Do we recycle?” (our trash). President Sweet informed that the waste management company does recycle. Articles which are not in the correct bins are separated at the plant. Using the recycle bins correctly should be encouraged in the event that there is a change in the management company and there is a need to continue the same procedure and good habits. It was noted that loose plastic bags should be bagged with others as one, because singular bags get caught in the machinery and cause problems. Also, shredded papers should be contained in a bag before discarding. There is a need to review guidelines for trash collection. President Sweet will consult with management about this.

President Sweet and VP Chambers encouraged RAC Reps to share activities they have done with floor residents and problems they have resolved. Many shared helpful information about how to make the floor meetings enjoyable and informative with speakers, mixers, and activities. Luncheons in the Jade Room have been particularly successful.

Concerns were raised regarding dining services. There has been an inordinate length of time it takes to receive a meal and having more buffets that require less staff could be a solution. There has been a shortage of food items like key lime pie that was offered as chef’s choice on several days. In discussion, it was noted there is a serious problem nationwide in the availability of

persons for jobs given the monetary benefits. All associates are given training, but some are not familiar with items on the menu. Residents can help by making suggestions to look further to locate a food item and/or describe the item, and to be patient while waiters are learning to use the computer pad to record menu choices. The dining room has problems with residents bringing in guests without reservations and resisting the requirement to make prior reservations for themselves. This creates a difficult situation in that the staff and kitchen are overloaded at the last minute with persons who have not made reservations and receiving late orders to request bag delivery of meals instead of coming to eat in the dining room. President Sweet encouraged all to use the dining room comment section on RACRep.org to express commendations as well as suggestions for improvement. The dining room staff takes every comment seriously and tries hard to do everything they can to try to meet the needs of the residents. They have worked under extreme challenges during the COVID lockdown, and each week have moved toward providing more and more services that were offered during before COVID time.

It was observed that in clearing the tables for set-ups, cups and glasses were placed with rims touching the seat of a chair and then placed back in the table set-up. This was reported as a problem with the hope that dining will provide more staff training in that area.

President Sweet adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

The RAC Council meets again on Friday, July 23 at 9:00 a.m. Location to be announced. The RAC General meeting for residents will follow at 10:00 a.m. in the auditorium. Both meetings will be conducted by VP Sarah Chambers in the absence of President Sweet.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Warren, RAC Secretary