



## **Resident Association Council Meeting Minutes**

9:00 a.m. February 25, 2022

Freedom Plaza Clubroom

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

Members present via roll call: Jean Aronson, Phyllis Black, Veanna Cape, Sarah Chambers, Bill Ciota, Carol Croll, Gary Keegan proxy for Pat Gillis, Helen Halm, Janis Harris, Letha Jones, Jeanne Nenarella, Carolyn O'Neill, Ron Sweet, Janet Warren.

Pearl Birnbaum proxy for Tim Broad, Stan Zarinsky proxy for Al Roberts.

Excused Absences: Pat Gillis, Al Roberts, Tim Broad, Carolyn Clark,

Absences: Penny Boyne, Helen McAninch

RAC Representatives Elect: Carol O'Brien, Chuck Roth, Kathy Vore,

Guest: Gerri Roth

The roll call confirmed a quorum.

The January 2022 Council Meeting Minutes were previously approved via email distribution and response by a majority of Council members confirmed by Secretary Warren.

Sarah Chambers moved and Carolyn O'Neill seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion was carried unanimously.

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

President Sweet explained the procedure for swearing in three new RAC Representatives then swiftly moved the meeting to begin with important reports from VP Sarah Chambers RAC Elections Chair and By-Laws Chair.

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

Election Committee Report: VP Chambers reported the results of the Election Committee's work to recruit three new RAC Representatives: Carol O'Brien 3DE who replaces Bill Ciota, Chuck Roth 2DE who replaces Phyllis Black, and Kathy Vore GVT 5-6 who replaces Jean Aronson. There are six RAC Reps who have completed a two-year term and have volunteered to continue for another term: Carolyn O'Neill 1BC, Penny Boyne 2BC, Jeanne Nenarella 5BC Helen McAninch 5DE, Janet Warren 7DE and Carolyn Clark GVT 9-10. Their positions were uncontested by residents on the floor they represent.

### **Unfinished Business:**

By-Laws Committee Report: The Council has referred the issue of how to choose a RAC Vice-President when no Council member will volunteer to run for the position to the By-Laws Committee for solution and the recommendations were presented at the January Council

meeting. The order of business included a second reading and call for a vote of approval. President Sweet moved and VP Chambers seconded that Section 2.1 and Section 2.2 will be added to By-Laws Article V- Election of Council Members and Officers. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote.

*Article 5, Section 2.1. If all Council members have been canvassed and no candidate from the council has been found to stand for the office of RAC Vice President by the last day of December prior to the year the Vice President is to leave office, the election committee may canvas, in this order, the immediate Past President, all former RAC officers, the ranks of the RAC Committee Chairs, the Committee Secretaries, Committee members and finally the RA members. Two candidates must be found and the Council must elect one of them in February at the next regular election of officers.*

*Article 5, Section 2.2 In the case that the current Vice President is \*not assuming the position of President, s/he may be extended in that office for a period of up to one year, by majority vote of the Council at the January meeting, in lieu of the above procedures.*

Note: \* In this context “not assuming” means “running for”.

The additions of G5.3 and G6 to Standing Rules Section G Committees did not require a second RAC Council vote. The RAC Secretary will make the necessary changes to the RAC By-Laws and Standing Rules and send a revised copy to Council members.

*G5.3 Any member deemed vital to the function of the VIP Committee or the Technology Committee by his committee Chair is not term limited. The Chair shall give the list of those exempted to the Chair of the RAC elections Committee on request.*

*G-6 Only one resident of an apartment shall ordinarily serve on a committee. That restriction may be waived for members of the VIP and Tech Committees upon request by the Chair of the committee. Exceptions for other committees require a request by the Committee Chair and approval by the Council.*

#### **New Business:**

VP Chambers has agreed with Executive Director Angie Roher to provide an orientation to new residents who have moved in during the past two years of the COVID pandemic. This will be held in the auditorium on April 1, 2022. Freedom Plaza management directors and staff, ROC and RAC will be involved in presentations.

President Sweet noted there are several liaison positions that need to be filled and he will be appointing new liaisons. He asked that RAC Liaisons to present a report on their work with committees for the March Council meeting.

President Sweet administered the oath of office to the new RAC Representatives Carol O'Brien, Chuck Roth and Kathy Vore.

Secretary Warren called for the election of a RAC President. There were no nominations from the floor. In an open election by RAC Council members, Ron Sweet was elected President by a majority vote and will serve a two-year term of office.

Secretary Warren called for the election of a RAC Vice President. There were no nominations from the floor. In an open election by RAC Council members, Sarah Chambers was elected RAC Vice-president by a majority vote and will serve a two-year term of office.

President Sweet called for the election of a RAC Secretary. There were no nominations from the floor. In an open election by RAC Council members, Janet Warren was elected RAC Secretary with a majority vote and will serve a two-year term of office.

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

There was discussion regarding a survey sent previously to residents by Director Angie Roher asking them if they were interested in having a company other than Spectrum to provide internet services. The survey proposal was confusing to residents, thus many did not respond. President Sweet suggested that the Council ask Freedom Plaza management to explore various options again. Sarah Chambers proposed a motion for support from the Technology Committee:

“The Technology Committee requests that the Council approve an action to refer a request to Management from the Committee asking management to investigate an alternate Internet provider for Freedom Plaza Residents at a lower cost and improved service.”  
The motion carried with one member abstaining.

Jeanne Nenarella suggested that Council members send any concerns or suggestions to the Technology Committee to help them with a presentation to management.

Veanna Cape noted that when using RACRep.org, a flag indicated it was not a secure internet site. President Sweet explained that he added a secure certificate HTTPS:// that was supposed to automatically renew. He is working to remedy the situation.

Jeanne Nenarella offered that residents on her floor are still concerned that they can't decorate the credenzas, and they also want more information about who moves in and out and why. President Sweet: The credenza belongs to Freedom Plaza and not to the residents. Management decided they will provide any decorations in the future. VP Chambers explained that marketing does not always tell the host coordinator when persons are moving in and the exact date is not always known. When persons leave, the reasons might involve privacy rules. Carol Croll noted there is a bulletin board that displays information about move-ins, but it is in an out-of-the-way place and could be located near the Grill. Stan Zarinsky suggested that “welcome” move-in

information could be added to the FP Weekly. Most of the RAC Reps put new resident information on the Storage Room door. Some RAC Reps place a pictorial floor directory on the bulletin board in the storage room.

President Sweet reminded that all residents are encouraged to furnish their background information at Touch Town.

VP Chambers as host coordinator sends bio and picture information about residents to the RAC Reps when she receives it. Jean Aronson will be a new Host Coordinator for GVT.

The Council is looking for a new Plaza Host Coordinator as well as persons who could take over some of the many responsibilities that Sarah and Larry Chambers have faithfully furnished for over ten years.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

The next Council meeting will be on March 25, 2022, 9:00 a.m. in the third-floor club room.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Warren, RAC Secretary