

NILMA MEETING MINUTES

August 8th, 2019

Michael Ross called the meeting to order at 2.00PM

Attendees: Michael Ross (President), Sharon Gouveia (Vice President), David Goldman, Norman Berkowitz, Ernest Greenberg, Barbara Naditch, Richard Medverd, (for Jay Berkson), Judy Stavis, Alan Ades, Fay Bussgang, Dorrit Senior (Secretary).
Guests: Stephen Colwell, Joel Jones

Michael Ross called for the approval of the July 11th minutes.
The approval was moved, seconded, and approved by acclamation.

Food and Beverage report of meetings with residents: Joel Jones, Director of Restaurants, mentioned how impressed he was with the dining room discussions that had taken place at the various floor meetings with representatives of the Food and Beverage staff and encouraged that they continue.

He then explained the changes that will take place in the store beginning October 1st., as previously presented at the Community meeting. The inventory in the store will be simplified. More essential items will be stocked whereas luxury items will not be offered anymore. This move will result in the cost of items being greatly reduced. Items purchased in the store can then be paid by cash, debit or credit card, or simply added to the monthly bill, but food credits will not be able to be used.

He also discussed the situation concerning the Dedham Food Pantry. It was estimated that the DFP received approximately \$20,000 worth of food annually from the store but would benefit far more with cash donations from Newbridge residents. Joel explained that these changes were necessary in order to avoid an increase in rent for residents.

Sharon Gouveia informed members that the Outreach Committee and Rabbi Judi had decided to focus on one month a year to publicize the good work of the Dedham Food Pantry, and that residents could make personal donations. November was to be the month of focus this year, 2019. Both she and Rabbi Judi were willing to discuss this situation at floor meetings.

Joel also announced with great enthusiasm the hiring of Abigail Caulkins as General Manager for Centro. She has excellent credentials and is to begin work on August 26th.

Joel described the new, computerized reservation system that will commence on a try-out basis at the beginning of September. The website, Easytablebooking.com is user friendly and a group of residents chosen from a sign-up sheet will have some

preliminary training. In addition to the convenience of this approach, the system should eliminate double booking. At a later date, hopefully the system will be extended for use in making reservations at Nosh.

In addition to using their own computers, residents will be able to use the computer terminal in the Terrace Room to make reservations, and also will still be able to make their reservations by calling Centro.

Lastly, Joel announced that he and Chef Tom were looking toward an end- of summer finale.

A question was raised about noise in the dining room from dishes being cleared while residents were still dining. This situation had been taken care of.

Charges for food delivery to apartments, villas and cottages: Barbara Naditch questioned this, and Joel clarified the situation. Unless a resident is sick with a contagious illness or recovering from surgery there is a charge.

Hostess Stand: Fay Bussgang felt that there should always be two persons on duty, one to greet and check resident reservations and another to seat diners. Joel agreed and a bus person had been assigned to seat diners.

Michael Ross thanked Joel for all the information he had provided members.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST TO THE COMMUNITY

Barbara Naditch brought up the subject of entertainment. Fay Bussgang mentioned that Larissa Levich, Director of Programs had attended her floor meeting to discuss this.

Alan Ades questioned the painting of the new speed bumps. He was informed that the bumps required "curing" and the painting would take place shortly.

Barbara Naditch requested an update of the overall painting at Newbridge. Stephen Colwell informed her that the painters were finishing up at the Health Centre and would be moving to paint Independent Living next year.

Alan Ades questioned the hand held watering to supplement the drip system. Ernest Greenberg explained that the newly planted plants needed hand watering to ensure their growth.

It was requested that members try not to conflict their meeting times with that of the Outreach Committee that met the first Tuesday of every month from 3.30PM to 4.30PM.

Several other items were raised which would benefit from resident input to their respective NILMA representatives. Michael Ross asked that members discuss these items at their floor meetings:

- Lighting of the copper beech tree
- Possible extension of the Coffee Connection to include a Saturday to the existing Tuesday and Thursday
- Meadow outside Nash: Dorrit Senior, Ernest Greenberg and Stephen Colwell discussed the possibilities of allowing the grass to grow higher again to create a meadow like appearance.
- Entertainment and programing: The Community Life department, monthly gathering: Sharon Gouveia, Shana Sklar, Community Care Advisor, and Nancy Vega, Program Administrator, were hosting on August 24th at 2.00PM. The details would be forthcoming. Other ideas included book clubs, and movie groups
- Face-to Face. Norman Berkowitz suggested that this program be reinstated

Adjourn

Michael Ross asked for adjournment and the meeting ended at 2.45PM

Signed

Dorrit Senior (Secretary).