



Resident Association Council Meeting Minutes

9:00 a.m. March 24, 2023

Freedom Plaza Clubroom

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

Council members present via roll call: Alice Aragon, Veanna Cape, Ron Carter, Carolyn Clark, Pam Cummings, Nuri Georges, Janis Harris, Letha Jones, Joyce McCutcheon, Jeanne Nenarella, Al Roberts, Sue Schuldt, Ron Sweet, Kathy Vore, Janet Warren,

Excused Absences: Carol O'Brien, Chuck Roth

Attending: Don Vore, Technical Coordinator and Doug Heym

Proxies: Phyllis Black and Harry Hintz for Chuck Roth, Becky Stefenelli for Carol O'Brien

The roll call confirmed a quorum.

The February 24, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes were previously approved via email distribution and response by a majority of Council members confirmed by Secretary Warren.

Veanna Cape moved and Sue Schuldt seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion was carried unanimously.

President's Report: Ron Sweet

Joyce McCutcheon was sworn in by oath as the RAC Representative for Floor 3BC. She fills the vacancy left by Helen Halm. Nuri Georges was sworn in by oath as the RAC Representative for GVT 7-8. He fills the vacancy left by Tim Broad.

There are RAC Representative vacancies for Floor 1BC and Floor 5DE. There are RAC Liaison vacancies for the RAC Administrative Services Committee and RAC Sports Committee.

Janet Blackshire has agreed to remain as Chair of the Associate Appreciation Committee (AAC) in order to work with Penny Boyne who is planning to fill the position of AAC Chair at the end of Janet's term of office.

President Sweet reported that management has agreed to assume more responsibility to contribute to the orientation of new residents to Freedom Plaza. They plan to implement their Hundred Day Plan where directors or representatives from the various departments such as housekeeping, maintenance, finance, dining will visit a new resident to explain the function of their department and assist with services. There will be provisions for scheduled tours for new residents and current residents, as well. The Freedom Plaza Department of Marketing and Management plan to produce orientation videos which will be available to all residents on www.RACRep.org.

The RAC Rep's duties for providing an orientation to new residents have not been significantly expanded except to receive closing, bio, and move-in information in a timely manner from Marketing and the RAC Secretary and to deliver to new residents a larger package of handouts/information that they get from Stephanie O'Fallon, Executive Assistant. RAC Reps are encouraged to schedule a time when the handouts can be explained as well as help secure any services a new resident may need. As before, they are asked to continue to plan activities to help a new resident feel welcome and a part of the community, to be available to answer questions they may have, and to facilitate assistance with any expressed needs, keeping in mind the resident's readiness for their involvement. Suggestions for orientation activities are listed in the revised RAC Council Manual; however, each RAC Rep will develop their own plan for orienting new residents to their floor or buildings and for establishing open communication and support among all floor or GVT building mates. The role of the RAC Rep is two-fold as a RAC Council Member working with residents and management to establish the highest quality of life possible for all and as a floor leader and a representative for their floor or buildings.

President Sweet reviewed the mission and responsibilities of the Orientation and Welcome Committee that was in place in the year 2017. He plans to schedule a meeting soon with the Council members who have expressed interest in being a part of establishing a new RAC Committee with similar goals, but in consideration of changes that have taken place in management and reorganization. Members of the formative group will be Al Roberts, Kathy Vore, Janet Warren and Ron Sweet. President Sweet invited Don Vore to join the group because of his work as a technician for posting on the RAC website and responsibility for the revision of RAC Orientation Handbook.

Iris Martin, the new Marketing Director will be attending the next Council meeting in April.

Vice-President's Report: Veanna Cape

There will not be a Committee Fair this year, so the work will encompass sending out recruitment letters to the residents, tabulation of responses, and notifications to committees. Residents can volunteer for as many committees as they want but can be assigned to only two. Ron Carter, Sue Schuldt, and Janis Harris volunteered to assist VP Cape with the Committee Election process.

Al Roberts, RAC Finance Chair, petitioned the Council to grant a third two-year term of office to RAC Finance Committee Secretary, Joan Feehan-Walker. He presented a list of her qualifications and cited examples of her value to the group. The Executive Committee previously approved the request. On VP Cape's recommendation, the Council members approved the request by unanimous vote.

VP Cape invited all RAC Representatives to the General RAC Meeting where she will introduce each one to the residents in attendance.

Secretary Warren asked the new RAC Representatives to attend an orientation meeting the first week in April. The time, date and meeting place will be forwarded to them.

Alice Aragon stressed the importance of giving new residents information about the RAC General Meetings and other meetings that take place. RAC Reps expressed that they posted the notice for the March General Meeting, but have had experiences with residents forgetting what they have been told. Al Roberts shared concerns he has heard from others that more persons are moving into independent living who would be better served by assisted living. As a general policy, if one of a couple can serve as a caretaker, the couple can reside in independent living. This would be a topic to discuss at the next meeting with the marketing director, Iris Martin.

Members submitted the various ways they have involved residents on their floor in activities such as luncheons, open houses, tours, etc. with various success. It could be helpful to schedule time to share ideas among council members for the benefit of the new members.

Veanna Cape moved and Janis Harris seconded that the meeting adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m. to allow time to attend the RAC General Meeting at 10:00 a.m.

The next Council meeting will be on April 28, 9:00 a.m., in the third floor Club Room.

The next RAC General meeting will be Friday, May 26 at 10:00 a.m. in the Auditorium.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Warren, RAC Secretary