

EQUITY MEETING - November 28th, 2022

Lead: Ben Bauer Notes: Jessica Willman

Attending: Ben Bauer, Jessica Willman, Melissa Pappas, Kyle Anderson, Katherine Banbury

Welcome/Introductions (5 min)

Welcome New Members/Meeting Overview and Engagement

- Intro, Old Items, New Items, Action Steps
- All participants are welcome to speak, share ideas/feedback, add to our agenda

Name/Pronouns

New Items

- Dominion Litigation Overview/Update & SAPCC Involvement (Kathryn Banbury - Homeline)
 - History
 - She moved into a Dominion property
 - Rent went up over 30% in 4 years and she saw evictions of elderly women.
 - Got to know folks at Homeline and was introduced to Rent Stabilization
 - Rent Stabilization was passed (yay), but then the Mayor did a new construction exemption
 - Got involved in the New Stakeholder Taskforce and learned about policy
 - Spent the summer trying to save the ordinance
 - Taught tenants how to testify in front of City Council
 - Protests and Organizing
 - City Council exempted all affordable housing from protection of Rent Stabilization (even retroactively)
 - Dominion upped all 8 buildings right under the 8% cap so they didn't have to be accountable to city officials
 - Katherin appealed and got a partial win (6%) but it was just for her - appealed that and then everyone got the partial win.
 - Now
 - Any buildings not protected under Rent Stabilization went up 12% - most buildings are seniors.
 - Doing organizing around these buildings to fight the increase.

- Goal is to organize all 8 buildings in the Twin Cities and are currently in half of them. They're finding that people are discouraged.
 - Union Flats
 - They appealed the rent hike also (outcome?)
 - Also have maintenance issues (safety, no property manager)
 - Have a strong social media presence, but not much involvement
 - A few leaders who are interested, but tired
 - What can we do:
 - Keep building relationships in buildings
 - Provide resources (Renters Rights Workshops, help build associations, flyering, door knocking)
 - Work with Homeline to provide resources and hope
- December 3rd Meal at Seal | 1pm
 - Food suggestions - Afro Deli? Naughty Greek? Keys?
 - Jessica will look into what food is available - Keys is really expensive, will look into Naughty Greek and Afro Deli and make the call.
 - Who will be picking up the food?
 - Ben will pick up the food on Saturday
 - Any other supplies we need before then? Music? Games?
 - Melissa will bring speaker and playlist
 - We'll do BINGO - Jessica has some prizes
 - [Rules](#) (Melissa)
 - There were some issues with the Thanksgiving meal (someone got punched)
 - Posting rules on the door on Saturday

Old Items

- [Letter of Support for Dominion Renters](#)
 - Good to have somethings general just in case we need it
 - Nothing to do with it right now
- Homeline VISTA (Jessica) - [Work Plan](#) | [Timeline](#) | [Application](#)
 - Will talk more about this next time - mostly just need input on the Work Plan
 - Alec and Jessica will work on the Application in January
- Review Goals
 - Jessica will work on these and post them for next meeting
- 2023 Calendar
 - Jessica will work on this and talk about it at the next meeting

Wrap Up (5 min)

- Next Meeting: December 19th | 5:30pm (or NO MEETING?) | Topic: 2023 Calendar
 - Jessica will send out an email to see if we want to meet in December

TASKS

- Jessica - order food for Saturday
- Ben - pick up food for Saturday
- Melissa - music and BINGO game for Saturday
- Jessica - Bring Prizes
- Alec and Jessica - Work on VISTA Application