

# CROSSLANDS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 6, 2017

## **Attendance:**

**Board Members Present:** Manya Bean, Ann Batley, Dick Baxter, Chuck Gosselink, Julie Knobil, Peter Lane, Bonnie Marcus, Bobbie O'Sullivan, Peg Parker, Jo-anne Smith, Elinor Thomforde, Sam Wagner, Sara Jane Withers, Louis Wonderly.

**Excused:** Lois Mulligan

**Administration:** Phil DeBaun, Meg Lemley

**Guest:** KRA representative – Charlotte Osgood

**Residents Present:** Phyllis Wenner, Elizabeth Rhoads, Art Franz, Tonie Franz, Del Tweedie, Sally Tweedie, Cynthia LaPara, Nicholas LaPara, Elva Pepper, Debby Kern, Connie Hill, Stephen Green, Julie Noolan, Jane Krick, Marge Moretzsohn, Charmaine Kissinger, Sue Manning, Juliet Lane, Margaret Newton, Gale Hamilton, Jean Barker, Jane Roberts, Barb Pusey, Randy Schofield, Betsy Walker, Jennifer Allcock, Joan Waller, Dick Kline, Thomas Swain, , Bob Suter, Valerie Suter, Judy Heald, Bill Keald, Brigitte Alexander, Serena Morrissey, Elizabeth Bainbridge, Mary Lee Barker, Julie DeWolff, dick Scheldt, Ruth Anderson, Paul Stevens, Robin Harper, Fanny Cracknell, Nancy Evoy, Joan Baker, Diana Stevens, Laura Tracy, Dale Kendall, Nancy Crowe, Bob Crowe, Isabel Olmsted, John Hurt, Joyce Hurt, Karen Satterthwaite, David Heckman, Mary Barlow, Helen Rowland, Florence Lim, Char Gosselink.

## **Pre- Meeting Announcement:**

Lou Wonderly

Prior to the meeting, President Lou Wonderly read a statement about the unauthorized use of the open boxes by a candidate in Tuesday's election. The candidate will be contacted, and the announcement will be posted on the CRA bulletin board.

## **Welcome and President's Remarks:**

Lou Wonderly

President Lou Wonderly called the meeting to order and remembered those who have died during the past month: Thomas Baldwin and Richard Sherrell. New residents, Diane and Herman Feissner were welcomed to the community. He also welcomed Charlotte Osgood from the KRA Board.

## **Staff Representative:**

Jeri Iacono

Lou introduced Jeri Iacono, the Life Enrichment Director (previously Activities) who gave a description of the activities of her group. She has a staff of three whose primary function is to help others. They organize the educational, social, music and exercise programs in Audland and Firbank. They also supervise the volunteer activities done with those residents such as water pitchers, clay, music, horticulture, reading aloud and many others. They work with dementia residents to help them participate in the activities. Their goal is to have the residents have fun.

## **Minutes:**

Lou Wonderly

The corrected minutes from the October 2, 2017 Board Meeting having been circulated earlier, were approved.

November 9, 2017

**KRA Board Meeting Report:**

Chuck Gosselink

The report on the October KRA meeting covered:

- The Farmhouse is being renovated, primarily the bathrooms and is expected to be completed by November 15.
- Repositioning group discussions will begin by the end of the month.
- Discussion of the plan being prepared by Donna Taylor and an ad hoc committee from the KCC Board and their fiscal committee to provide home services. She will be presenting to the whole KCC Board with the goal of having it included in the 2018 budget.
- Quaker Values as related to decision making.
- The Treasurer reported that with 25% of the year done, they have raised 75% of their income and spent 19% of the expected expenditures. They have raised ~ \$43K from 172 households.

**First Vice President's Report:**

Manya Bean

Manya Bean called on Julie Knobil to report on the June Concerns Session. Julie and Elinor Thomforde were the Board representatives at the session. One resident attended and asked to have a broken window replaced. Julie reported that the issue was referred to Meg Lemley. Meg said that the window is on order. The resident is pleased with the outcome.

Meg used this opportunity to review the status of a previous concerns item:

- The Ellerslie drainage problem has been addressed by Seth Beaver. New paving and a different drainage pattern will hopefully solve the ice problem in the area.

**Second Vice President's Report:**

Peg Parker

Peg Parker Introduced Dick Voldstad, Chair of the A/V Committee. Dick reported that Dick Baxter has been trouble getting roving mic volunteers. In the future, the committee will ask chairs to get volunteers if they plan on having a Q&A session as part of a program. Dick Baxter said that that would continue until they get enough volunteers to go back to central scheduling.

Peg announced that Char Gosselink, Chair of the Nominating Committee, has formed the committee. The members are: Char Gosselink - Chair, Elizabeth Rhoads - Vice Chair, Peter Lane, Betty Nathan, Peg Parker, Rudy Rudershausen and Dick Voldstad.

**Continuing Education Committee Proposal:**

Dick Kline

Dick Kline proposed the formation of a CRA Continuing Education Committee that will arrange short educational courses at Crosslands. Previous to this year, Michelle Berardi, Marketing Director has sponsored OLLI courses from Widener and required the participants to have paid the OLLI fee. For this fiscal year, the program will continue through OLLI and Widener and be supervised by the proposed committee members (Dick Kline, Jack Schultz, Karen Satterthwaite, Joan Waller). If the program is successful, it is proposed that two courses be held in the next fiscal year without OLLI/Widener involvement. The committee would then seek funding from the CRA; anticipated costs would be \$2500/course. Attendance at CRA-financed courses will be open to all KCC residents and their guests.

