POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2016, AT 1:31 P.M.

A regular meeting of the Policy Committee was convened by the Chairman, Robert D. Kelso, at 1:31 p.m. on Tuesday, September 6, 2016, in the Board Room at Gateway Complex.

Present, in addition to the Chairman, were Sue DiMaggio Adams, Leslie Birdsall, and Geraldine Pyle. Also attending were Mary Lou Delpech, Secretary, GRF; Timothy O'Keefe, CEO; Anthony W. Grafals, General Counsel; Kelly Berto, Recreation Supervisor; and several residents.

During the Residents' Forum, Gary Hansen commented that this was the first time he had heard about issues surrounding the revision of Policy 502.0, Bulletin Boards and Display Cases, and said that he believes the level of politics at Rossmoor is high and residents don't need to be "protected". John Littig said that a Club's beliefs and the causes it supports are integral to a Club's activities and as such, that information should be made available to everyone. Mary England expressed concern over the language used in the proposed revised policies and GRF moving into the role of mediating disputes between groups over the content of Club postings. Roxanne Stallings commented on what she felt was an attempt to create rules to quiet down some of the disagreements among residents and said that limits should not be set around people's politics, beliefs, or causes. Mahmoud Ohadie agreed with the speakers before him, commented on the bulletin boards recently removed from the Fitness Center, and asked the Committee not to censor the residents. Finally, Karolyn Stein, speaking on behalf of MEICOR, thanked the Committee and GRF staff for its work on Policy 502.0, Bulletin Board and Display Cases, and Policy 502.1, Flyers and Petitions, and said the organization supports the revised Policies.

Following the Residents' Forum, the Chairman addressed some of the comments made during the forum and thanked residents for attending the meeting. He then briefly described the background of this matter and how the Policy Committee arrived at this point, citing that the issue surrounding the bulletin boards and display cases has been going on for years, that it has been a difficult process for the Committee, and that decisions have not been made lightly. He encouraged residents who feel strongly about the revisions proposed to the Policies to attend the next GRF Board meeting where a full presentation will be made to the Board by the Committee. Mr. Birdsall and Ms. Pyle addressed some of the comments as well. Mr. O'Keefe said that the bulletin boards recently removed at the Fitness Center will be replaced by locked, glass-enclosed display cases similar to the ones at Gateway Complex.

The Policy Committee's report of its meeting held on August 2, 2016, was unanimously approved with the following correction: two references to "Policy 203.1" on page 2 were corrected to read "Policy 201.3".
The Committee reviewed staff’s proposed revisions to Policy 502.0, Bulletin Boards and Display Cases. At its August 2nd meeting, the Committee instructed staff to make additional revisions to the Policy. Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Mr. Birdsall and seconded by Ms. Adams to recommend that the GRF Board consider approving proposed revised Policy 502.0, Bulletin Boards and Display Cases (agenda attachment 5a-1 to 5a-5). Following additional discussion, the vote was taken on the motion, and the motion CARRIED, with Ms. Pyle voting “no”.

The Committee discussed Policy 502.1, Flyers and Petitions. At its August 2nd meeting, the Committee instructed staff to make additional revisions to the Policy. Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Mr. Birdsall and seconded by Ms. Adams to recommend that the GRF Board consider approving proposed revised Policy 502.1, Flyers and Petitions (agenda attachment 5b-1 to 5b-3). Following additional discussion, the vote was taken on the motion, and the motion CARRIED, with Ms. Pyle abstaining.

The Committee then discussed Policy 201.3, Guidelines for Creating Resident Activity Advisory Committees. At its August 2nd meeting, the Committee instructed staff to make a revision to the Policy. Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Mr. Birdsall, seconded by Ms. Adams, and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY to recommend that the GRF Board consider approving proposed revised Policy 201.3, Guidelines for Creating Resident Activity Advisory Committees (agenda attachment 5c-1 to 5c-3).

Before concluding, the Chairman announced that the Policy Committee’s next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 4, 2016, at 1:30 p.m. in the Board Room at Gateway Complex.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Robert D. Kelso, Chairman
Policy Committee

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