

**Minutes of the KRA Board Meeting
November 13, 2023
In the auditorium and on Zoom**

Board Members: Frank Czeiner, Carolyn Gibson, Fred Thompson, Marilyn van Renterghem, Ellen Gay, Richard King, Dave Elder, Gretchen Wright, Beth Frederick, Betsy Wenny, Daniel Kegan, Ellen Shillinglaw, Steve Michaels, Jeff Lavine, Tat Smith, Carol Clapham, Libby Rupp

Absent: Marj McCann,

Administration: Lisa Marsilio, CEO, Donna Taylor, Chief Health Officer, Seth Beaver, Vice President for Community Affairs, Michele Berardi, Director of Public Relations; Roy Manno, Director of Facilities, Ed Plasha, CFO,

Absent: Quiana Pettiford, Senior Director of Human Resources

Crosslands Observers: Julie Knobil

President Frank Czeiner welcomed residents, staff, guests, and Crosslands observer, Julie Knobil. He also welcomed new residents Bev Engiles and Radhi Riley as well as new residents from last month Deb and Jerry Geppert and Rich and Becky Abel, none of whom were present.

He then recognized members of the Culinary Staff, who were present, for the many exceptional events and meals and the effort they took in preparing them for the 50th Anniversary Celebrations. Applause followed.

There was a moment of silence in preparation for the meeting and in memory of deceased residents since the last KRA meeting: Phil Dewey, Christa Vanderbilt, and Sandra Rowland.

The minutes of the October 9 KRA meeting were approved by the Board.

President's Report:

50th Anniversary Activities –Many resident groups and individuals were involved in creating activities celebrating Kendal's 50th Anniversary culminating in October 2023. The various Thursday night offerings by the Culinary Staff provided an opportunity for residents to joyfully be together and look back and reflect on Kendal's beginnings before starting to create our future together.

Values in Practice Task Force - Frank Czeiner asked the KRA Board to approve the formation of a Values in Practice Task Force with the charge of **“Explore how the Kendal community puts the KCC Values into practice, determine how best to share those practices with one another and our community, and recommend ongoing strategies to help us live our values with intention.”** The Task Force will be chaired by Betty Warner, and include KRA past Presidents: Ruth Greenberger, Susanna Davison, Margie Herbert and Ernie Kimmel, and current KRA Board members: Ellen Gay, Daniel Kegan, Richard King, Marj McCann, Dave Elder and Betsy Wenny. The Task Force will hold open sessions with residents who wish to participate followed by a final report to the KRA Board in the Spring of 2024 after which it

will disband. The Board approved the proposal. Crosslands is undertaking a similar activity. The Kendal Task Force will be in communication with them and the two groups will mutually share insights.

Kendal resident donations to various funds - The KCC Philanthropy Committee will be requesting tax deductible donations for the new Health Center commencing in February 2024 in lieu of the regular charitable annual appeal. The article in the recent issue of the Currents was incorrect. So as not to have two fundraising requests at the same time, the usual KRA fundraising that occurred in February was moved to October 2023 for the 2024-25 fiscal year which begins July 1 2024. This has created some resident confusion. These donations are not tax deductible. The remaining two KCC fundraisers, which are in lieu of tips, are for Staff Appreciation. The current request is for the Employee Appreciation Holiday Fund and the Employee Appreciation Vacation Fund takes place in the Spring. The money derived from these funds is distributed based on a formula using hours worked during that period and years of service. Senior staff is not eligible for these funds. Recognizing the extraordinary efforts of staff this year, residents are encouraged to give generously.

Friday Lounge Chats - An agreement was made at one of the September Lounge Chats to not include discussions of past KCC decisions. These topics are beyond the role of the KRA and had led to some uncomfortable interactions. Please consider attending future sessions and bring your thoughts, ideas and stories about life at Kendal to share with fellow residents.

President Elect Report: Carolyn Gibson introduced Activity and Committee reports.

Sound and Light – Lazlo Szabo appealed for volunteers for the Sound and Light Committee. The volunteer spirit of residents is the essential factor making Kendal the special community that it is. The Sound and Light (audio/visual) Committee began in 1974 as an organized support committee for facilitating performances and other gatherings in the auditorium. This changed during the Covid lockdown but the arrival of Zoom presented a new possibility for virtual gathering of residents. Post Covid with the reopening of the auditorium, a new form of gathering, hybrid, enabled a gathering comprised of the residents in the auditorium and those on Zoom. Some members have retired from the committee and with the additional services provided, the Committee is in extreme need of volunteers. Training and assistance are provided to members and prior audio/visual equipment knowledge is not necessary. Interested residents should contact an S and L member, drop a note in open mailbox 297 or send an email to Sound and Light at kenauditorium@gmail.com.

