

**The Simkin/Weinberg
Resident Council Minutes**

**Thursday, February 16, 2017
1:30 p.m.
Boardroom**

ATTENDANCE

Residents:

Simkin Centre Staff:

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

Board of Directors:

Marilyn Regiec	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:

- Cindy Greenlay introduced herself and stated that her role is to facilitate Resident Council.
- Cindy reminded everyone that we may not agree with everything that is being said, but everyone has a right to their opinion. Everyone was asked to talk about the issues in a respectful manner.
- Those present introduced themselves.

2. Budget:

- The December 2016 budgets were presented.
- The beginning balance was \$2,812.96. The monthly interest earned was \$42.81. We made \$75.00 off of table rentals. No money was spent this month. The balance for the end of the month was \$2,930.77.
- Cindy explained that when we rent tables, we ask for 10% of their income up to a maximum of \$50. All we do is provide the vendor with the table.



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- Cindy reminded residents that we are a non-profit organization and we shouldn't have much money in our account. She explained that the money spent should benefit the majority of residents. We should only have approximately \$1,000 in our account.
- Residents were asked to think about ideas where the money could be spent. A resident suggested improving resident Tub Rooms. This suggestion was brought up at the last meeting and will be discussed at the next Leadership Team meeting. The resident who suggested this was told that to upgrade these rooms will require a lot more money than what is available in the Resident Council budget. However, the suggestion is one that the Resident Council all agreed was a great suggestion. This will be kept on the agenda.
- Residents have also requested purchasing more floor games with the money in their budget. Cindy reported that a donation was received and that the donor requested that floor games be purchased with this donation.



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- Another suggestion was paying for outdoor concerts during the summer months. Most residents thought this was a great idea. Concerts could be early evenings and/or weekends. This will be kept on the agenda.

3. Correspondence:

- Cindy prepared the following letters from the Resident Council. She read each letter out loud. Residents approved the letters. The letters will be emailed to the appropriate recipients:
 - St. John's Ravenscourt School for reading with residents in December
 - Brock Corydon School for singing to residents in December
 - Shaarey Zedek Sisterhood for serving cookies and drinks during Hanukkah
 - Bat Mitzvah Students from Lubovich for setting up and displaying the lego menorah
 - Steven Hyman requesting that high holiday services be shorter



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- A suggestion was made to write a letter to staff thanking them for making the extra effort to come into work to care for them during very difficult weather in December. Most residents thought this was a good idea. The letter will be brought to the next meeting and then posted in staff areas.

4. RTLS (call bell system) update:

- Cindy reminded residents that the call bell badge that residents wear stopped working in December after we had a flood in the computer room. We have not been able to reconnect the system because we are still waiting for the insurance company to tell us how much they will reimburse us.
- A temporary call bell system has been incorporated throughout the facility. It works much like a baby monitor. Cindy explained, in detail, how the system works. The monitor does not work when residents leave the units.
- Extra staff have been hired to conduct regular “rounds” to check on residents. This item will be left on the agenda for future updates.



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5. Dog Cookies:

- At the last meeting, residents said that they would pay for the ingredients to bake dog cookies/biscuits. The baking was to be a resident program. Recreation staff would then donate the biscuits to a local dog shelter for “Dog Month”. Residents donated \$25.00 for these supplies.
- Because there was a flu outbreak, we were unable to do this program.
- The program will be rescheduled near the end of March or early April. This item will be left on the agenda for follow-up.

6. Tulip Sale (February 22nd) and Daffodil Sale (March 15th):

- Every year, Resident Council agrees to sell these spring flowers. Last year, resident decided to only sell one or the other. Doing both was a bit too much.
- This year, on February 22nd, the Tulip Sale will be held here and the Lung Association has stated that they will provide their own volunteers to sell the tulips.



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- The Cancer Association sells Daffodils and Cindy will be asking residents to help sell them on March 15th.

7. Reports:

7.1 Nursing Department

- There will be nursing students at the Centre from Red River College in the beginning of April. They will be doing physical assessments with some residents during their time here.
- A unit coordinator was hired for Weinberg 1.
- Right now, we have a gastro intestinal outbreak two of our units. It lasts between 24 to 72 hours. These units have been quarantined. Sara reminded everyone to wash hands regularly.

7.2 Spiritual Health Department

- Barb conducts the Young at Heart group. This seems to be well attended.
- We are preparing for Purim in March. Check you Recreation calendars for all the dates.
- April 10th is the first day of Passover.



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7.3 Therapeutic Recreation Department

- At the last meeting, a suggestion was made by a resident to invite a violin player/performer to the Simkin Centre. He has seen her at Gwen Secter and thought residents here would really enjoy the performance. Cindy was given contact information by Marilyn Regiec. The contact was the cousin of the performer. Cindy spoke to the contact and was informed that the performance at Gwen Secter was a favor and that the performer had never performed outside of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. The cousin would ask her cousin if she was interested in coming to the Simkin Centre, but it would be doubtful.
- Because we have approximately 60 residents living here who are not Jewish. We had a concert and called it “Non-denominational Concert”. It was actually a Christian concert and many residents asked that it be called Christian so that residents would know and would be able to make their own choice about attending. Cindy asked resident council what they thought about putting the word “Christian” on the recreation calendars.



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- Most residents thought that using the word “Christian” was best. Non-denominational is not clear enough. All residents are welcome to attend, if they decide to go.
- The Therapeutic Recreation Department wanted to ask residents about what they thought of the new bingo cards. Most residents liked the new cards, without using the chips. Residents who do wish to use the chips, can still do so.

7.4 Dietary Services Department

- Valerie could not attend, but provided a written report.
- She is waiting for samples of dinner napkins to arrive. Once we receive them, we will trial them as a replacement to the thin dispenser napkins and paper placemats.
- At the March Resident Council meeting, she will have a sample Passover menu to review with resident.



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- The new unbreakable dishes are now being used in the Simkin building. The Weinberg building is scheduled to receive the dishes as we begin to run out of older china tableware.
- She asked residents, via her letter, for any suggestions for menu items that they would like to see offered for either lunch or dinner.
- The following suggestions were offered by residents:
 - Warm pudding or fresh fruit instead of ice cream during the cold months
 - Herring for lunch
 - Less cheese at lunch
 - Roast chicken is liked
 - More variety
 - Enjoy the blintzes
 - Muffins on Wednesday evening were good

8. Beefs, Bouquets, and Suggestions:

- Roast chicken tends to be a bit greasy



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- A resident expressed, on behalf of some other residents, that some staff don't acknowledge them when walking by them. She could not name specific staff or time of day.
- Residents asked not to be dismissed when they offer suggestions on how they should wear their clothes. Staff may need to be retrained about customer service.