

# Minutes

## Timbergrove Community Advisory Committee

October 25, 2011

Timber Grove Apartments (19333 - 101 Avenue, Surrey, BC).

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Meeting called by Darrell Burnham, Executive Director, Coast Mental Health

Present:- Darrell Burnham, Rudy Small, David Poulette, John Gauld, Colleen Staresina, Darin Froese, Rose Garoff, Jack Garoff, Gary Mackinnon, Rob Pretli, Susan Sitter, Debbie Allinger, Shehzan Nathoo (note taker)

Apologies: - Aileen Murphy, Jonquil Hallgate, Morten Bisgaard

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1. Open house and Introductions

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2. **AGENDA ITEMS:-**

Minutes of the previous CAC meeting were approved and membership contact information was confirmed.

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Christine, a tenant who had just moved in was introduced to the CAC members. Her first impression was that this was a great place to live in, the staff are respectful, and she feels thankful, blessed and honored to be here and is proving that she can live independently.

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▪ **Update on Tenant Selection Process and Occupancy Schedule (CMH)**

Coast and BC housing are conducting a collaborative selection process for tenant referrals. Four applications were assessed in the previous week, and two were accepted into the program. More interviews were scheduled for the following week.

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▪ **Update on Fraser Health Partnership (FHA)**

FHA too, has been screening applications and has accepted 12 tenants. The aim is to screen people properly in order to ensure they succeed at living independently, and are a suitable fit for the community. The next intake/group move in will be around mid November, and there will be a few tenants moving in individually due to rent

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notice issues. Preference is being given to those individuals who are at a risk of being homeless or would benefit from the enhanced supported services Timbergrove has to offer. Referrals are also coming in from non profit organizations which have opportunity to work with homelessness. It usually takes between two-four months for a building to fill up to full occupancy which is also adequate time to work out any glitches which may arise.

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- **Project Construction Status Report (City Space Consulting CSC)**

CSC will be replacing and monitoring some plant material on the west side of the building. The parking area will be fenced to provide privacy and security to the building. The soil condition will be monitored during the winter to monitor how much ground water has collected. As a result there could be power outages and BC housing will look into providing a generator if possible. BC Housing to also look into whether the power grid in this area has been upgraded.

If anyone has any concerns, please let JG know in a timely manner so he can deal with this accordingly.

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- **Breezeway Property Line Fence and Tree Planting (CSC)**

Some trees have died and the hedge is leaning. This and the survival issues for some trees are being addressed appropriately.

The neighbors noted that the contractor who worked on the fence was excellent and professional, and they too, had completed work on the fence on their side of the property.

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- **Neighborhood Items**

The neighbors noted that they fought the proposal for this building for a long time as their property is easily accessible. They thought the occupancy was less than desirable, but now they feel overwhelmed and are impressed with the outcome and it looks like everything will turn out just fine

JG announced that he was donating a TV for the residents and appreciation was noted.

Coast to let the neighbors know how much of the perimeter the security cameras at Timbergrove cover- for security purposes. Also

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the neighbors requested that the grass was cut regularly so as to prevent security mishaps.

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▪ **Opening Celebration**

There will be a grand opening with government officials present in the new year.

DB proposed to have an open house for neighbors and CAC members to meet with staff and tenants on November 19, 2011 from 12-2pm. Tenants will need to be notified a week in advance and given the option to attend if they want. It is important to be mindful of tenant confidentiality at all times. RS, RP, RG, SS and DA were appointed on the open house planning committee.

*At the time of circulating minutes, it has been decided that this open house will held jointly with the grand opening celebration event scheduled in the new year. Details will be announced in due course.*

A suggestion to have a photo/ essay board of the construction phases was made.

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**3.**

**Round Table Comments and Questions**

CS distributed block watch packages and outlined details regarding the program. CS will provide the necessary training and do a safety presentation once the building is occupied. It was recommended that Coast purchased two block watch signs for the building. CS will also bring signs for the building which lists "do not let anyone into the building" in eight different languages. CS emphasized that if there was a crime, it should be reported to the police, but to her as well as she tracks the incidents and will deal with these incidents accordingly. It is important for all tenants to feel safe in this neighborhood.

Emergency preparedness-per Coast policies, every site has an emergency preparedness kit.

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**4.**

Date of the next Meeting:- TBA in the new year

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