

Minutes of the Residents' Association Annual Meeting, held May 19, 2017

Chair Norma Martin called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. She welcomed everyone present and introduced the current council members and Rose Villa CEO Vassar Byrd. Members of the outgoing and continuing council were recognized and thanked for their time, energy, commitment, and ideas over the past year: Jean Coberly, Archivist; Nancy Rorden, Treasurer, Nancy Barrett-Dennehy, Secretary; Rosalind Diamond, Vice Chair; and councilors Helen Lyons, James Carthel, Bob Zimmer, Andrea Drury, Lois Weathers, Eric Shawn, Ed Egging, Pat Caldwell and Pam Duren. The council members received a terrarium as a thank you gift.

Council History

Councilor Helen Lyons outlined a little history of the early Residents' Council's responsibilities, dating back to its formation in 1960: a program of daily check-ins with neighbors, de-icing the sidewalks in winter, original landscaping, building the cubby stuffers and tool sheds, numbering all the buildings, working in the health center, and arranging all their own activities and outings! By the 1990s the council was managing over 50 different committee groups! When Vassar Byrd arrived in 2006 many of these day-to-day operations, handled by the council committees for more than 40 years, were given over to hired staff, offering the council the opportunity to switch their focus.

Council Retreat in July, 2016

Resident Bill Cunitz reported on the Residents' Council Retreat, held July 22, 2016. With an opportunity to "transform" the purpose and vision of the Residents' Council, the 2016 council held a day-long retreat with 13 council members and 10 residents from the RV community. The goals of the retreat were to discern (1) what the council is currently doing well (2) where it needs to improve and (3) what is the council not doing, but probably needs to begin doing. Vassar spoke to the retreat assembly about her vision for Rose Villa in the coming ten years, helping the council to think more long-term.

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Bill summarized the outcomes and conclusions of the retreat:

- a. To explore the possibility of a new council structure in order to become increasingly a decision-making body as opposed to one that primarily hears reports from the community sectors.
- b. To change to a consensus decision-making model with provision for process and education on issues, but to preserve and nurture a mechanism for awareness of dissent.
- c. To create an atmosphere ensuring all voices are recognized in a timely manner.
- d. To rewrite the job descriptions of representatives to align more closely with a council that makes decisions that impact the lives of residents.
- e. To develop a focus on issues that impact the entire community at the council level while also recognizing neighborhood concerns.
- f. To move toward a process that acknowledges a partnership with the administration and staff on issues that impact residents while promoting mutual respect and accountability.
- g. To change the bylaws in order to move the council toward a vision of a more "inclusive, participatory, dynamic, responsive, creative, innovative, transparent and accessible" governance...and to continue a movement toward a vision of a new, refreshed governance system for the RV Residents' Council.

Changes to Constitution and Bylaws

Councilor Eric Shawn explained the major process changes to the constitution and bylaws (see attached summary in Addendum 1). Clarification was requested and given with regard to the meaning of the term "Life Planning Community," the change in the calendar year, the management of the three-year terms, and the difference between the process of the bylaws and the operations of the council within those bylaws.

Ninety-seven residents then voted on passage of the revised bylaws. Ballots were collected and counted while Norma distributed the door prizes to winners. Thanks was given to the donors of the door prize gifts: Rose Villa Marketing, Food Services, Bob Zimmer, Helen Lyons, Treasure House, Eric Shawn, Vassar Byrd, Seeds Store, and Ed Egging. Thanks was also given to the Bylaws Revision Committee: Bill Cunitz, Helen Lyons,

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Norma Martin, and Eric Shawn. Councilor Ed Egging reported the revised bylaws were adopted by a vote of 93 "yes," 2 "no" and 2 abstentions.

Election of New Officers and Council Representatives

The number of residents confirmed at the meeting, 97, exceeded the number required for a quorum. Chair Norma Martin introduced the slate of officers and their positions: Chair, Helen Lyons; Vice Chair, Andrea Drury; and Council Representatives: Group 1, Dori Jones, Group 2, Bill Rector, Group 3, John Gillock, Group 4, Rose Smith; Group 5, Evelyn Cole. Nominations from the floor were requested. None were made. Since there were no nominations from the floor and there were no contests among the nominees, a motion was made and seconded calling for a vote by acclamation. There was a question raised from the floor as to the impropriety of a vote of acclamation when ballots were before us. Norma called for a vote by raising hands. The slate of officers and councilors were elected by a majority of hands raised. There were five votes against adopting the slate. Norma thanked those who accepted nominations and all those who served on the council for their dedication to our community.

Announcements

Chair-elect Helen Lyons reported that the council would begin this "new chapter" by using the "Let's Talk" format (small and large group conversations) to discuss ideas and expectations for the future direction of the council. The tentative date for this event is July 8, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the Residents' Association will be in November, 2017.

Bill Cunitz thanked Norma for her years of commitment and positive energy as Council Chair. A long applause ensued.

Meeting Adjourned

Chair Helen Lyons adjourned the meeting at 2:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kay Schmerber, Secretary Pro-Tem

Addendum 1

May 19, 2017 Rose Villa Residents' Association Ballot Bylaws Revisions Recommended by the Council

Revisions to Rose Villa Residents' Association Constitution

- **Add Immediate Past Chair as an officer of the Association.**
- **Add "Life Plan Community" to the name of Rose Villa.**

Revisions to Rose Villa Residents' Association Bylaws

- **Implement a Vice Chair – Chair – Immediate Past Chair leadership model.** This supports transitions, training, continuity and effective governance.
- **Move routine operating details to Position Descriptions and a Council Procedures Manual.** This makes for a nimble council and increases the ability to adjust to changing circumstances without having to revise bylaws.
- **Change the calendar year of the Rose Villa Residents' Association (RVRA).** The purpose is to align the RVRA calendar with the Rose Villa corporation calendar.
- **Change the sequence of articles in the RVRA Bylaws.** The purpose is to use a standard bylaws format.
- **Change to 3-year Terms of Service.** All council members would have a single 3-year term of service.