

**The Simkin/Weinberg Resident Council
Minutes**

**Thursday, January 18, 2018
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.
- She stated that the items placed on the agenda are items that are carried over from previous months, or items that have been brought to her attention by residents. Items stay on the agenda until they are resolved. We don't always get the outcomes we want, but agenda items will always be addressed.
- There is always going to be a difference of opinion during our meetings. That is a good thing. Cindy reminded residents, however, that we want everyone to be respectful of other opinions.

- 2. Budget – November 2017:** The beginning balance for November was \$2,350.95. The monthly interest earned from the resident trust accounts was \$53.67. The expenses were \$251.06 for snow suits and \$10.97 for bird seed. The ending balance was \$2,142.59.

We spent \$251.06 on snow suits because the Council agreed to make a donation to Koats for Kids. We donated some new jackets and ski pants, hats and mitts – staff also brought in gently used items. We sent 12 boxes to Koats for Kids.

Cindy stated that Resident Council pays for Harry the Canary. The Simkin Centre pays for the fish and fish food.

The Council needs to spend more money. We should only have about \$1,000 in our account. Residents will think about items to purchase that will benefit most everyone. Resident Council also sponsors the Resident Welcome Baskets.

The Council also made a couple of donations last month. Cindy confirmed that those donations were made. She read a letter out loud from Siloam Mission thanking Residents for the donation.



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3. Correspondence:

- Two letters were prepared and read out loud. The letters were circulated for resident signatures.
- A suggestion was made to thank a volunteer whose name is Dorothy. She volunteers for a couple of different things. She plays the piano and is part of the No One Dies Alone program. The letter will be prepared and brought to the next meeting.

4. Tuck Shop Review:

- Cindy asked residents what they thought about the Tuck Shop and the items that were sold. None of the residents at the meeting have visited the Tuck Shop.
- Because none of the residents at this meeting have gone to the shop, this item will be left on the agenda for the next meeting.

5. March 8, 2018 Rabbi Green Farewell Party:

- Rabbi Green is retiring and moving to the States. He comes to the Simkin Centre once a month to volunteer, sharing music and discussion with residents. He has been volunteering here for many, many years.
- Staff are planning a farewell party for him on his last day.
- Cindy asked residents for ideas about food to serve and how to give him a thank you presentation. Residents gave several suggestions.
- A suggestion was made to have a member of Resident Council say a few words.

6. March 21, 2018 Cancer Society Daffodil Campaign:

- Cindy asked if there were any volunteers from Resident Council who would be interested in selling Daffodils on this day. This will stay on the agenda for next month while residents think about it.

7. New Call Bell System Update:

- We have a new call bell system that is being installed in the Simkin Building right now. It will be installed in the Weinberg Building next.
- Once the system is installed, residents will no longer wear a button to push.
- Education sessions will be conducted with residents on Simkin and with all residents once the system is fully in place.

8. Tub Room – Resident Showers Upgrade:

- Residents continue to voice that they don't enjoy their bathing experience because it is cold & drafty, the blue shower stretcher is very uncomfortable and the blanket doesn't always cover them.



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- We are still planning to upgrade the tub rooms to make them look a little bit nicer and feel warmer.
- At the last meeting, we agreed to get someone to come in and provide us with professional advice on the best way to design the tub rooms. Cindy found an interior designer. She plans to talk to her about some of the things we can do to make our tub rooms a little bit more inviting. Purchasing a towel warmer is one way we can improve the bathing experience.
- Once we get costs, we will look at doing some fundraising for this project.
- This will remain on the agenda.

9. Resident Council Members Who Have Passed – Sample Postcard:

- Resident Council decided to prepare a postcard to send to the family of a deceased Resident Council Member acknowledging their contribution to the Council. We want to let the family know that they will be missed.
- Cindy showed the Council the postcard and everyone liked it. It will be placed in the condolence card that the Board of Directors sends to families.

10. Residents' Bill of Rights Review and Approval:

- The Bill of Rights was distributed to the Council. Cindy reviewed the Rights with everyone. She read it out loud and had some discussion to ensure that everyone understood them.
- There were no changes suggested.
- **The Residents' Bill of Rights were approved by Resident Council, unanimously.**

11. Reports:

11.1 Nursing Department

- Alanna provided residents with an update on any influenza cases in the Centre. She explained to residents what happens if a resident gets the flu.
- She shared about the different medications we have to help a resident if they get the flu and to assist in alleviating the symptoms.
- Residents were given an explanation about how the medical system works at a Personal Care Home.

11.2 Spiritual Health Department and Therapeutic Recreation

- Spiritual Health is a department of 3 part-time people.



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- Residents were told that if they need assistance from Spiritual Health, let the nurses know so that someone from Spiritual Health will know to come and visit them.
- Residents were reminded that we have access to all different kinds of religions, although most of the residents are Jewish.
- Therapeutic Recreation produces a calendar every month of all the programs that are taking place at the Centre. Each floor has a recreation worker assigned to that floor.
- Cindy highlighted the different events coming up.

11.3 Dietary Services Department

- Starting next week, we will have a student spending 3 weeks with us. She is a dietitian student. Most of her time will be spent with the clinical dietitians, on the units. She will be working on various projects.
- The Department is preparing for Passover.
- Valerie asked for feedback on the bread being served at breakfast. Lately, the Dietary Aides tell her that not many people take the raisin bread. Residents gave their feedback and preferences. Valerie asked resident if they wanted the raisin break kept on the menu. They said that it would be good served as an evening snack, instead. This was a good idea that will be implemented.

12. Beefs, Bouquets, and Suggestions:

- A resident reported that she had an egg and cheese omelet that amazed her and was delicious.
- Marilyn asked residents if they were enjoying the radio station in the Atrium. Residents are enjoying the music. It cost us \$1,500 for the radio station to come to the Centre and broadcast live for the whole month. A person from our Board made that donation so that this was possible. Residents thought it would be nice to send that donor a thank you. This will be put on the next agenda under Correspondence.

NEXT MEETING: February 15, 2018 – 1:30pm in the Boardroom