

Gum Springs Glen Meeting Notes for August 20, 2021 (28 Residents Attended)

The following are notes from the meeting held at Gum Springs Glen on August 20, 2021.

- Ginny Wells introduced Queenie Cox, President, New Gum Springs Civic Association
- Queenie Cox introduced Ron Chase, Founding Director, Gum Springs Museum
- Ron Chase
 - Provided a summary about the Gum Springs history and availability of tours
 - Will provide copies of the Gum Springs History in Motion magazine
 - Contact info: gshsfcv@gmail.com
- Queenie Cox
 - Why we are here:
 - Improve quality of life at Gum Springs Glen
 - Better connect with the Gum Springs community
 - Why no senior from Gum Springs Glen wanted to be recognized as a pioneer during Gum Springs Community Day on June 19, 2021
 - Lack of notification despite one visit and more than one email sent to management
 - Only two residents were aware of the event
- Gum Springs Glen residents presented the following list of concerns to Supervisor Dan Storck's office who referred the items for action by the appropriate Fairfax County Housing staff:
 - Hole in wall
 - Balcony problems
 - Back gate unlocked
 - Pond dirty
 - On-site walk-thru conducted by Supervisor Storck's office on August 16th and photos taken
 - New refrigerator to be installed in the common area
 - New furniture
 - Trash on the grounds
- Concerns from Gum Springs Glen seniors
 - Management
 - No business cards for management staff showing telephone number and email
 - No information who to contact for emergency services
 - Insufficient unit inspections
 - Retaliatory actions viewed as elder abuse and instilling a level of fear for residents
 - Lack of communication between management and residents
 - Maintenance service
 - No on-site maintenance person
 - Carpet worn, stain and may need replacement in halls for both buildings
 - Sewage problems in both buildings
 - No air conditioning in both buildings
 - Windows in building #39 are out of its frame and some are taped to prevent the window from falling out

- New refrigerator delivered for #39 last week still not installed or tested. Refrigerator has an ice dispenser that is popular with residents but cannot use because of management
 - Kitchen sink and disposal near TV room is off because sewage backup. Management unresponsive to calls about sewage backup that occurred approximately 2-weeks ago and remains unresolved. This is a major health concern since human waste is manually being scooped and removed by residents
 - Health concerns
 - Not everyone is vaccinated despite having on-site vaccine services
 - Can on-site booster shots be arranged?
 - Smoking in units has increased. The smoke is traveling through the air ducts and affecting the respiratory systems of certain residents
 - Sewage backup in units and common areas
 - What were the test results from the last sewage incident?
 - Lack of social activities
 - Understand that COVID-19 has suspended or eliminate
 - Would like the return of certain activities that complies with Fairfax County Health Department and CDC guidelines such as
 - Monthly breakfast
 - Bingo
 - Shopping trips
 - Carport
 - Junk needs to be removed from covered parking
 - Old furniture in carport remains
 - Basket area in covered parking needs to be lower and side bumper boards
 - Covered parking area needs pressure washing
- Briefly discussed the proposed senior building at Kramer property
 - No support
 - Concern for VDOT expansion of Richmond Highway to 13-lanes
- Residents would like to meet the Mount Vernon Police Station Commander and Assistant Commander
- Steps to move forward
 - Residents interested in re-instituting a tenant's council
 - Do not want the residents to manage the council; preference for Civic Association to manage
 - Queenie provided a draft tenants council bylaws for each attendee to be discussed further for final action during next meeting
 - Residents can stay connected by
 - Joining the Civic Association
 - Request that management pay \$200 for all seniors to be members
 - Joining the Gum Springs Museum
 - Subscribe to eNews
 - How the TV in Community Room can be configured for the internet to attend virtual Civic Association meetings
 - Next meeting – to be scheduled for September 2021