

AGENDA NILMA MEETING
ANNUAL MEETING of MEMBERS
JUNE 11, 2015
2:00 PM
GREAT MEADOW HALL

Call to Order	Len Green
President's Annual Report	Len Green
Approval of May 14, 2015 Meeting Minutes	
Old Business:	
Speed Bumps	All Council
Thank You and Goodbye to Departing Representatives:	
Raya Dreben and Gerald Sands	
Welcome to Incoming Representatives:	
Betty Taymor and Murray Staub	
Election of President	Conducted by Len Green
Election of Vice President and Secretary	New President
Appreciation Committee report	John Averell
Food Committee report	Herb Schwedock
Committee for IT Study report	John Averell
New Business	
Adjourn	

Call to Order

Len Green

Meeting was called to order at 2 PM by Len Green, President.

Present: NILMA members: Len Green, Raya Dreben, John Averell, Jay Berkson, Arnie Heiger, Bob Sandman, Gloria Lerner, Jerry Sands, Betty Rosencranz; with Steve Colwell, Marilyn Stone.

Absent: Howard Cohen, Sue Waxman

Present and seated as newly elected reps: Betty Taymor and Murray Staub

President's Annual Report

Len Green

Good Afternoon,

As many of you already know, the NILMA by-laws require the president to deliver an annual report, so the first order of business today will be that report, to be followed by the seating of new members to the Council and the election of officers for the coming year.

In reviewing the minutes of the past 12 months, it was interesting to read over the many diverse subjects we covered. In that respect, I have attempted to summarize the major issues and to omit the mundane.

First of all, and over the course of a few meetings, we discussed and approved, and subsequently modified a motion which remains in effect which says that any proposed change which substantially affects the living standards of Independent Living members shall be brought before a committee of 3, composed of the Executive Director of NB, and the president and VP of NILMA who will decide by majority vote if the proposed change shall be brought before the NILMA Council for discussion, before implementation.

The Finance Committee reported in July that the annual increase to our monthly fees effective October 1st would be 2.9% as compared to the expected rate increase of 4% and this reduction in the increase was due to the efforts of management as a result of an extensive and effective cost reduction program.

We discussed the efforts to suppress the noise and bumpiness of the bus rides, which were successful enough to get another year or so out of our busses before replacement is needed. We also discussed the height of seating in the rest rooms and the need for installation of grab bars, which resulted in elimination of just about all of the complaints in that respect.

Information Technology support complaints were discussed several times over the past 12 months, which resulted in some improvement to the IT staffing; and more recently, a new committee was formed to look into the overall, diverse needs of this IL community; more on that later

We discussed the clean-up and power washing of the patio following bar-b-ques and also the shredding of personal documents, where the 1st pound of paper is free and after that the cost of shredding is \$2/lb. Also the problems of opening and closing of rubbish chutes have been greatly relieved as a result of some changes suggested by the Council and Tom West.

We had some lengthy discussions on discourtesies displayed by some of our residents towards staff members and, I believe, there has been substantial improvement in that regard.

At the suggestion of Betty Rosencranz, emergency call pendants have been installed at each of the garage-elevator areas, and Arnie Heiger suggested the placement of wheelchairs in each of the garage-elevator areas, which also has been implemented.

Also it was discussed and agreed that Rabbi Judi will give to Kelly Hopkins the names of IL residents who have gone to rehab, for posting in the mail room, and residents can inquire as to whether those residents wish to see visitors.

Sal Filetti reported that the Food and Beverage department is operating with a running deficit of about \$9k per month and, as a result, he was undertaking a major review of menu offerings and their pricing. Subsequently Sal reported on the very extensive process underway, involving his staff and the Food Comm. to remedy the shortfall in revenue. This process included numerous meeting with his staff, floor meeting at nearly every floor, food comm. meetings, Community Meetings, and appearances at NILMA Council meetings to update us. This was a major undertaking and the changes were introduced over Nov. and Dec. and the results are still being assessed, both financial and resident satisfaction-wise. We will hear further from Sal and the Finance Comm. on results of this undertaking at future meetings.

Rabbi Herman Blumberg, rabbinic director of HSL Hospice introduced us to hospice care at NB and offered to visit every floor to provide a summary of hospice care at NBOC.

We had a discussion on ornamentation and artifacts including plantings outside the walls of a residence which is considered community property and it is understood that Steve Colwell has ultimate approval/disapproval authority.

We had two comprehensive reports by Gerry Berenholz on the activities of the Medical Practices Comm.

