

Minutes of the Safety Committee

Monday, Aug 9, 2010

Present: Claire Hardie (1101), Lillian Mierzwa (2504), Pauline Walsh (2005), Marsha Melnik (2403) (chair/recorder) Bob Howell (Board Liaison)
Gord Hamilton (presentation). Kasia, Anne, Lucny, Syd, Crystal, Eda

1. Minutes of July accepted. 2. Agenda accepted after addition.
2. Gordon Hamilton spoke about the situation of second hand smoke in the building.
There has been a meeting (15 attendees) and a 33 sign up list in the office for a total of 48 concerned/interested residents. Gordon has done extensive research on the subject.

The Health and Safety Committee supports having an information meeting for all residents about this issue.

- Bob Howell**
3. Police Safety Check - Because of the past two lengthy meetings the Board has not discussed this issue .
Lillian will email Bob details of what is involved in a Safety Check and Bob will forward this to Board members.

4. Fire Department workshop
We are waiting to attend one of these workshops at Marsha's friend's co-op. If that has not been scheduled by November we will proceed on our own.

- Marsha**
5. List of Residents Needing Assistance During Emergency
Marsha reported that 12 forms (on last page of newsletter) were returned. We are suggesting a more comprehensive survey of the residents: This work would be done by Safety committee members. Marsha will discuss this with Isan.

6. Bike Rack
Marsha reported from Isan that memos are now being attached to the bikes being locked to our front entrance railing. They state that such bikes will be removed. Pictures will be taken to see if there are repeat offenders. Isan is looking into putting bike racks in the back of the building.

- Claire**
7. Earthquake Info
Claire did extensive research into what information is available from government and non-governmental organizations. Most of this is available only on-line. Claire offered to summarize the pamphlets' info onto one sheet, with web links. We will make these available (about 25 copies) in the party room and announce it on the flyer for the next meeting. Claire will also do a write-up for the next newsletter.

- Lillian**
8. Cleaning/Air Freshener Supplies
Lillian reported that Carlos is in charge of the cleaning products and that all the products contain toxic materials, but they are within industry standards. To change to 'green' products would be 2 to 4 times more costly. Members discussed the strong odours that sometimes occur after a cleaning of the foyer - glass doors and the floor. The Committee recommends that for cleaning these areas a solution of water and vinegar or baking soda be used, on a trial basis. (Board Recommendation #1) This is a very inexpensive solution and will hopefully do the trick. Lillian will put together a short description of these two uses.

9. Odours in on-floor garbage rooms

Some residents are not properly rinsing out their recyclable containers - eg milk cartons, salmon tins (worst culprits) It is suggested that a notice be posted inside each garbage room, reminding residents to properly clean their containers. (Board Recommendation #2)

10. Non-resident access to the building through the front door

Concerns were raised again that there is too much use of the automatic door that may allow visitors access to the building without being buzzed in. Some of us do challenge people 'sneaking' in behind us and this has often led to very unpleasant confrontations. As well there was a confrontation with delivery people. See Board Recommendation #3.

11. Improved Communications

1. Post our meeting minutes on P1/P2/Party Room
 2. Set up a Health and Safety Website (Board Recommendation #4)
 3. Set up a part of the mailbox bulletin board or a new board for issues from Board Committees (Landscape, Energy, Health and Safety) (Board Recommendation #5)
- Not everyone sees the announcements on the bulletin boards on P1/P2/PR.



Committee Recommendations to the Board:

1. Vinegar/Baking Soda solutions be used for cleaning in the foyer area on a trial basis. For all other products we should use 'scent-free' versions (if available). We should try to limit the use of aerosol products.
2. A notice for properly cleaning containers be posted in the garbage room on each floor.
3. A prominent sign be placed at the entrance to the circular drive (north and south) stating that all deliveries be made to the side entrance on Gothic Ave.
4. The Safety Committee set up a Health and Safety Website for 50 Quebec Ave
 - to contain information and weblinks (e.g. what to do in case of fire, earthquake)
 - to post announcements
 - to ask for concerns/suggestions
5. A space be provided, by the mailboxes for important postings by Board Committees.

Agenda items (to be carried forward): Floor Captains; Protocol for when/how to use the PA system;

Next meeting: Monday, Sept 13 at 7:00 in the Party Room