March 8, 2021

Dear Candidate:

Thank you for your interest in the University Student Apartments Resident Council Elections. This packet provides important information and directions for applying for candidacy for the 2021/2022 Resident Council Elections. The following items are enclosed:

- **Election Deadlines Schedule**
- **University Student Apartments Resident Council Election Rules and Procedures:** Please read this carefully. All candidates must abide by these rules.
- **Declaration of Intent:** In order for your name to be placed on the ballot, this form must be completed and submitted to the Election Committee by emailing it to residentcouncilelections@gmail.com no later than 4:30 PM on Tuesday, March 30, 2021.
  - This form can be obtained online at apartments.utah.edu.
- **Bio Sheet:** This information will be used in publicizing you as a candidate. This is an opportunity for you to communicate to the residents your reasons for running as well as why they should elect you. Please e-mail this information in a Word document to residentcouncilelections@gmail.com no later than 4:30 PM on Tuesday, March 30, 2021.
  - The Bio Sheet information will be delivered door-to-door by University Student Apartments and available online for residents to view. This form can be obtained online at apartments.utah.edu/programs/resident-council/index.php.
- **University Student Apartments Resident Association Constitution:** This constitution is a binding document. It outlines Resident Council functions and duties, along with election information. *(Pay careful attention to Article III, which applies directly to Resident Council Members, and Articles IV, V, VI, VII, which also pertain to Resident Council interests.)*
- **Resident Council Position Descriptions**

Carefully read all enclosed information. By signing the Declaration of Intent, you are stating your compliance to all rules and procedures. All questions regarding this election must be submitted in writing to residentcouncilelections@gmail.com.

Please be aware that being a Council Member can be a very demanding job that often requires your availability during regular business hours. Read the Council Position descriptions and the Constitution carefully when making your decision. You will be required to fulfill all of these responsibilities if you are elected. While these positions may be demanding, they may also be very fulfilling. Working with other Council members, the University Student Apartments Administration and the Advisory Board can be a very rewarding experience. We encourage you to contact the Resident Council member who currently holds the position you are interested in with any questions or concerns as you make your decision.

Again, thank you for your interest and best of luck on your campaign.

Sincerely,

2021/2022 Resident Council Elections Committee
Rachel Griffin
Hayden Lott
Madie Hauck
Maddie Weller
Annie Friedman
RESIDENT COUNCIL ELECTION DEADLINES SCHEDULE

Signed Declaration of Intent & Bio Sheet
Tuesday, March 30, 2021
no later than 4:30 PM

First Day to Post Campaign Material
Monday, April 5, 2021
(Write-in candidates, see “Election Rules and Procedures” - Section 2, Clause 3)
no earlier than 4:30 PM

Test email sent to all residents
Tuesday, April 6, 2021
(see “Election Rules and Procedures” - Section 5, Clause 6)

Signed Declaration of Intent for Write-In Candidates
Tuesday, April 6, 2021
no later than 4:30 PM

Election Rules and Procedures Clarification
Friday, April 9, 2021
(see “Election Rules and Procedures” - Section 3, Clause 2)
no later than 4:30 PM

Voting Handbills
Friday, April 9, 2021
(See “Election Rules and Procedures” - Section 3, Clause 6)
no later than 4:30 PM

Resident email updates completed
Friday, April 9, 2021
(see “Election Rules and Procedures” - Section 5, Clause 6)
no later than 4:30 PM

Elections
Tuesday, April 13, 2021
7:00 AM – 8:00 PM
Online via the link sent to residents’ email addresses

Election Rules and Procedures Complaints
Thursday, April 15, 2021
(see “Election Rules and Procedures” - Section 4, Clause 2)
no later than 12:00 noon

Campaign Materials Must be Removed
Friday, April 16, 2021
(See “Election Rules and Procedures” –Section 3, Clause 14)
o no later than 9:00 PM
Section 1 - Candidates

1.1 Any person wishing to become a candidate for the office of Mayor, Campus Liaison, Communications Liaison, or Community Liaison must be an adult resident in good standing of University Student Apartments, must have a signed rental agreement, must not have more than six (6) late fees within a twelve (12) month period and must meet all eligibility requirements to live in Student Apartments. Neither full-time staff members of University Student Apartments nor current Resident Assistants nor their family members shall serve on the Resident Council.

1.2 A resident shall become a Candidate by signing and submitting a completed Declaration of Intent to the Election Committee and Bio Sheet by emailing them to residentcouncilelections@gmail.com, no later than 4:30 PM on Tuesday, March 30, 2021.

1.3 Campaign materials may not be posted or distributed until 4:30 PM on Monday, April 5, 2021.

1.4 The elections will be held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021.

1.5 An Elections Committee shall be appointed by the Advisory Board to oversee and administer the elections, and shall be comprised of five members as follows:

1.5.1 USARA or retiring Resident Council members; and,

1.5.2 One University of Utah Administration member of the Advisory Board to serve as Chair of the Elections Committee. (From Constitution, Article VII, Section 3.1)

1.6 The Advisory Board shall select the Elections Committee during an Advisory Board meeting prior to the election.

Section 2 - Write-in Candidates

2.1 A resident is allowed to run as a Write-In Candidate for any of the offices listed in Section 1.1.

2.2 A resident running as a Write-In Candidate must sign and submit a completed Declaration of Intent to the Election Committee by emailing it to residentcouncilelections@gmail.com by Tuesday, April 6, 2021 no later than 4:30 PM in order for votes received to be considered valid.

2.3 A resident running as a Write-In Candidate may not post or distribute campaign
materials prior to the submission of his/her completed Declaration of Intent to the Election Committee.

