



**The Simkin/Weinberg Resident Council
Minutes**

**Thursday, December 7, 2017
1:30 p.m.
Boardroom**

ATTENDANCE

Simkin Centre Staff:

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

Board of Directors:

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Guests:

Aujah Fowler-Thomas, Social Worker	X
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Call to Order:

Cindy Greenlay called the meeting to order. The November meeting was cancelled.

1. Welcome & Introductions:

- Cindy introduced herself. Those present introduced themselves.

- 2. Budget – October 2017:** The beginning balance for October was \$2,399.27. The monthly interest earned from the resident trust accounts was \$43.81. The expenses were \$78.02 for bird seed and \$14.11 for the Amazon Prime Membership. This membership gives us access to old movies so we will have a big selection of movies to choose from for Wednesdays. The ending balance was \$2,350.95.

Although residents didn't have the September budget, Cindy informed residents that we paid for the subscription renewal for the magazines.

- Koats for Kids update – At the last meeting Resident Council agreed to make a donation to purchase a winter jacket, outdoor pants, tukes, and mitts for Koats for Kids. They also organized a drive to collect coats. A picture was taken of the Council with all the coats that were collected. We received a thank you note from the organization for the generous donation. Cindy read the note out loud.
- Donation – Every year Resident Council makes a donation in December to a charity. After some discussion the following decision was made:
 - Spend \$250.00
 - The Council agreed to donate \$125.00 to Salvation Army and \$125.00 to Siloam Mission.



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3. Correspondence:

- A thank you letter was written to thank Leslie Emery who was involved in our Simchat Torah celebration. She was called last minute to assist because the person who was schedule to conduct the service was sick. Sara Reid read the letter out loud. All resident present signed the letter.
- A letter of congratulations was written for Matthew Leibl and Cantor Mass for becoming Rabbis. The letter was read out loud to residents. The letter was signed.

Irwin informed residents that in two weeks, on a Sunday, immediately following our Sunday concert, Leslie Emery will be back at the Simkin Centre because the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue is having their children's Chanukah party here. Residents are invited to attend.

- Residents decided to write a thank you letter to the volunteers who run the Tuck Shop on Sundays.

4. March 8, 2018 Rabbi Green farewell party: Residents were informed about this upcoming event. Rabbi Green is retiring in the Spring and we are planning a thank you and farewell event for him. March will be his last visit to the Simkin Centre before moving to the States with his family.

5. New Call Bell System Update:

- One year ago we had a flood at the Simkin Centre that took out our call bell system. Since then we have been functioning with a temporary call bell system. This system allows residents to call for help.
- We are currently in the process of hardwiring in a new nurse call bell system. Installation started in the Simkin building. We anticipate the installation to be completed by the end of January.
- The call bell button will be next to your bed and in the washroom.

6. Tub Room Sub-Committee:

- One resident has been involved in this committee. He stated that he spoke to a friend who is an engineer, but they felt that we have the professionals that we need to do the job already employed at the Simkin Centre.
- Resident Council was eager to get this project completed because it is cold when taking a bath.
- We are looking at blanket heaters and heat lamps.



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- It was decided to ask other personal care homes with warmed tub rooms and ask how they did it. We decided to ask someone to develop a plan for us so that we know how much it is going to cost and possibility make this a fundraising project.

7. Security Services:

- Cindy explained that the WRHA is making financial cuts in the province. One thing they are cutting is our security services as of March 31, 2018. At that time, these services will not be funded by the government. If we still want these services, we will need to pay for it ourselves.
- Management is working on a plan for April 1st. Irwin stated that we are fortunate that we do have a system in place where we can keep our front doors locked during certain times of the days. Swipe cards can be used to allow family members and visitors into the building without someone sitting at the front desk.

8. Resident Council Members who have passed – sample postcard:

- The Council suggested sending out a card to the family of a Council member who had passed away. They wanted the family to know that the Council was thinking of them.
- A draft postcard was created and circulated.
- It was decided to place this postcard inside the condolence card that the Board of Directors sends to family members when a resident passes away.

9. Reports:

9.1 Nursing Department

- Alanna mentioned that we are trialing the new slider sheets on Simkin 1. If you live on Simkin 1 you may not qualify to get the sheets. There are very specific criteria for the sheets. A resident who cannot move themselves in bed would qualify for these sheets. The sheets are slippery so that staff can easily move you up and down the bed without injuring themselves or injuring the resident.

9.2 Spiritual Health Department and Therapeutic Recreation

- The department is conducting in-services on the units about Chanukah. Chanukah starts next Tuesday, December 12th which is the first light.
- The month of December is full of programs. Cindy reminded residents to look at their recreation calendars and their unit white boards to find out what is planned for each day.



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- Many residents enjoyed the Holiday Light Tour at the Assiniboine Downs.
- Cindy told residents that our Fundraiser, Aviva, is organizing a fundraiser in January. It will be a “Paint Night” where participants follow the instructor and paint a picture. There is a cost to this event.
- In the month of January, we will have CJNU here broadcasting in the Atrium. Thanks to an anonymous donor, we are sponsoring them for the whole month.

9.3 Dietary Services Department

- Valerie asked residents what they thought of the new menu items that were introduced on the Fall/Winter menu. She specifically asked how they liked the new potato dishes being served. Residents said that they really liked the new dishes, very much.
- She announced that next week Chanukah begins. Residents will be getting jam busters and latkes. A question was asked what is served with the latkes. Valerie stated that sour cream and apple sauce will be served with the latkes to ensure that there is a choice for residents.
- She reported that in November, at the Food Services staff meeting, training was conducted with staff about being careful not to serve more than one course at a time. Soup first, then main plate, then dessert. This was discussed at the last two staff meetings.
- Also discussed was being careful when the food is portioned on the plate. Staff were trained not to use scoops when a flat lifter should be used. Making sure that presentation of the meal is a priority.
- A resident asked why it takes 22 minutes to be served. Valerie explained that there is one person portioning the food in the servery for 40 people. Our goal is to make sure that what we serve is accurate. This takes a little bit longer.
- A resident asked a question about allergies and the food served. This resident experienced lack of selection because of his allergies. Valerie will have one of the dietitians visit him and adjust the information in the system so he has more choice.



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- One resident complained that the quality of the fresh fruit is not good. He explained that the bananas that were served recently were brown on the outside. Other residents said that the inside was really good. The oranges are small. Valerie explained that we don't go to the grocery store and pick out the fruit, one by one. We order fruit by the 40 pound case and they arrive at the door. We can't ask them to send us only the pretty ones, because they won't do that. What they do is pick up a case and send it to us. We get what they give us. There is no guarantee that the quality we get is good. Someone stated that the mandarins in the grocery store are small right now, too.

10. Beefs, Bouquets, and Suggestions:

- A question was asked by a resident about having a computer in his room. Cindy explained about WiFi in the facility.
- A resident is having trouble with her TV and the cable company. Someone will help her figure this out with her family member.

NEXT MEETING: January 18, 2018 – 1:30pm in the Boardroom