Holiday Craft Sale – Beth Frederick announced that there would be an upcoming organizational meeting on November 15 to prepare for the Kendal Holiday Sale scheduled for Thursday, December 7. The organizational meeting is open to all interested residents. Setup for the sale will take place on Wednesday, December 6th in the Auditorium beginning at 9:00 a.m. On that same day, starting at 4:30 p.m. through 8:30 p.m., the doors of the Auditorium will be opened for people to preview the sale items. NO items will be sold during the preview hours. The Kendal Holiday Sale will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue through 5:00 p.m. on Thursday December 7.

Treasure Shelves – This report was postponed till the December KRA meeting.

Currents – Libby Rupp expressed how lucky Kendal is to have a communication device such as the Currents which is published on the website and in hard copy for those who wish it. Hard copy is available from Margie Herbert or Susanna Davison. It is written and edited by residents about things that go on at Kendal and it's produced 8 times a year. The theme of the current issue is Generosity.

Treasurer's Report: Fred Thompson reported on the financial results, he pointed out that our money market balance is significantly higher this month as a result of our successful fund drive which was conducted for the 2024-25 fiscal year. The \$51,408 which was received will not be available until July 1, 2024. The next KRA fundraising campaign will not be held until January 2025. Fund raising would normally occur in February 2024. Expenditures are 21 per cent of budget for the first four months of the year.

He described the Winchell Fund Account, which was established in 2018 by resident Anthony Winchell, in memory of his wife, Harriet, to support the purchase of books, DVD's and equipment for the Kendal Library and is to be depleted in 10 years or less. Any questions should be referred to Cathleen Szabo or Sue Goehringer in the library.

Budget and Finance Committee: Steve Michaels announced that to date we had exceeded our goal of \$50,000 by \$1,593. We received 292 check donations averaging \$255. 285 individuals contributed an average of \$181. He gave shout outs to John Bennett and Lois Fritsche for their website postings, Mary Lavine for her taking care of channel nine, Howard Hctor for creating the poster, Bert Bacon who again did the graph for the KRA Bulletin Board, and the KRA Budget and Finance Committee.

Bells Funding Request for Chimes – The Budget and Finance Committee received a request for \$826 to fund chimes for the Bell Ringers.

50th Anniversary Mural Funding Request – The Budget and Finance Committee also received a request of \$1,960.00 to preserve the mural. The Committee recommends that the KRA Board approve these expenses. The requests were approved by the Board.

Standing Committee Reports: Appointments Committee – Gretchen Wright reported that the Appointments Committee met and reviewed the applications for the vacancy on the Interior Design and Décor Committee and they are recommending the Board approve Ruth Frances to fill that vacancy. The Board approved the request.

The Appointments Committee is now recruiting two members for the Culinary Committee. The advertisement will be posted on the bulletin boards and on the website. Gretchen encouraged that applicants read the ad carefully and in applying applicants should explain why they would be a good fit for the Committee.

Once the Culinary Committee vacancy is filled, they will be recruiting for the Four Communities Environmental Services Committee.

Other Items:

Listening Post: - Dave Elder and Richard King - Two residents came with issues.

Dave Elder reported that a resident had asked what the policy was for staff to use the aquatic facilities in the Wellness center, since she had heard about a payment of fees. Antonio Sofia stated that staff may use the aquatic facilities as well as the gym equipment for free, but from time-to-time

staff are offered an afterhours swimming program for which there is a modest fee for those who choose to take part.

Richard King said the next resident asked about the policy regarding gardens of contracted but uninhabited residences which are not cared for. The question was referred to Grounds and they have a process for going forward with that so it is resolved.

Frank Czeiner explained that questions regarding the Community may be addressed by going to the Listening Post at 9:30 a.m. the fourth Monday of the month in the Conference Room.

