



**Dining Services Committee Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2023, 2:30 PM
Club Room**

Chair Anita Ciota called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

Present: Mike Anderson, Phil Bethea, Anita Ciota, Janice Kimbro, Jim Price, Carol O'Brien, Eileen Robbins, Judy Schmidt (Dining Services Sub-Committee Chair), Kathy Vore (Secretary), Chris Wynn (Executive Chef), and Pamela Evans (Assistant Dining Services Director). Resident Gary Ashcraft also attended.

Absent: Theresa Lehman (Dining Services Director).

A quorum was present with all members in attendance.

The minutes from the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

The Committee thanked Chef Chris for his service and assured him that he will be greatly missed.

Chris Wynn, Executive Chef:

- **Friday, January 6, will be his final day as Executive Chef at Freedom Plaza;**
- **Jake will serve as Interim Chef pending the selection of a new Executive Chef.**

Pamela Evans, Assistant Dining Services Director:

- **Holiday meals were well attended with Christmas Day having the largest turnout (larger than in 2021);**
- **Staffing:**
 - **Several Executive Chef Interviews took place last week and more are scheduled when Theresa returns next week;**
 - **Four servers and one utility (dishwasher) will on-board this week;**
 - **The on-boarding process varies from two weeks to two months in order to complete;**
- **Dining reservations may be cancelled up to the reservation time any day by calling the Dining Services Desk at 813-642-1313.**

Janice Kimbro, Menu Chat Report:

- Some breads are dry and stale when served;
- Some bread baskets are served with too many pats of butter which must be thrown away if not consumed;
- Some soups are lukewarm when served, either because (1) there is an issue with some of the heating units; and, (2) some of the servers serve both soup and salad and drinks at the same time, so the recommendation is to serve the soup first, then salad.

Judy Schmidt, Casual Dining Sub-Committee Chair:

- American Grille
 - Judy renewed her request that Oatmeal be added to the Saturday morning menu, making it available three (3) mornings each week (Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday); Pamela will check with supervisors to confirm this is workable for the staff;
 - Need signage advising the name of the daily soup; Pam will ensure a chalk board will be placed on the wall so Daniel can easily post each day's soup selection;
 - Grab & Go items in the General Store are proving popular with all items except sundry items - now eligible to be charged against a Resident's Declining Balance.

Anita Ciota, Chair:

Received a total of 40 evaluations (31 emails and 9 comment cards) regarding Dining Services with 2 comments on IRD:

- 19 positive comments on the servers;
- 16 excellent/good comments regarding food quality, especially the Tenderloin, the special Hanukkah Dinner, and Taco Salad;
- 17 negative comments on the food, such as cold soup, overcooked vegetables and meatloaf, and tasteless Cod.

Committee Suggestions:

- **Portion Control:** Al suggested that portion control is inconsistent in the dining rooms; Pam will consult with the Sous Chef and this will also be addressed with the new Executive Chef once that person is on-board;
- **Half Portions** are available in dining rooms even though there is no notation on the weekly printed menu delivered to Residents;
- **Tablets for Ordering in Dining Rooms:** Phil asked why servers are not

using the tablets to take orders; Pamela noted there is an ongoing connectivity challenge and if the connection drops at any time, an order is completely lost and the server then has to go back to the Residents to re-create their order.

The next meeting is set for the Club Room, Wednesday, February 1, 2023, 2:30 PM.

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:29 PM.

**Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Vore, Secretary**



**Casual Dining Sub-Committee Minutes
January 25, 2023 10:30 am
Auditorium Conference Room**

Present: Judy Schmidt, Susan Scott, Jan Ulics, Carolyn O'Neill

Absent: Mary Reter

Judy called the meeting to order at 10:30 am. A quorum was present.

The minutes were approved via email.

We discussed the addition of oatmeal as a breakfast choice in the grille. It has been added as a breakfast option on Saturday too.

It was suggested that waffles be added as a breakfast special once a week. And quiche be added as a once a week lunch special. Some residents would like to have flatbread pizza as a lunch special periodically. Carolyn mentioned that Naan bread could be used for flatbread.

It was suggested that Sunday specials need to change. Residents are tired of the same monthly rotation. Pork chops and ravioli were offered as possible new choices.

We were encouraged to keep talking to residents about the grille and its operation.

The next meeting will be February 22, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Susan Scott
Secretary**