

**Minutes of the KRA Board Meeting
December 11, 2023
In the Auditorium and on Zoom**

Board Members: Frank Czeiner, Carolyn Gibson, Fred Thompson, Marj McCann, 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: No One

Administration: Lisa Marsilio, CEO, Donna Taylor, Chief Health Officer, Seth Beaver, Vice President for Community Affairs, Michele Berardi, Director of Public Relation, Quiana Pettiford, Senior Director of Human Resources, Roy Manno, Director of Facilities

Absent: Ed Plasha, CFO

Crosslands Observers: Debbie Borton

President Frank Czeiner welcomed residents, staff, guests, and Crosslands observer, Debbie Borton. He also welcomed new residents Susan Rosenstock #81, Judy and Bill Patterson #119, Robert (Bob) Jimison #107. .

There was a moment of silence in preparation for the meeting and in memory of deceased resident since the last KRA meeting: Mary Porter.

The minutes of the November 13 KRA meeting were approved by the Board.

President's Report: Frank Czeiner recalled that at the November Board Meeting, a resident asked that the Board request "The KCC Administration take action in reducing our carbon footprint and improving sustainability in general". As a result, Frank checked the new KCC website, <https://www.kendal-crosslands.org> to see what statements were there concerning this topic. Under the Values tab is the Stewardship tab where he found the following statement; "Kendal-Crosslands believes sustainability is more than just a policy goal-it's something we have to act on every day in order to be forward-leading environmental stewards." He feels it is redundant to ask the KCC Administration to repeat their stated position.

There is an effort to bring Independent Living Residents and Health Center Residents together more than during Covid days. A group comprised of staff and residents is working on this. Ellen Shillinglaw, our representative, reported that at their last monthly meeting, she learned of a plan that was developed to ease the transition of the 15 or so initial residents who will have to move from their rooms as a result of the Health Center renovation. This will be a huge disruption and it is incumbent on Independent Living Residents to assist in this endeavor. Information can be found on the Kendal Website under Moving Buddies.

On December 20 at 10:30 a.m. , there will be a presentation updating the details of the renovation of the Health Center with the architects and a financial review by Ed Plasha.

The 50th Anniversary Committee has requested that the Committee be officially disbanded after the year's work and the many activities they organized and coordinated. The Board officially disbanded the committee.

The Employee Appreciation Fund received donations of approximately \$59,000 by Kendal Residents with a grand total of \$147,000 by the four Communities.

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

Holiday Craft Sale – Beth Frederick reported that the Holiday Craft Sale, which was held December 7 in the auditorium, had items of exceptional quality representing countless hours of work by residents. At the preview, residents exclaimed “This is what Kendal is all about. This is who we are”. A combination of residents and staff made set up go quickly and smoothly. The sale yielded \$7,400 which is \$1,400 more than last year’s sale. All sale proceeds go to the KRA to support activities and programs. She called for and received a hearty round of applause.

Committee Fair – Richard King announced that he and Gretchen Wright will organize, plan and sponsor a Committee Fair in 2024. In anticipation of the event, he will convene a meeting of all committee chairs in the auditorium the third or fourth week in January. Two goals of the Committee Fair are to provide residents the opportunity to see what the committees are doing and to provide the committees with resident participation in committees of interest. At the January meeting committee chairs should be ready to contribute ideas to improve preliminary planning for the Committee Fair.

Treasure Shelves – Judith Downing said the Treasure Shelves, a wonderful resource, are located in the lower level of the Center where small personal or household items may be donated. Donated items may be left on the cart across from the shelves to be priced. All clean items in reasonably good condition which might be attractive to residents, staff, guests and families are welcomed. Item prices range from free to three dollars or more depending on the value and salability of the item. Cash payments may be made in the money box to the right of the shelves and all proceeds go to the KRA and the DuPont Employees Support Fund. Items that haven’t sold are donated to Greendrop or the Community Warehouse. Any questions or suggestions should be referred to Judith Downing or Barbara Parsons. Judith read a poem by Gwen Isaacs that was published in the current “As You Like It” called “Ode to the Treasurer Shelves”.

Random Dinners – Barbara Mamlet explained that the Random Dinners was created to enable residents, who may not feel comfortable going to dinner in the dining room alone, to sit with people randomly selected. The committee consists of Carol Clapham, Ruth Frances, Karen Cromley and herself.

