



**Dining Services Committee Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2023, 2:30 PM
Club Room**

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

Present: Mike Anderson, Phil Bethea, Al Hurlbrink, Janice Kimbro, Carol O'Brien, Eileen Robbins (Acting Secretary), Susan Scott for Judy Schmidt (Dining Services Sub-Committee Chair), Jim Price, Jaime Simoes, (Executive Chef), Theresa Lehman (Dining Services Director) and Pamela Evans (Assistant Dining Services Director).

Absent: Kathy Vore (Secretary)

Guests: Ron & Pink Wesorick.

A quorum was present.

The minutes from the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

Jaime Simoes, Executive Chef:

- **Discussed the slowness of the Buffet service, will check on staffing during rush times and having food available when needed;**
- **Jaime advised that food service from kitchen has improved but there are still times when the line slows, International night is a winner so far and looking at new items to feature;**
- **Staffing updates:**
 - **Still working to achieve full Kitchen staffing levels;**
 - **New hires starting or on deck soon; could use 2 more dishwashers.**

Theresa Lehman, Dining Services Director:

Discussed the new QR Code ability to residents for their input on meals and staff. This has been updated on the RACREP online along with a link to LCS survey system:

- **Menu changes and updates will ultimately offer dining options at Freedom Plaza based on dining room selected for dining. Declining balance changes will also be upcoming to coincide with the dining meals selected.**

- New furniture design in dining room will help to alleviate noise and also functionality of residents hearing aids to cut out the surrounding noise.
- Dining rooms will be renamed, and specific menus will be per room. No reservations in certain dining rooms and will be on a 1st come 1st serve basis.
- The Grille
 - Staffing changes with an associate moving to catering, looking for more staff for the Grill;

Staffing update from Theresa's perspective:

- There are a number of new associates in the dining rooms, and all seem to be working well. Have had many good comments from residents.

Janice Kimbro, Menu Chat Report:

- Resident participation increasing, with helpful feedback on menu items;
- There is a concern about walkers as a walker was taken by another resident in error.

Susan Scott for Judy Schmidt, Casual Dining Sub-Committee Chair, American Grille:

- Flat Bread Pizzas are a welcome addition to the menu in the Grille. It has helped to have good signage available to residents prior to approaching the register.
- More publicity would help, like comments in the weekly other than on the menu printout.
- Request for a larger Ice Cream Freezer in the Grille. Theresa said that the staff has been looking at a way to bring in a larger freezer.

Anita Ciota, Chair:

Received a total of 94 evaluations (66 emails, 27 comment cards and 1 note) regarding Dining Services, including 92 on the Dining Room, and 2 on the Grille:

- 29 positive comments on the servers;
- 45 positive comments on the food;
- 20 positive comments on both servers and food;
- Over the last 8 months "Poor" and "Fair" comments have increased slightly and most have been due to food being served cold or poorly prepared;

Old Business:

- **Removal of the Salad Bar counters is almost complete.**
- **Walkers should be parked outside the dining room and spouses or friends should take the walkers to the storage area. Dining rooms are being overcrowded with walkers and safety is an ongoing factor for the staff.**
- **A picture (taken by a resident) was presented to Theresa of 8 walkers along the bar area and there were an additional 4 walkers under the TV.**

Next meeting will be in the Club Room, Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 2:30 PM.

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

**Respectfully submitted,
Eileen Robbins, Acting Secretary**



**Casual Dining Sub-Committee Minutes
May 31, 2023 10:30 am
Auditorium Conference Room**

**Present: Judy Schmidt, Susan Scott, Jan Ulics
Absent: Carolyn O'Neill, Mary Reter**

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

The minutes were approved via email.

We revisited the need for advertising for the grille. Residents are not aware of the new choices the grille has to offer. There is adequate signage in the grille touting the new offerings, but many residents do not go into the grille on a regular basis; therefore, they do not see the signs. It was suggested that the new grille items could be mentioned in the Weekly under the Dining Section and perhaps they could also be mentioned in Angie's Wednesday Memo. The new items are as follows:

- 4 new flatbread choices**
- hard boiled eggs in the refrigerator section of the store**
- breakfast oatmeal on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays**
- prepared sandwiches, snacks, and salads, in the refrigerated section of the store**

We would also like to see a reminder with the advertising that any food or drink item purchased in the grille can be charged to the resident's declining balance.

We again discussed the need for adding some new entree items to the Sunday evening dinner rotation. The two additional options were pork chops and Ravioli. Judy encouraged us to continue talking to residents about the grille and its operation.

The next meeting will be June 28, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Susan Scott
Secretary**

