

Crosslands Culinary Services Committee Meeting ~ Thursday, June 8, 2023

Resident Committee Members: Joan Applegate, Emilie Barber, Donna Edwards, Dan Mahoney, Sue Manning, new member; Roger Parish, Penny Paul, Connie Schappell, Diana Stevens

Staff Committee Members: Jamie Hocking, Elizabeth Kautz, Darlene Parrett-Harris, John Platt, Tracy Sedlak, Casey Spizarny

Special Meals/Events in April/May: Seder, Passport Dinners, Kentucky Derby Party; Earth Day Dinner, Mother's Day Dinner, Easter Dinner were great successes and showed how busy Culinary was this spring.

Meeting Schedule and Venues: The next meeting will be Thursday, August 3, at 2:30 p.m. on Zoom. Thereafter, meetings will be held every other month in the George Fox Room.

Comment Card Reports for April and May: 75 different residents, including 5 from Audland, made 138 comments in April. In May, 65 residents, including 2 from Audland, made 101 comments. Comments were generally positive. Darlene continues to respond to suggestions residents make on their comment cards, for example, there was no fish selection Good Friday. The resident making the comment was contacted by Darlene and the comment is in the records for reference in 2024. Committee members are encouraged to suggest to residents they fill out comment cards, electronically or on paper, and to show appreciation to the Culinary Services staff with "thank you's" and smiles.

John Platt's Report: Culinary will start to return to "normal" June 12 with guests welcomed for all meals and take out hours in both the café and dining room. Increase in number of applications from local residents (Kennett Square, Unionville, etc.) which has not been the case for the last three years. Casey is moving applicants through the process so residents will see many new wait staff. Hiring cooks continues to be a challenge. The goal is to keep hiring, so there will not be a stop, go, stop go situation re: hours of operation and guests when college students return to classes in August. Sign-on bonuses for cooks and recruitment bonuses for current staff who recruit staff continue. There will be an article in the Daily Local about the money KCC high school grads received as a result of their participation in KCC's tuition aid program. John has been very involved with Kendal café redo project and the massive Kendal Health Center expansion. Culinary managed to deal with the problems associated with the new dish machine installation. John does not see any significant consequences of the disaffiliation for KCC culinary. He will collaborate with other Kendals and is looking into group purchasing with Entegra, the company the Kendals use. KCC is working towards signing their own separate agreement with Entegra. Culinary is also working with the Recycling Committee to educate residents about recycling of green and cardboard containers. It will be an ongoing process.