Host Table -Margaret Lutley – The host table is located to the right of the entrance. Different residents volunteer to host the table and more volunteers are needed for Friday nights and on the weekend. It is a great opportunity to meet new people and have interesting conversations. To sign up contact Margaret Lutley

Currents – Susanna Davison announced that the next issue of the Currents will come out February 1. There will not be one published in January. It is available on line and those who want a paper copy should contact Margie Herbert or Susanna Davison.

Treasurer’s Report: Fred Thompson presented the Financial Report as of November 30 representing 5 months or 40% of the fiscal year. Revenue stands at 80% of our annual budget as a result of resident contributions exceeding our fund drive goal by \$2,000. Expenses in November

were low and, thru five months, are 25% of our annual budget. He should be contacted with any questions or comments.

Budget and Finance: Steve Michaels reported that the KRA fundraiser was very successful and the proceeds would be put to good use. The Budget and Finance Committee will meet soon to develop the budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year which will start on July 1 2024. At least 35 or 40 committees request a budget for expenses to pay for the activities and programs they sponsor. The Budget and Finance Committee members must contact the chairs or contact persons on these committees to obtain an estimate of what they expect to need for their programs. Sometimes it is difficult to find out who the contact people are. Therefore, Steve requested that committee members check the information on their committee page of the website to see if it is correct. If not, the editor of the website should be informed of the correct contact information.

Standing Committees: Appointments Committee – Gretchen Wright brought to the Board the Appointments Committee's recommendation for two new members of the Culinary Committee. They are Dotsy Bacon and George Troxler. The Board approved the appointments. She further said that in January they would be posting one position for the Four Community Environmental Services Collaborative Committee (Housekeeping).

Other Items:

Listening Post: No residents came forward in November hence there was no report and because the fourth Monday in December is Christmas Day there will not be a Listening Post in December.

CRA Observer: Beth Frederick attended the December 4 CRA Meeting. There are similarities with our issues such as spotty tech connectivity in their Center and in Audland as well as Verizon services. Seth Beaver gave a report on the early-stage plans for the renovation of the William Penn Auditorium and the recruitment of residents to participate in the planning process. Julie Knobil, last month's KRA Observer, gave a glowing report very impressed with how welcomed she felt, She strongly encouraged the CRA to use KRA technology such as the small handheld speaker units, the projection of the Zoom view on the large screen and the use of the camera focusing on each speaker.

CCRCA Report: Gretchen Wright reported on a survey that was done on the fee increases this year. Our fee increase was the lowest at 2.6% due primary to the savings resulting from the disaffiliation. The average was 4.36% and the range was 2.6% to 6%.

Administrative Reports: Lisa Marsilio thanked Gretchen for the fee increase report. She is grateful for all the great work that the staff and residents do collaboratively. Administration continues to work on the Trust Agreement. Kendal Corp has hired a new CEO so it might take a little bit longer, but she hopes it can be done in the next couple of months.

She reported that there is a lot of flu and Covid going around so she cautioned everyone to be very careful and to stay home if not feeling well.

She also thanked Frank for the reminder about the hybrid presentation about the Health Center. Ed Plasha will be back from vacation to share updates.

There will be a holiday luncheon Wednesday at 11:30 in the auditorium for staff . On the 18th of this month, hams will be distributed to staff.

Donna Taylor reminded everyone that those who have been exposed to Covid should test and wear a mask. Masks are required in the Health Center. She publishes the Dashboard every Tuesday for the previous seven days. As of this morning the number of cases has tripled over last week. She emphasized that people not feeling well should stay home.

As regards the Pharmacy service, Health Care Staff has continued to meet with the current provider, CPS Polaris, and are holding them accountable to an action plan and have seen some improvement. Two weeks ago, they received a MedBank, a medication dispensing machine which allows our nurses to access meds through a secured system. Five other pharmacy providers have been interviewed and the Health Service Leadership Team is evaluating them to see what makes the most sense, whether to keep the provider or add a provider. Residents have expressed the desire to receive a 90-day supply rather than a 30-day supply of medication. The challenge has been that CPS didn't have provider status for 90-day billing with some insurance plans that residents have. The wellness center team is working diligently to make sure residents' needs are being met.

