

AGENDA for NILMA MEETING
ANNUAL MEETING of MEMBERS
JUNE 8, 2017, 2:00 PM
GREAT MEADOW HALL

Call to Order	John Averell
Approval of May 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes	
President's Annual Report	John Averell
Old Business	
Thank You and Farewell to Departing Representatives: Howard Cohen, Suzanne Waxman, Len Green	
Welcome to and Seating of Incoming Representatives: Fran Shaer, Michael Ross, Dorrit Senior	
Election of President	Conducted by John Averell
Election of Vice President and Secretary	Conducted by New President
Report of Appreciation Committee	Peter Shapiro
New Business	
Adjourn	

MINUTES -- NILMA MEETING June 8, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

John Averell, President, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Representatives present: John Averell, David Goldman, Murray Staub, Mike Atlas, Jody Berkowitz, Sharon Gouveia, Len Green, Howard Cohen, Lorraine Gordon, Sue Waxman, Nancy Kummer

Guests: Steve Colwell, Peter Shapiro

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 11

Len Green moved to accept the minutes of May 11. Motion seconded by Mike Atlas. Lorraine Gordon moved to amend the minutes as follows:

When the representative of the Villas attempted to voice the concerns of her constituents about food take-out service, she was denied the floor. President John Averell declared that discussion of food would not be allowed at this NILMA meeting.

The motion to amend was seconded by Sue Waxman.

Without further discussion, the motion to amend was adopted with 9 ayes, 1 nay, 1 abstention. The minutes of May 11 are amended as above to be added to the New Business heading.

Report to NILMA by Steve Colwell

Steve stated his goal to make this the best community possible, and has asked all his managers to be creative to that end. He acknowledged the recent letter of realignment of the Programming department to have been an egregious error, and expressed his sorrow for what residents have been through recently. He read every email, and has spoken in detail to a number of residents on how best to proceed.

To that end Steve proposed to ask the incoming president to form a committee composed of about a half-dozen selected residents to meet with Steve, David Raider, and Steve Pepper (Director of HR), and discuss all things of concern - to tell administration what the concerns are about the department realignment, concerns about staff individuals, and how to make this a better community.

He asked us to consider how best to resolve disagreements, not to be adversarial, but rather to work as collaborators on solving problems. He expressed his willingness make the time to talk to anyone.

Steve gave as example the *ad hoc* group formed last year to discuss Hanukkah/Christmas decorations and celebrations in an appropriate fashion for Jewish and non-Jewish residents, with differing degrees of personal observance. The experience required negotiations and understanding, with not all completely satisfied, but with a plan that worked well for IL. He looks to a similar process between administration and residents to come to a satisfactory conclusion, involving communication with all residents.

To John's question, Steve stated he is specifically postponing all announcements in the letter sent out under David Raider's signature. The *ad hoc* committee, named the Programming Improvement Committee, will be formed by the incoming president, who will appoint about 6 residents to join Steve and others, as stated above.

John stated unwillingness to have further discussion at this time on the subject, but to allow the new committee to hear both sides, and residents' input,

and report back any resolutions to respective floors as requested. There was some dissatisfaction with this statement. Mike Atlas asked why the Resident-Administration Liason committee would not be used for this purpose. Steve would like to have this an open public dialog, whose discussions could be communicated to all residents. Steve expressed willingness to work with them in tandem, especially on private issues.

President's Annual Report

John Averell

The report is attached as a PDF file.

Old Business

No Old Business was brought up.

Thank You and Farewell to Departing Representatives

Howard Cohen, Suzanne Waxman, Len Green

President John recognized and thanked the three departing representatives for their faithful service and their representation of their voting units.

Steve Colwell added his personal thanks to the departing representatives, and presented them with certificates of appreciation and some token gifts.

Welcome to and Seating of Incoming Representatives:

President John welcomed the three incoming representatives:

Fran Shaer – North Floor 3

Michael Ross and Dorrit Senior – Cottages

Election of President

Conducted by John Averell

John called for nominations for President for the upcoming year 2017-2018. Nancy Kummer nominated David Goldman. Mike Atlas seconded the nominations. No additional nominations were made. David Goldman was elected unanimously for President by the Council. John turned over the position to David for the remainder of the meeting and in future.

Murray Staub offered thanks to John on behalf of the Council. Steve added his thanks, noting the difficulty of the position that no one but Past Presidents actually know.

Election of Vice President and Secretary

Conducted by David Goldman

David introduced his personal background as Communications, and his preference for use of email if possible.

David opened nominations for Vice-President. Dorrit nominated Michael Ross for Vice-President. There being no further nominations, Michael Ross was unanimously elected as Vice-President.

David noted that Lorraine Gordon, previous Secretary, has expressed a willingness to continue in that office in future, if and when her health allows, perhaps a few months. John has agreed to take the position *pro tem* if appointed for this meeting, but not on a permanent basis. There being no objection, John is acting Secretary.

Report of Appreciation Committee

Peter Shapiro

On behalf of the employees, Peter thanked all the residents in IL, AL, and the associated MS families, for their participation in donations to the NewBridge Appreciation Fund. 287 out of 358 total individuals have participated at this date, for a total received this campaign of \$107,435. Additional money has and will be contributed after this date, which will be available for our next campaign in the Fall.

A total of \$112,000 will be distributed on June 22 to 282 employees. The Average check is \$397; the Maximum is \$644; the Median is \$460 (meaning 50% of the employees received more than this figure).

Thanks are offered to the many members of the Appreciation Committee for all the work in collection of funds, creation of checks, and distribution to employees.

New Business

David thanked Dorrit Senior and Benita Ross, chairpersons of the Landscape Committee, for the excellent plantings around the entrance to NewBridge, and for their attention to the campus appearance. Applause from everyone.

David also asked for recycle bins to be placed in the West Vestibules at garage level to reduce the longer walk for west residents to their respective trash rooms.

Nancy asked that questions and comments raised by residents in floor meetings not get lost, and be communicated to the new committee. Murray suggested that committee members could be present at floor meetings to take part in the discussions. Steve felt that Community Meetings have too many people taking part, and that it would not be productive to a collaborative discussion.

Steve asked how we relieve the current distress. How do we move forward? Our goal is to lay it all on the table, and communicate freely. The vision has not been communicated adequately to residents. Steve and David believe that programming can be made to run better, service can be improved, better than it is now. Programming is the only department that is not responsible for the whole campus. Efficiencies can lead to improvements for IL.

Much discussion ensued. The process of the Committee is to ensure that residents have the opportunity to hear answers presented by management to the many questions raised, especially through floor meetings, and to work together to reach decisions on what to present to administration at NILMA meetings as group recommendations.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made and passed unanimously at 3:05pm

Respectively submitted,
John Averell, Secretary *pro tem*