CRA Observer: Daniel Kegan attended the CRA Board meeting on Monday, November 6. According to Bob Shipman, Chair of the Arboretum Committee, the 2020 tree inventory included 2400 trees, of which 250-300 are along the 5 Loop Walks. (CRA Arboretum page reports 7 Loop Walks, with 226 trees.) There are numbered brass disk medallions generally on north side of tree (on branches of thin trees). There is a website <KEArboretum.org/all-trees-inventory> for a searchable database of Brass Tag Numbers, Botanical Names, and Common Names; enter the search term at column head. (on Safari the menu is on the hamburger icon, Chrome & Firefox on the header index).

Two new committees have been created: New Essential Tremor/ Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group and Asian Mahjong committee.

Rick Spackman noticed the "Brown Pelican" picture, a resident donation some years ago. It is an original Audubon print. There is a committee deciding what to do with it.

Administration Reports: Lisa Marsilio began by thanking Frank for recognizing our Culinary Department for the magnificent job they have done throughout the year, particularly the two marvelous events they had back-to-back with several hundred residents at the first and close to 100 Board members and people from the outreach community at the second. She also thanked the team who worked on the disaffiliation process. We are officially off the network, without a hitch, as of October 31. The payroll network should be off by the end of the year leaving us on our own. We are continuing to work through the trust agreement and the co-existence agreement with the Kendal Corporation. KCC owns the name (brand) but it's taking some time to get it into the Trust. The KCC Board meets tomorrow and on Wednesday Nov 15, Ed Plasha will present the 2024 Budget at an open Forum and dialogue.

Seth Beaver recognized the loss of our dear friend Calvin Pickel, a long-time staff member and resident of Crosslands. He worked here from the beginning and his dedication is worth celebrating. We are in a much better spot as regards the culinary staff although some are out on medical leave. Staffing is also improving throughout the operations departments.

The Café renovation is moving along well and should be completed by late January with the exception of some back ordered chairs.

Final pricing on the Kendal Health Center is due on December 8. A Community wide meeting will be scheduled around mid-December. We are still hoping to start in February 2024. Seth is currently interviewing for a Project Manager position, reporting to him, with the responsibility of managing the construction.

A sub-committee of the 4 Community Woods Committee and some other residents are working on a focus group on the spray field for the treatment plant. A consultant, who has expertise, has been engaged to ensure that the spray field is managed appropriately and planned for longevity.

Roy Manno shared a safety update which included No Parking Zones which are labeled with signs such as: medical or other restricted services or departments; loading dock areas; clearly marked fire lanes; ambulance parking; and handicapped spaces without a handicap tag or license plate; or fire hydrants are all places where residents should not park.

The Safety Forum will be in the auditorium this Thursday at 1:00 p.m.

We have put out a request for an energy audit proposal for the two Communities focusing on the Community and Health Centers where we use most of our energy.

An appraiser, who came to look at the brown pelican, found an original Wyeth pencil drawing and three or four paintings which he thought were of interest and he is researching. A report to the residents will be forthcoming in 2024.

Donna Taylor reported an uptick in Covid among residents and staff and said she would return to posting the Covid dashboard so residents can know the risk.

Over the past year and a half, the Rehab Services Department has provided services at Barclay Friends under a separate contract. To better meet their financial goals, Barclay Friends has decided to contract with another external rehab company as of January 31. This is not a reflection on the services they received.

Donna apologized for the errors and miscommunication which have occurred with the Pharmacy services transition over the past six weeks. Despite all the efforts and planning, a transition that should have gone smoothly has been “a mess”. Staff has been working very diligently to get this fixed so residents have no interruption in their services. We have had many meetings with the Pharmacy and have identified areas where they can be held accountable. Should the Pharmacy not be successful in correcting the issues, we are also investigating and interviewing alternative off site Pharmacies. Because this has caused an additional workload and frustration in our Resident Care Department, additional support is being provided by per diem nurses and they are temporarily closing Resident Care on Wednesday mornings. She ended by saying we have to fix what’s happening now before we can make any changes in the future.

Michele Berardi announced that Representative Christina Sappy and a representative from John Kane’s office each presented us with a citation for our 50th Anniversary during the event for local dignitaries. They are part of the historical record and they will be put in the library along with the other five documents we have received over the years where residents can see them.

The Administration was happy to see CEO Christine McDonald from Friends Home in Kennett here. KCC’s Website is live and unique to our Life Care Community. Those on social media should feel free to “Like, Comment, Share” any of our social posts which will get the word out globally about what we are doing.