Seth Beaver reported that we are receiving and evaluating final pricing on the Health Center renovation with a Board meeting next week to approve the project and a move to construction in February. We will work with the permitting authorities in the next month or two. Joe Deckman has been promoted to Project Manager and they will start interviewing to fill Joe Deckman's position. The Café renovation is moving along and we expect it to open February 5. 27 chairs are still on backorder so we might be getting some temporary chairs to fill in.

Culinary staffing is a lot better, but there are still some challenges in Housekeeping for which we are getting a lot of applications.

Roy Manno described an upcoming policy, created by the Safety Committee, that will come out in January, a Micro Mobility Policy governing bicycles, skateboards, scooters, personal transporters, roller skates, unicycles, tricycles and quadracycles. There are numerous Micro Mobility vehicles appearing on campus, mostly bicycles, tricycles, and quadracycles. The policy does not include powered wheel chairs or mobility carts which residents use and which will have a separate policy. Maps of the two Communities showing where the Micro Mobility vehicles can go will be distributed. Residents who use Micro Mobility vehicles will be asked to take their vehicle to the Maintenance Center so it can be checked for safety and be registered and also to make sure the driver has the safety accoutrements such as helmet, vest, flag on the vehicle, lights and reflectors, etc. Traffic rules must be obeyed; residents should stay on the roads – pedestrians always have the right of way. These vehicles are not allowed on the Service Road that connects Kendal and Crosslands. A Forum Dialogue will be held regarding this policy.

The Transportation Committee, which consists of Kendal and Crosslands, is in need of a resident chair and co-chair. Cartmel and Coniston residents are also eligible to serve on the Committee. The meetings are monthly and anyone interested should contact Roy Manno.

Quiana Pettiford reported that two Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Manager interviews have taken place and there will be more interviews in the next few weeks. The candidates are good and the Administration is confident that the position will be filled shortly. Supervisor training for managers and supervisors will continue to be offered. A job fair will be held here before the end of the month targeting high school and college students.

Michele Berardi hoped everyone got to see our new booklet called Cornerstones which houses our mission, vision and values. The digital version is on KCC Connect and we are getting a small supply printed to be placed in resident mailboxes. A photo was provided by Bob Suter from Crosslands as well as photos from Judy Czeiner and Bob Warner for which Michele gave a shout out. The staff has been given copies to share with visitors, vendors, prospective residents, job applicants, etc. We are partnering with the Kennett Library in a program called Health Literacy as well as other programs. Again, KCC will be a sponsor of the MLK community event held at Lincoln University on Martin Luther King Day. There will be a bus to go to the University from 9:30 to 12:30 for the program. This will be posted on KCC Connect and there will be a signup sheet. In February we will be a sponsor of a Kennett Area Community Services event.

Shoutouts: The following people gave shoutouts:

Ellen Shillinglaw spoke about the drainage work done at Countersett Court and that after the three inches of rain that fell last night it worked. Frank gave thanks for the initiative of the folks at Countersett Court who have worked so hard to put the project in place and the ongoing program. This might encourage some other neighborhoods to think about what they can do to improve their courtyards.

Louise Bennett for the Sound and Light team in the auditorium.

Marj McCann wanted to acknowledge the contributions by the artists and craftspeople who worked incredibly hard to create beautiful things and donate those things to KRA for sale.

Susanna Davison for Brian from Maintenance for fixing an ongoing problem with the doors in her hallway.

Announcements: Frank announced that if residents would return the green takeout food containers and encourage their neighbors to do the same, it would do something to reduce our carbon footprint.

Questions: Ellen Gay asked for more information on Covid such as how sick people are getting. Donna Taylor responded that people are not critically ill and are recuperating. Infection has been related to holiday travel and infected visitors and staff in the Health Center. The vaccines are working.

John Bennett wondered what was happening with the renovation of the bathrooms on the lower level. Seth Beaver explained that there are funds in the 2023-2024 capital budget to redo those bathrooms. They will have to be made ADA accessible making it more complicated than just replacing fixtures. He assumes it will be done this winter.

There were no shoutouts, questions or comments from Zoom because the connection had been lost.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn van Renterghem

