

DWELLING PLACE OF GRAND RAPIDS
RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

August 4, 2020

Committee Approved September 1, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT Bill Anderson, Dondrea Brown, Annamarie Buller, Leah Carpenter, Kristin Moretto, Tommie Wallace

STAFF PRESENT Kim Cross, Heather Ibrahim, Zoe Post, Jenn Schaub, Latrisha Sosebee, Dennis Sturtevant

The meeting was convened at 10:04 AM by Ms. Buller.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES **Approval of the June 2, 2020 and July 7, 2020 meeting minutes were approved by motion of Tommie Wallace, seconded by Annamarie Buller, and carried unanimously.**

RESIDENT SERVICES COORDINATORS **Resident Services**

RSCs are working with residents who are late or behind on rent to determine what is affecting their ability to pay rent. Residents may develop payment plans or receive rental assistance funded by grants from United Way and NeighborWorks depending on their situation to prevent eviction and the spread of COVID-19.

Financial Capability

Seven residents from 6 properties are currently involved in a financial capabilities program called “Mindful Money” led by two coaches—Tammy Karas (United Bank) and Grace Thuo (Dwelling Place)—in partnership with online courses at My Money University. Five cohort meetings will be held via Zoom with individual follow-up coaching sessions. This program will meet the requirements of the future CLT homeownership program.

Community Arts

An online drum class led by a local drummer and funded by MCACA took place with about 10 residents; if participants are able to complete all four classes, they may keep the bongo drums provided to them.

Artist Keyon Lovett created a mural at Weston inspired by feedback from residents describing their one wish for the world.

Rena Wallace will paint a series of images for the community space at White River Estates in Hesperia and may lead a community engagement art project at the property next summer.

“Lean In,” a sculpture by Lee Brown, has been partially funded and will be installed at Roosevelt Apartments’ Little Slice of Heaven Park in the spring.

Resident Leadership

Comprenew will provide computers for members of Resident Leadership Councils to check out and use for RLC meetings.

**RESIDENT
SATISFACTION
SURVEY RESULTS**

At the next meeting, the committee will review the resident satisfaction survey and discuss what feedback is most important for the committee to measure and how to improve resident engagement in the future.

**BRATSCHIE AWARD
BOARD**

A committee with staff and board members will convene in September and October for a total of about 3.5 hours to evaluate candidates for the Larry Bratschie Award. The committee is currently looking for an additional board member to serve on the committee. Mr. Brown expressed his interest in joining as well. Ms. Sosebee will send information about the Bratschie Award to the committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The Resident Engagement Committee was adjourned at 11:02 AM by Ms. Buller.