We have a vibrant, fresh ,new logo with other colors and a leaf added to the green and blue. Contact Michele if you need a jpeg for any branding you do internally and it will be provided.

She thanked CRA representative, Julie Knobil, for being a model in a training video made for Warfel.

Ed Plasha began by echoing Lisa’s appreciation for the staff’s work on the disaffiliation.

The budget has been before the Resident Finance Communication Committee three times; the Board Finance Committee reviewed it on a couple of occasions along with the Board Property Committee and it will go to the KCC Board for final approval tomorrow. The community is encouraged to attend a budget presentation on Wednesday. It is good news compared to last year.

Announcements:

Frank Czeiner mentioned that Christine McDonald's parents, Joe and Barbara Reardon, are new residents at Kendal.

Frank thanked Lisa and her staff for opening the Worth Building for us to go through. Ed Plasha added that residents commented on the finishes in the building and the amenities in the kitchen all of which were added by Kendal Corp. We only repainted and recarpeted.

Shout Outs:

The following people called for Shout Outs:

Gretchen Wright to the Floral Arrangers who keep our hallways so beautiful and Administration who pays for the flowers.

Louise Bennett to the Maintenance Department who disposed of exploding batteries for her.

Ellen Gay to Resident Care who went to great lengths to get her much needed meds.

Margie Herbert to photographers, Bob Warner and Glenn Marshall, for their work on Currents as well as the Currents editors.

Leslie Leonard to the 50th Anniversary Committee who did an outstanding job.

George Alexander appreciated the effort that Ellen Rose and Susan Thompson put in to Art in the Hallway and the amazing talent in this place.

Carolyn Gibson to Betty Warner for her series on Kendal history.

Frank Czeiner for all the work that Charlie and Sara Hill do with the Digital Archives.

Jane Stewart to the KRA President and President Elect for continuing the Lounge Chats.

Richard King to the Lower Gardens which has contributed almost 600 pounds of food to the Food Cupboard especially Judy Goodkind for a spectacular job organizing it.

Karen Halstead wanted to send the Culinary Staff to Costa Rica because a Shout Out isn't enough.

Questions or Comments:

Karen Halstead made a pitch for the Gateway Shop which needs volunteers. The Gateway Shop will be selling new items. Any time you need transportation call Richard Jackson. People need a reminder of what the Emergency Number is.

Libby Rupp asked how much time the Pharmacy had before Kendal "goes to plan B". Donna Taylor said the contract states that the Pharmacy must have a minimum of 30 days notice and a maximum of 60 days notice, but no changes will be made before we have done our due diligence.

Laslo wanted to thank Roy Manno and his staff for manually handling the stage curtain and asked what the status of the stage curtain is. Roy responded that we have received the motor and are lining up a sub-contractor to install it.

Judy Goodkind asked about the phrase "transforming the process of aging". Michele responded that it is a Kendal Corp trademark and we can no longer use it.

George Alexander questioned if the KRA would adopt the CRA Energy Resolution of last month.

Frank responded that it had not been discussed by the KRA Board.

George also asked about the full story of the time the escaped convict was in our area. Roy Manno responded that a summary of the after-action report will be presented to both communities. It has already been shared with the Employee Safety Committee.

Mary Lou Parker said that when a neighbor fell from her wheel chair several nights ago, she called the emergency number and within three minutes three people came to help her up. She wanted to thank the Westmorland staff for responding so quickly. Seth Beaver said if there is an emergency and you are in your apartment, don't worry about the emergency number just pull the emergency cord.

Karen Halstead pointed out that the donations in the Employee Appreciation Fund don't all go to Kendal staff. Ed Plasha will touch on that at the Budget Presentation.

Louise Bennett brought up the blinking lights in the dining room making people uncomfortable.

Secondly how to make people aware of how to use channel 15 in Westmorland. Roy will have the blinking lights looked into. Lazlo said while some of the nursing staff may have a problem dealing with Channel 15, but people in Activities, Jan's group, and Curtis try to take care of it or call Sound and Light. TV will be more standardized in the new Health Center. For now, contact Sarah or Jan for assistance.

Gretchen Wright announced that the next CCRC Council meeting will be December 12 at Wesley Enhanced Living in Media and she can take two guests. The discussion will be "The Role of the Nurse Practitioner in a CCRC". Let her know if you want to attend.

Leslie Leonard would like a complete list of staff phone and email numbers on the website. Seth will check on the status of that.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn van Renterghem