We also had a report by Nancy Kummer on the activities of the Trust and Transparency Comm. following which I asked Nancy to hold discussion with her committee on what is appropriate for holiday decorations for the upcoming holiday season. As a result, Nancy and Rabbi Judi together reported back on the results of their discussions, which also included Steve Colwell and Rabbi Sara-Paasche-Orlow, who is the Chaplain and Rabbi of all of HSL. Their final conclusion was to have Christmas decorations in the Copper Beech room for 5 days only, consisting of a live tree and poinsettias; and all other public spaces would remain neutral.

Next, we had discussion on whether the Food Committee should report to NILMA, with some residents feeling this would provide a direct conduit for IL members to express concerns and/or issues. After much talk, it was decided to have the Food Committee provide a report to NILMA on issues and proceedings for the next 3 to 4 months, instead of having the Food Committee become a NILMA committee, and we are currently proceeding on that basis. At our May meeting, the Food Comm. reported that several initiatives including limiting the number of dinner reservations for a particular time, in order to relieve the congestion in the kitchen, are being considered but none of these are resolved so we await further input from the Food Comm.

The subject of the \$5 transport fee for a member of Security to transport an IL member to the medical practice at NewBridge was the subject of 3 straight meetings with some members of the Council wishing to eliminate this charge and others feeling it should remain. After 3 discussions in a row, a motion to eliminate the transport charge was tabled. Make no mistake, there are strong feelings on both side of this question, and the question is still unresolved at this time.

The issue of the height of the speed bumps has been brought up again and remains an open item to be further discussed after our Floor Representatives discuss this issue with their respective floors and report back at a future meeting.

Also at our May meeting, a new committee on Information Technology was inaugurated, headed by John Averell and we expect to hear from this committee over the next few months.

Finally, we have completed some NILMA meetings in under an hour to the pleasure of some of our members. However, it is not an objective to see how short our meetings can be, but rather it is a tribute to my predecessors Sylvia Band, Peter Halfon, and Marilyn Stone that so many of our operating problems have been solved.

So we will continue to strive for shorter, issue-free meetings.

Before closing, I would like to pay respects to all of our IL friends and neighbors who have passed away and particularly to remember the 5 members who passed during the just preceding 4-week period:

Namely: Al Rosen, Ken Fradin, Gloria Rosenzweig, Harold Parritz, and Bobbi Goldberg

We lose many old and new-found friends but I fear this is the price we pay for the many conveniences we enjoy.

That concludes my report and I thank you for your attention.

Now we have a full agenda for our June NILMA meeting, but before transitioning to a formal NILMA Council meeting, this is an open Members' meeting, so are there any comments anyone would like to make?

If not, I thank you again for your attention and this Members' meeting is closed, and we will continue with the NILMA Council meeting which I now call to order.

Len Green, NILMA President

Approval of May 14, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of May 14 without change. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Speed Bumps

All Council

Len reviewed the discussion in the May meeting, in which floor representatives were asked to report back the opinions on whether the speed bumps should be eliminated, reduced in height, or left as is.

Raya reported that North-4 would like them reduced somewhat.

John reported that in North-1 at a previous meeting, there seemed no support for changes. His personal feeling was that at the posted speed of 15 mph, there should be no need to reduce the height, since it would only allow cars to continue at higher speeds, which is observed to be the case away from the bumps.

Len reported the opinions he has received are that they should be left as is, since they are a deterrent to speeding along Great Meadow Road.

Len announced that the question of speed bumps is closed for this session, pending future discussions that might arise.

Thank You and Goodbye to Departing Representatives:

Raya Dreben and Gerald Sands

Steve expressed his appreciation and thanks to Raya and Jerry for their outstanding contributions to NILMA and the community as a whole. As is traditional, a parting gift-bag was given to them both.

Len added his thanks to Raya for her assistance as vice-president this past year, and Chairwoman of the Bylaws committee in past years, and she will continue to be in the future. Jerry has been the floor rep for the Community Center the past four years. Special thanks for his energetic efforts to enhance our awareness of the rules for safety and sanitary conditions for our swimming pool.

Both Jerry and Raya spoke of their appreciation of the opportunity to serve on NILMA. Raya mentioned the experience as a learning experience of how management has been willing to seriously consider suggestions and requests from NILMA.

Len also thanked Marilyn Stone for the several important positions she has filled so well: floor rep for North-1 for four years, then last year as very effective president of NILMA, and this year as ex-president council member and monitor of our proceedings. Marilyn thanked all for the opportunity to serve as she watched NewBridge develop into a marvelous and warm community.

At this point the three departing members left the table.

Welcome to Incoming Representatives

Len welcomed and seated the two new Council members,
Betty Taymor representing the Community Center, and
Murray Staub representing North-4th floor

Election of President

Conducted by Len Green

Gloria Learner nominated Len Green for the office of President of the NILMA council. Several seconds were made. No other nominations were offered.

