

**The Simkin/Weinberg Resident Council
Minutes**

**Thursday, May 18, 2017
1:30 p.m.
Boardroom**

Call to Order:

Cindy Greenlay called the meeting to order.

1. Welcome & Introductions:

- Cindy introduced herself. Those present introduced themselves.

2. Budget:

- The March 2017 budgets were presented.
- The beginning balance was \$2,829.15. The monthly interest earned was \$38.32. The balance for the end of the month was \$2,867.47.
- Any income we receive comes from table rentals, interest earned on resident trust accounts, the annual garage sale and fundraisers. Cindy reminded residents that we should only have about \$1,000 in our account.
- The money that we spend should be spent on something that the majority of residents can enjoy. Some of the items that resident council pays for are the new resident welcome bags, food for the bird, monthly magazines, etc.

3. Floor Games:

- Residents have asked that more floor games be purchased. Shelley Boles brought a few of the games that were purchased, which were curling, board games and a life sized Jenga. There were more games purchased but Shelley only brought a few to show.
- Although resident council agreed to purchase these games, they games were purchased with money that was donated for the Therapeutic Recreation department.
- Cindy answered questions about Thursday night "Games Night".
- Residents agreed to replace outdoor plastic chairs with more sturdy chairs.
- Residents agree to purchase more bird feeders for outside. The green chairs will be replaced first.

4. Correspondence:

- A thank you letter was prepared for Bev and Arnold thanking them for donating flowers after their anniversary party. They were placed on the tables in the Atrium. They really brightened up the place.
- We are still waiting to hear back from Steven Hyman's response regarding the length of the High Holiday services.

5. Call Bell System Update:

- There is not update. We continue to wait on the insurance company.



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Minutes**

**Thursday, May 18, 2017
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- Once we receive our settlement, we will be purchasing a permanent call bell system.

6. Tub Room Upgrades:

- Resident Council suggested upgrading the tub rooms to make them more comfortable. This suggestion included painting, purchasing towels warmers, and other ways to make the bathing experience more comfortable for residents.
- This idea was brought to the Leadership Team. They thought this would be a good fundraising opportunity.
- Resident Council will form a sub-committee to decide what changes they want and how much those changes will cost.
- This dollar amount will be brought to the Leadership Team so that fundraising opportunities can be pursued.
- The following residents volunteers to sit on this sub-committee; Rod Biddell, Gord Criggar, Marion Jackson, and Claire Newman.
- The first meeting will take place the week of May 29th.

7. Evening Staffing:

- A resident commented that between 6-9 pm there doesn't seem to be staff at the nursing station. The reason for this is because staff are assisting residents and helping them get ready for bed.
- A resident suggested getting a volunteer to sit at the nursing station during this time. This idea will be brought to the Resident Care Team meeting.

8. Doctors and confidentiality in dining rooms:

- A resident put this on the agenda. Some doctors forget about confidentiality.
- They will start to talk to a resident in the dining room about their personal health issues when there are other people in the area, i.e. the dining room.
- Because doctors don't have offices at the Simkin Centre, some tend to do their visiting with residents in the open.
- Some residents said that their doctor walks with them to their rooms before talking about their personal health issues.
- Irwin thanked the resident to sharing this. Irwin meets with the doctors regularly and will remind them to conduct their discussions with residents in a more confidential setting.



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**Thursday, May 18, 2017
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9. Taking blood on units:

- A resident brought this forward to discuss. Residents have noticed that technicians are taking blood from residents for the lab when they are in the dining room, right at the table.
- Residents didn't like seeing this, especially when they were in an eating area.
- Alanna stated that these technicians are not our staff.
- A suggestion was made to write a letter from Resident Council to the lab company informing them about this.

