



## RAC FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 17, 2023

Club Room, Freedom Plaza

Members Present: Al Roberts Chair, Sandee Braddy, Jane Keegan, Dave Lowe, Joyce McCutcheon, Neil Rothfeld, Cor Snoeren, Joan Walker & Veanna Cape, RAC Liaison

Freedom Plaza Dennis Kimble & Therese Lehman, Food and Beverage Director

Al Roberts called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm. Al asked the Secretary if a quorum was present. The Secretary confirmed a quorum.

The minutes for April 19, 2023 were approved by the members present, upon a motion made by Neil Rothfeld, seconded by Jane Keegan. All in favor, motion so carried.

Chair Roberts welcomed the committee's guest, Theresa Lehman, who he stated need no introduction.

Theresa stated the following:

That currently, the Dining Dept. is working on recipes, sanitation, consistency, and morale, as well as exploring new concepts for dining. In 2022 the budget per resident per day was an average of \$8.10. For 2023 in Independent dining, it is \$7.89, in Assisted Living \$8.50 and in Plaza West it is \$8.75. Currently Chef Jamie oversees Independent dining, Jennifer does Plaza West and Memory Care and Amber and Sonia in the Grill. They are currently working on a second 5-week cycle, while trying to incorporate the Grove menu plan into Freedom Plaza. This new data base will enable standardizing recipes, better selections, consistency.

There will be a new dining concept introduced at Freedom Plaza, modeled on a plan put forth by LCS, as LCS remodels the first floor of the Plaza building. Towards the end of the last quarter of 2023, the remodeled Pub will be open from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. It will serve pub fare such as burgers, ahi tuna, chili and other small menu items. There will be no dress code to promote the idea of quick, casual dining. Seating will be on a first come, first served basis.

The Maui and the Jade will be merged into one room, with a totally remodeled buffet. The new buffet will facilitate better traffic flow and be able to keep food hot. A varied salad bar will be offered as well as soft serve ice cream. There will be a new soda dispensing machine installed. All to make the dining experience of the buffet better. This will be accomplished in 2024-2025.

The Williamsburg, Tea Rose and Nile will all be venues for preferred dining with a two-week rotation menu of 14 items.

Theresa continued:

Each resident will be allotted a certain amount per month to spend in any of the four venues: Grill, Pub, Buffet & Preferred dining. There will no longer be a 21-day or a 31-day plan. Each resident will make their own plan in choosing where to eat. In the preferred dining, residents would be allowed take out boxes to bring leftovers back to their apartments. Guest charges could also be deducted from the monthly allotment. There will be various dining venues open so that residents will be able to eat between 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Joyce McCutcheon asked would this satisfy the contractual obligation to provide one meal a day to each resident. Theresa replied that with the money allotted it would be doable to provide a meat, chicken or seafood protein to each resident.

Cor Snoeren asked how this would reflect on staffing. Theresa replied that it would actually help to spread the staff out over the open dining hours. She said that a resident could dine anytime between 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. as there would always be one venue open.

Neil Rothfeld asked if would cost more for the chef to execute this plan. Theresa replied that they looked long and hard for a chef capable of implementing this plan. Chef Jamie Simoes, with his extensive and varied restaurant background, will bring it to fruition within budget parameters.

Dave Lowe stated that CCRC;s are changing with different concepts for fast casual and varied dining options.

Theresa concluded that they know that it will be a difficult transition for both staff and residents, but that in the end, a wonderful new concept of dining at Freedom Plaza will emerge.

Chair Roberts thanked Theresa for a very informative discussion of the problems, plans and solution for Dining as well as the plans for things to come.

Chair Roberts then stated that since the committee had used the whole allotted time in discussion of dining, that he would close the meeting and bring anything forward on the May agenda into the June meeting.

Chair Roberts set the next meeting date as Wednesday, June 21, at 2:30 p.m. He then asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Neil Rothfeld, seconded by Jane Keegan. Motion so carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Feehan Walker, Secretary