The vote for Len Green was passed by a wide majority. Len Green is the President for the coming year of NILMA.

Election of Vice President and Secretary

Len Green

John Averell nominated Betty Rosencrantz for the office of Vice-President of the NILMA council. Several seconds were made. No other nominations were offered.

The vote for Betty Rosencrantz was passed by a wide majority. Betty is the Vice President for the coming year of NILMA.

Arnie Heiger nominated John Averell for the office of Secretary of the NILMA council. Several seconds were made. No other nominations were offered.

The vote for John Averell was passed by a wide majority. John is the Secretary for the coming year of NILMA.

Appreciation Committee report

John Averell

John distributed to the council copies of the summary of this campaign's Appreciation Fund results, along with the summary from last year's report.

Independent Living Receipts (Spring 2015)				06/08/2015	Expected	\$280.00
Total Contributors	328	Contributing	318	No Gift	10	
Total Expected	\$91,840.00	Contributed	\$89,106.00	Reached	97%	
Assisted Living Receipts (Spring 2015)						
Total Contributors	50	Contributing	38	No Gift	12	
Total Expected	\$14,000.00	Contributed	\$10,939.00	Reached	78%	
Memory Support Receipts (Spring 2015)						
Total Contributors	32	Contributing	14	No Gift	18	
Total Expected	\$8,960.00	Contributed	\$3,810.00	Reached	43%	
Total Receipts (Spring 2015)						
Total Contributors	410	Contributing	370			
Total Expected	\$114,800.00	Contributed	\$103,855.00	Reached	90%	
STAFF APPRECIATION FUND DISTRIBUTION: Spring 2015						
Total Distributed		Total Qualified Employees				
\$110,000.00		244				
Average Check	Median Check	Maximum Check				
\$451.00	\$519.00	\$691.00				
Last year's summary presented at NILMA						
Independent Living Receipts (Spring 2014)				06/11/2014		
Total Contributors	330	Contributing	325	No Gift	5	
Total Expected	\$89,965.00	Contributed	\$89,906.00	Reached	100%	
None	Under	Equal	Over			
5	50	177	98			
2%	15%	54%	30%			
-\$1,375	-\$4,481	\$0	\$5,797			
Assisted Living Receipts (Spring 2014)						
Total Contributors	59	Contributing	45	No Gift	14	
Total Expected	\$15,942.40	Contributed	\$12,615.00	Reached	79%	
Memory Support Receipts (Spring 2014)						
Total Contributors	31	Contributing	11	No Gift	20	
Total Expected	\$8,441.44	Contributed	\$3,175.00	Reached	38%	
Total Receipts (Spring 2014)						
Total Contributors	420	Contributing	381			
Total Expected	\$114,348.84	Contributed	\$105,696.00	Reached	92%	
STAFF APPRECIATION FUND DISTRIBUTION: Spring 2014						
Total Distributed		Total Qualified Employees				
\$105,000.00		251				
Average Check	Median Check	Maximum Check				
\$418.00	\$466.00	\$638.00				

As Assistant Treasurer of the NewBridge Appreciation Fund, I'm pleased to report the successful conclusion of the Spring 2015 Appreciation Fund campaign.

The Fund received contributions from 370 NewBridge residents totaling \$103,855. Out of 328 Independent Living residents, 318 gave a total of \$89,106.

You have in hand a comparison of this campaign to the 2014 Spring campaign last year.

A total of \$110,000 was distributed to 244 NewBridge hourly employees. The amount distributed to each employee is based on the total number of hours each employee worked during the 26 weeks from the first Saturday in November through the first Saturday in May.

To show the residents' thanks and appreciation to the many hard working hourly workers who labor throughout the year in the Independent Living, Assisted Living and Memory Support communities, Appreciation checks are being distributed to those employees in the Winter Garden as I speak.

The whole success of the Appreciation Fund is possible only through the devoted efforts of many dedicated members of the committee, responsible for the distribution of letters, collection and recording of checks, follow-up contacts of residents, and organization and distribution of checks. We thank each person of the committee for making this such a happy day for our employees.

Arnie asked if employees had to be employed the entire six months of the campaign. John responded that is not the case. The only requirement is that they must be employed on the day that checks are distributed. They may have been employed anytime during the previous six months, and are credited with any hours worked for IL, AL, or associated MS facilities during that period.

Food Committee report

Herb Schwedock

Because of all the business before NILMA this afternoon, I shall give a brief summary of the Food Committee Meeting of June 4, 2015.

