



**The Simkin/Weinberg
Resident Council Minutes**

**Thursday, April 13, 2017
1:30 p.m.
Boardroom**

ATTENDANCE

Residents:

Simkin Centre Staff:

Cindy Greenlay – TR & Support Services Mgr (Facilitator)	X	Tana Ducharme – Social Worker	
Irwin Corobow - CEO	X	Janet Conrad – Executive Assistant	
Food Services – Valerie Burachynsky	X		
Sara Reid – Assistant Director of Care			
Alanna Kull – Director of Care	X		

Board of Directors:

Selma Gilfix	X
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Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order. Because there are a few floors that have been quarantined because of the flu, several Resident Council members could not attend today.

1. Welcome & Introductions:

- Irwin Corobow introduced himself as he chaired the meeting
- Those present introduced themselves.

2. Budget:

- The February 2017 budgets were presented.
- The beginning balance was \$2,993.00. The monthly interest earned was \$43.66. We spent \$207.51 to renew our magazine subscriptions for the year. The balance for the end of the month was \$2,829.15
- We have ordered large floor games. Resident Council requested and approved this purchase. We are not sure when they will arrive. Hopefully soon. We spent approximately \$800 and are waiting for them to arrive.



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- At the last meeting, residents agreed to sponsor outdoor summer concerts. We are planning the entertainment starting in May. This may cost approximately \$600.

3. Correspondence:

- A thank you letter was read out loud to the family of a former resident who donated a grandfather clock to the Simkin Centre.
- We are still waiting from Steven Hyman to hear his response to resident requests to shorten High Holiday Services.

4. RTLS (call bell system) update:

- There was not much to report. We are still waiting for the insurance company to provide us with the amount that they plan to reimburse us from the December 2016 flood.
- The plan is to purchase a traditional call bell system once we hear from the insurance company. We will no longer use the wireless system (RTLS).



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5. Residents' Bill of Rights – Changes from the Board of Directors:

- Several months ago Resident Council reviewed the Bill of Rights and approved them. They then went to the Board of Directors for final approval.
- The Board made a few changes and are being presented to you.
- These changes included reference to the Code of Conduct. Residents showed their support of this addition by raising their hands. Everyone raised their hands. They were approved with this additional change.

6. Dog Cookies Program Update:

- The TR staff made cookies on their units and the cookies were donated to dog shelters.

7. Simkin Stroll Event – June 18th: Resident reminded about this event. Irwin explained the event to residents who were new to the Centre. Residents were encouraged to participate and to invite their family.

8. Showing respect when someone passes: Deferred



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9. Reports:

9.1 Nursing Department

- Alanna shared with residents about the status of the Resident Decision Making discussions. She reminded residents about the survey that was conducted last year by the WRHA and how residents stated on the survey that they wanted to be more involved in decision making with regards to their care. As a result, she began meeting with groups of residents to find ways to improve this. One of the areas that residents wanted to change was that they make their own health care decisions, not their family. This has caused us to look at what we do here. Alanna reported that this has also made the WRHA look at what they do, as well. We have begun looking at our procedure of the substitute decision maker being invoked before it should. She has spoken to other Directors of Care from other sites in the region. They are also looking at this at their sites. Alanna has spoken to the Ethics Committee at the WRHA. They've provided some very good information on capacity versus competency. She explained



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that one of the challenges is that a resident needs to be competent in order to NOT have their substitute decision maker invoked. We need to figure out what that looks like. There have been a few meetings at the Simkin Centre with a small group of nurses to start looking at what are the barriers to making this work and what do we have to change in order to proceed. Our goal is to have a statement as to what this looks like, both in our policies and in the admission handbook.

- Alanna thanked residents who agreed to have their head to toe assessments done by students. The students were from the University of Manitoba. This assessment was part of a course that they were taking and they needed people to conduct these assessments.
- There are a number of HCA students here right now, so you will see new faces.

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9.2 Spiritual Health Department

- Irwin explained who makes up this department. He asked for feedback from Passover services. There was no feedback.
- He explained that the Board of Directors feels very strongly about making sure we provide spiritual health to our residents, even though it is not funding by the WRHA. In order to pay for spiritual health we have to fundraise.

9.3 Therapeutic Recreation Department

- We've been able to hire 3 summer students.
- A resident asked what this department does. Alanna explained many of the programs and activities that are provided.
- A resident asked if there could be more physical therapy. Alanna stated that this is on our wish list, as this requires more funding.
- Irwin shared with residents some of the generous donations made to support this department and expand on what it offers. One of the programs supported through donations is the Music & Memories.



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- Residents were encouraged to see Cindy if they had any ideas for new programs/outings.

9.4 Dietary Services Department

- Valerie asked residents for their feedback about Passover breakfasts because this year we have been doing things much differently than in past years. Residents had a very positive response to these changes. Passover tends to be very difficult for residents. Residents were reminded that during Passover, they can consume any kind of food or drink they want as long as it is confined to their room.

10. Beefs, Bouquets, and Suggestions:

- A resident wanted to let Steven Hyman know how much she enjoyed the way he led the Passover Seders.
- A few residents shared how much they value the Spiritual Health provided at the Simkin Centre.
- There was some discussion about the challenges surrounding Passover food and residents not able to eat it.



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- A resident suggested offering tea or coffee after programs. Food Services staff would not be available to serve. However, Irwin thanked her for this suggestion.

Pending Items

- Netflix/Shomi and TCM Channel
- Changing the Tub Room (more heating, paint) – will be brought to the Leadership Team for discussion in May