



**Dining Services Committee Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2022, 2:30 PM
Club Room**

Acting Chair Kathy Vore called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

Present: Mike Anderson, Phil Bethea, Janice Kimbro, Jim Price, Carol O'Brien, Eileen Robbins, Judy Schmidt (Dining Services Sub-Committee Chair), Kathy Vore, Chris Wynn (Executive Chef), Theresa Lehman (Dining Services Director), and Pamela Evans (Assistant Dining Services Director). Phyllis Black attended as Proxy for Anita Ciota.

Absent: Anita Ciota, (Dining Services Committee Chair) and Al Hurlbrink.

A quorum was present with members and proxy present.

The minutes from the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

Chris Wynn, Executive Chef:

- **Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve will each be One Meal Days with Composed Plates served;**
- **New Year's Day dinner will offer both a traditional menu and buffet.**

Theresa Lehman, Dining Services Director:

- **American Grille:**
 - **Saturday opening has received positive feedback;**
 - **Grab & Go items in the General Store are proving popular**
 - **Beginning in January 2023, all items in the General Store - with the exception of sundry items - may be charged against a Resident's Declining Balance;**
- **The Pub Renovation project is in the Capital Improvements 2023 Budget as a placeholder item; budget approval is expected late in 1st Q 2023;**
- **The Plaza Club's December calendar is busy with Rotary and the Freedom Plaza Employee and Dining Staff Luncheons, the RAC Holiday Party and other events;**
- **Surveys of senior living communities around the country are indicating a shift in dining preferences:**

- Small plates, small portions;
- Fast Casual Dining rather than Fine Dining venues;
- All options are under review for possible incorporation into Freedom Plaza Dining in 2023 and beyond.
- **Liquor License**
 - The new liquor license is expected no earlier than April, 2023;
 - Residents will still be allowed to bring their own wine to dinner;
 - Bradd is currently serving 100+ drinks per night;
 - When Bradd is on duty, the Pub will open as early as 1 PM for drinks at the Bar where eight (8) seats are available; Pub tables will remain available for dining only.

Janice Kimbro, Menu Chat Report:

- A designation on the Menus when a dish is “spicy” would be helpful to some residents; Theresa recommended that Residents request a taste before ordering a dish if they are concerned about the spiciness of a dish.

Judy Schmidt, Casual Dining Sub-Committee Chair:

- Suggested adding Oatmeal to the Saturday morning menu, making it available three (3) mornings each week (Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday);
- Noted that some Grille Staff do not know what the Sunday soup is; Pamela Evens noted she will review this point with the Staff;
- Requested the Grille remain open until 2 PM each day; Theresa declined the opportunity and closing will remain at 1:30 PM.

Kathy Vore, Acting Chair:

Received a total of 44 evaluations (34 emails and 10 comment cards) regarding Dining Services with 1 comment on IRD:

- 17 positive comments on the servers;
- 17 excellent/good comments regarding food quality, especially the Vegetarian Bowl, Chicken Pot Pie, and Baked Greek Basa.
- 7 negative comments on the food, mostly for dryness and temperature;

Old Business:

- Walkers blocking Dining Room exit doors
 - Carol O’Brien and Pamela Evens reported that walkers no longer are allowed to block exit doors; if necessary to store a walker outside the Dining Room, the Resident is given a ticket and

advised where specifically the walker will be stored during dinner;

- “Half Orders” are still available even though that is not reflected on each day’s Menu.

New Business:

- Dining Management Staff (Pamela, Melly or Beverly) deliver IRDs to GVT weekdays with Tram Drivers continuing to deliver meals on Saturday and Sunday.

The next meeting is set for the Club Room, Wednesday, January 4, 2023, 2:30 PM.

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

**Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Vore, Secretary**