The new lunch menu has proven successful. The turkey wrap and the panini have both been well received. Some of the old menu items, such as Grilled Cheese and Tomato are still available upon request. There has been an increase in staffing during lunch, and an additional chef shall be brought in when necessary.

The Buffet Subcommittee reported that it has been decided to locate a new buffet unit in Centro. The purpose is to create more variety and choices for buffet dinners. The unit will include steam tables for hot food, refrigeration for the salad bar and under the counter refrigerators for keeping additional food at proper temperature. No funds have as yet been appropriated in the capital budget.

Staffing: We have 26 servers including 3 new hires. There are 5 additional servers in the process of being approved. The entire process can take 3-5 weeks from the initial interview. There will be another Hiring Fair on June 23 and 24th.

Nosh: Jeff Ingber acknowledged problems with the servers in Nosh. There should be 4 servers and Pauline on Saturday, but the week before last, 3 reported in sick.

Reservations: Reservations will be needed for all Friday night Communal Dinners and holiday meals. This will allow the proper amount of food to be prepared. The entire policy will be published in the Centro Times and at the community meeting. These were the highlights of the Food Committee meeting.

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of NILMA for your time.

Herb Schwedock/Dorrit Senior
Food Committee Co-chairs

Committee for IT Study report

John Averell

This is the initial report of the Committee for IT Study (CITS) to NILMA, June 11, 2015. The committee members are John Averell, Chairman, Jack Goldberg, Ed Goldstein, Jerry Zimmerman, Sam Lehrer, Charlie Blauer, and Arnie Heiger. An initial meeting was held on June 2 to establish the goals and process going forward.

The purpose of CITS is to detail the Information Technology problems that residents have encountered, and to work with our I.T. Department in setting out how these problems will be fixed, by whom, and inform residents of their options when possible.

It was decided that the first step is to establish the highest priority one or two items that we have encountered, especially those which can be fixed in a straightforward way with modest cost. Our choice is to help establish internet connectivity in all residences, both through wall ports (i.e. ethernet) and with a wireless signal that is sufficiently strong everywhere throughout all residences.

To that end we are asking to meet with Bob Pierce, manager of IT, and any others at his choice, to hear his suggestions and how we can help in assisting his department to meet residents requirements.

Len asked if the Committee wishes to be contacted by any IL residents who may have problems. John responded that in fact individual members are often contacted about problems, especially about internet connections, printer problems, not knowing how to run their computer or tablet. We probably have already heard just about any problem that could occur. Our aim is to put these together, try to decide who and where we can recommend they be fixed, whether our IT department, outside group, or inside resident help. At the moment, one-stop shopping (which means I.T.) is the first line of request for help.

Steve reinforced that I.T. through one-stop shopping is the first to be called. If there are complaints about service, he himself would like to know about it. The purpose of CITS is to establish communication between IT and residents, and to help set up ways for IT to collect data on how to fix problems. CITS is not meant to be a "fixit" group.

John responded that it may be that one of several recommendations would include a small resident technical group to be an early contact point where problems may be redirected to IT, an outside source, or perhaps a quick fix by a resident. This is a paradigm for some other communities, e.g. Orchard Cove. However, our population is far too large to handle all problems; on the other hand, I.T. is not staffed at present to handle the extraordinary diversity of hardware and software in an expeditious way.

Len reminded the audience of the memorial service for Sylvia Band the following day at GMH and at the Sylvia Band Grove.

Steve spoke to clarify that the Members Grove is actually a contribution from the members to NewBridge. It is appropriately named after Sylvia Band, as the first president of NILMA. Rather than being a memorial to Sylvia, its purpose is to reflect on how she helped our members to draw together and become the vibrant community we have become.

New Business

Arnie Heiger stated that for many years noise pollution has been a problem in Centro and Copper Beech. In 2012 a company, Accentec, was called to evaluate the problem and report back to the committee formed to remedy the issue. The glass wall erected between the kitchen and dining area was the result of this study. The result was not as effective as had been hoped. Other recommendations could not be carried out because the cost would not justify the benefits.

In Arnie's floor meeting, a vote was taken to form a new committee to reevaluate the noise abatement options. For this reason Arnie asked that a new committee be appointed by the President to investigate methods of reducing the noise in Centro and Copper Beech.

Accordingly, Len, by virtue of our bylaws, created an *ad hoc* committee for Study of Noise Abatement factors in Centro and adjoining dining areas. This committee is appointed initially for not more than one year.

Julian Bussgang is appointed Chairman of the committee. Julian will form his committee and report back to NILMA in a timely manner.

Adjourn

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried, and the meeting adjourned at 2:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John P. Averell". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name of the signatory.

John Averell, Recording Secretary