10. Front Doors – Evening hours:

- Our Social Worker noticed that people were coming in and out of the facility at the front door after 4:30pm when the doors were locked. The only way to open them is if you have a swipe card. Because the weather is warming up, there are more and more residents and visitors outside after 4:30pm.
- She suggested extending the time when the doors are open.
- The doors were changed to stay unlocked until 8pm. The hours that the doors are unlocked from 8am to 8pm.
- This will be re-evaluated in the fall.

11. Portable defibrillator:

- A resident was under that impression that all businesses should have a defibrillator and was wondering why we don't have one.
- Alanna stated that this issue has been brought up in the past. She stated that portable defibrillators are required in places like malls, community centers, etc. They are not required in nursing homes.
- We have chosen not to put one in because we have to have staff trained and we have to have a central location where it is located. Residents all live on different floors. Would we need one on every floor? We would also need to make sure that they were properly charged at all times, and we would have to ensure that staff are continually trained to operate it.
- What we do offer residents is that we would start CPR and call an ambulance.
- Alanna reported that there are very few residents who have given directives in their health care plan to be resuscitated. She stated that in the last 5 years, there have not been more than 1 or 2 people who have needed to be resuscitated.

12. Showing respect when someone passes:

- Sara wanted to share something that she has noticed at the Simkin Centre.

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Minutes**

**Thursday, May 18, 2017
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- She shared that there were a couple of residents who recently passed away here at the Simkin Centre. Residents have made it clear that when they pass away, they want to be taken out the front door, not out the back door with the trash.
- This has given us a good opportunity to give that resident and their family respect. Sara has noticed that when the body is leaving, staff stop and turn to face the body as the body is moving past them.
- Staff recognize that this is a normal part of life and is part of being at the Simkin Centre. This gesture touched Sara deeply and wanted to share this with the residents.
- The residents thanked her for sharing this. It really touched their hearts.

13. Reports:

13.1 Nursing Department

- Alanna reported that there have been some changes made on the units. Two Unit Coordinators are moving. The Coordinator from Simkin 2 is moving to Simkin 1. The Simkin 1 Coordinator is moving to Weinberg 2. The Weinberg 2 Coordinator is moving to Simkin 2.
- Interviews have been taking place to hire replacement staff for the summer to cover for staff who are taking their vacations. We want to avoid using agency staff if at all possible.

13.2 Spiritual Health Department

- At the end of May, we are celebrating the holiday of Shavout. This holiday celebrates dairy.
- The Shaarey Zedek Sisterhood came in and provided our Mother's Day Tea.
- Mathew Liable came to play the piano for us on Mother's Day. He is a rabbi in training. Cindy shared with residents that he plans to play for us once a month.
- Tracey Kasner plans to be here once a month.

13.3 Therapeutic Recreation Department

- We've hired 3 summer students with a grant that we applied for with Human Resources Development Canada. They will be here for 9 weeks.
- On June 13th, we have secured tickets to the Goldeye's Game. Alissa is organizing this outing.
- We are planning a 150 Canada Birthday Party. We've invited Terry Duguid our MP for this area and he plans to attend.



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- The Simkin Stroll is June 18th.
- Garage Sale will take place July 21st this year. Any money that we make goes back to Resident Council.

13.4 Dietary Services Department

- Valerie announced that we will have a new Maschgiach. Rabbi Moishe gave his resignation and his last day today. Irwin explained how the new Maschgiach will supervise the Centre. It was suggested that he come to the Resident Council meeting to introduce himself so that residents can get to know him.
- The department has had some staffing changes. There was a staff that retired, a staff that moved to a new position, and a staff member who left and decided to come back to work for us.
- The unit BBQ's will be starting in July.

14. **Beefs, Bouquets, and Suggestions:**

- A resident requested that the food presentation improve. Sometimes the food is brought to the table and the food is all on one side, squished together. This will be brought to the Food Services Department and will remain on the agenda.

Pending Items

- Netflix/Shomi and TCM Channel
- Tub Room Upgrade – Sub-Committee
- Maschgiach coming to a Resident Council meeting