The CRA Board approved the formation of a Continuing Education Committee.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Sara Jane Withers

Sara Jane presented a new, shorter format that explains the "three pots of money" that the CRA has: reserves from previous years, restricted funds, net operating funds for the current fiscal year. It will be distributed to the residents who attend the monthly board meetings. All Board members will receive it and a full report. The shorter form and the full report will be posted on the bulletin board. The shorter report was very well received.

President Wonderly reported that Mike Duffy has resigned as Assistant Treasurer; Bonnie Marcus will serve temporarily until a new Assistant Treasurer is found.

## **President's Report:**

Lou Wonderly

Lou reported that the Employee Appreciation Fund letter has been sent to all residents in independent living. This fund is in lieu of tipping. The checks are made out to Kendal~Crosslands and distributed by the corporation to the recipients.

## **Administration Report**

Meg Lemley

Meg reported that after a search and many excellent candidates, John Platt has been appointed to the position of Senior Director of Culinary Services for K~C communities. He will officially begin November 15.

Occupancy at the end of October was 87.6% at Crosslands and 89.8% at Kendal: 88.7% overall. Conniston and Cartmel are approximately 100%. The numbers are roughly what the budget was predicated on.

There have been several very successful marketing events and several move-ins are scheduled for December.

Phil DeBaun

Open meetings on a mid-budget review were held by Ed Plaisha. There was a very good turn out and many questions.

The proposal for a home services program is coming together well and will be presented to the K~C Board in the near future.

K~C has received the national Award for Diversity and Inclusion from Leading Age. The program awarded was done by Kendal Longwood residents. They partnered with Swarthmore to form the Chester School for the Arts that now has approximately 500 students.

Phil discussed the tax reform bill currently being discussed in Congress. Leading Age, a CCRC umbrella group/lobbyist has asked that we advocate with our congressman to have the medical deduction remain. They have set up a link that will directly send emails to our congressman. Phil will send out a hard copy letter to all residents and will also send the link by email with instructions on how to use it. A question was raised as to whether it would also eliminate tax-free bonds which would affect the Kendal Corporation. Phil did not know about that.

## **Questions and Comments from Residents:**

- Isabel Olmsted: Thank you to Sara Jane Withers for the financial synopsis. She asked where John Platt would be sited in his new position. The answer was that it was up in the air currently because there are not that many offices but, he will be working at both sites.
- Bonnie Marcus: What is the job description of the Senior Director of Culinary Services. The job is a management position that is to bring all dining services together in order to

improve staff utilization and combine functions to get benefits of scale. Ultimately getting an Executive Chef to run the kitchens and having a more streamlined staff are the goals.

- Val Suter: How does a resident find out who are the members of the previously mentioned *ad hoc* resident committee on Home Care? Is there a list of the different types of committees and the membership? There is such a list for the CRA committees that is maintained by the second VP (Peg Parker), but there is not one for other committees. A suggestion was made that a list of the other committees with their charter/purpose and their membership be developed.
- Brigitte Alexander: Is there a disaster preparedness plan? KCC is working with the county to develop plans for a variety of disasters. Programs for assisted living and skilled nursing are in place; the difficult area is independent living. A program will be rolled out as the plan is completed.
- Isabel Olmsted: Make sure that the Leading Age information on tax reform be made available to people who do not have email so that they can send letters or call our congressmen. It will be done.
- Thomas Swain: Are checks for the Employee Appreciation Fund made out to the CRA or KCC and are they deductible? The checks are made out to KCC and according to the legal department are not deductible because they are in lieu of a tip, are added to an employee's compensation and taxed.
- Judy Heald: Make sure that the Leading Age info be sent in a way so that it is not identified as spam. The info will be sent in small batches.
- Paul Stevens: The KRA reported the amount of money collected for their budget and the number of households contributing. He would like the number of contributors added to the CRA reports. That will be done.
- Dick Scheldt: Send contact telephone numbers for the Leading Age information. That will be done. Is the group that was working with the kitchen still consulting? The group is Strategic Dining Services and they work one-on-one with the kitchen staff and groups to help them to improve their skills. This is paving the way to having an Executive Chef.
- Julie DeWolff: How is the money collected for the Employee Appreciation Fund handled – does the money donated at Crosslands stay here? The monies from Crosslands and Kendal are co-mingled and divided. This is done because many staff members work at all four communities. She also asked about the philanthropy Annual Report – are those donations deductible? The answer is Yes.
- Elizabeth Rhoads: She is the co-chair of the nominating committee, not chair. So noted.
- Phyllis Wenner: As a follow-up of Jeri Iacono's presentation, she said that more water pitcher volunteers are needed. The job is not only filling the water pitchers, but also spending some time talking to the residents and socializing.
- Nicholas LaPara: An Executive Chef should have experience and expertise in vegetarian cuisine.
- Dick Voldstad: The A/V Committee thanks the administration for the new wireless headsets that have been received in time for Amahl and the Night Visitors.
- Julie Noolan: Stated that water pitchers in Firbank are not filled unless the volunteers come to do it. Administration does not agree with that statement.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Marcus, Secretary