2.4 The Write-In Candidate is accountable to all the Election Rules and Procedures.

2.5 Write-In Candidates shall not have their name listed on the ballot nor in the Bio Sheet information distribution biography by the Elections Committee. However, they may submit a handbill by Friday, April 9th.

2.6 A Write-In Candidate's name shall be counted on a ballot if the name is recognizable as that Candidate's first and last names or if the name is easily distinguishable as a particular candidate. Spelling is not required to be letter-perfect. The Elections Committee shall vote on questionable spellings and make a decision by majority. The Elections Committee decision is final.

2.7 Candidates and Write-In Candidates shall hereinafter be referred to as "Candidate(s)."

Section 3 - Campaigning

3.1 All Candidates shall be subject to all Election Rules and Procedures. Ignorance of such shall not constitute a defense. Candidates shall be responsible for actions taken by any individual(s) on their behalf.

3.2 Any Candidate requesting clarification of Election Rules and Procedures must submit such inquiry in writing to the Elections Committee. All matters to be addressed by the Elections Committee shall be emailed to residentcouncilelections@gmail.com. Inquiries may be submitted until Friday, April 9, 2021, at 4:30 PM. Responses shall be returned in writing to all candidates, not only the candidate submitting inquiry, within three (3) business days of receipt of written question. The Elections Committee will send responses via email.

3.3 Candidates cannot use the University Student Apartments sponsored newsletter, "News & Views" to campaign or RA newsletters.

3.4 Campaign materials shall include all posters, booklets, flyers, signs (yard or otherwise), stickers, buttons, or anything containing a Resident Council Candidate’s name, picture, or symbol. Campaign materials should be respectful, collegial and issue oriented. Use of spray paint, chalk, crayons, etc., shall be allowed only on posters and banners

3.5 Guidelines for posting campaign materials in and on the University Student Apartments buildings, grounds or property:

3.5.1 Campaign materials in the East and West Villages may be hung on resident apartment doors, and other surfaces not herein after excluded, but they may not be affixed in such a way as to damage any of the
3.5.2 Campaign materials inside Medical Towers may only be posted on resident’s apartment doors. Campaign materials cannot be affixed in any manner to any glass, painted surface or inside elevators. Candidates may obtain a key access card for a twenty-four (24) period from University Student Apartments Main Office to access Medical Towers.

3.5.3 Candidates may use the apartment door clips, and must not remove any USA flyers or other candidates' handbills.

3.5.4 Only scotch tape may be used on apartment doors. Push pins, staples, duct, filament and/or carpet tape are not allowed on any surfaces.

3.5.5 Bulletin boards may not be used for posting campaign materials.

3.5.6 Campaign materials may not be nailed or attached in any way to the outside of any University Student Apartments buildings, interior walls of stairwells, inside or outside of stairwell entrance doors, laundry room doors, any handrails, outdoor laundry enclosures, playground equipment or affixed to any traffic or street sign.

3.5.7 Campaign materials may not be affixed in any manner to any Governmental property including, but not limited to, postal and/or mail boxes.

3.5.8 Defacement and/or destruction of University Student Apartments or private property and the use of windshield obstruction shall be a violation of these Elections Rules and Procedures.

3.5.9 Candidates shall be liable for any and all damage that occurs to Student Apartments, private or Governmental property (see Section 4 - Complaints and Infractions).

3.5.10 Each candidate shall be limited to no more than two (2) handbills to be distributed ‘door-to-door’ during the campaigning period. Door-to-door handbills cannot exceed a standard eight and one-half (8½) inches x eleven (11) inches piece of paper.

3.5.11 Campaign materials may not be posted on University of Utah property outside of the University Student Apartments buildings, grounds, or property except in compliance with The University of Utah Regulations Library Policy 1-007, including appropriate authorization from The University of Utah Scheduling Office.

3.5.12 University Student Apartments property, in the East and West Villages, extends to the inside edge of the sidewalk along any Salt Lake City or Utah Department of Transportation roadway. University Student
Apartments property at Medical Towers includes all grass area to the inside curb of the parking lots.

3.6 It is the responsibility of each candidate to provide to the Elections Committee one handbill to be posted online for residents to see when voting. Handbills must be emailed as a picture file to residentcouncilelections@gmail.com no later than 4:30PM on Friday, April 9, 2021.

3.7 A Candidate’s interference with another Candidate’s campaign, including defacing or destruction of another’s property, is strictly prohibited. Destruction of campaign materials or attempts to prevent one Candidate from using approved Student Apartments property or equipment shall be considered a violation of these Election Rules and Procedures.

3.8 A Resident Assistant cannot campaign for themselves or a candidate while performing duties related to their responsibilities as a Resident Life staff member. Resident Assistant programming funds and/or Court-sponsored functions may not be used for campaigning by any Candidate. However, a candidate can attend Court programs to campaign.

3.9 A Resident Council member is not allowed to campaign while the Resident Council member is performing duties in any way related to their responsibilities as Resident Council.

3.10 Full-time, benefited University Student Apartments employees may not campaign for any Candidate. Any posting or campaign materials within the University Student Apartments Main Office, Maintenance Building or Community Centers is strictly prohibited. This shall include the use of University Student Apartments Office materials and equipment.

3.11 Candidates shall not disturb residents’ apartments by knocking on doors or making campaign phone calls before 9:00 AM or after 9:00 PM.

3.12 Candidates may post handbills on resident doors between the hours of 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM.

3.13 The lack of adherence to any University Student Apartments, or other regulation(s) regarding the posting of materials, use of facilities or dissemination of information shall be considered a violation of these Election Rules and Procedures.

3.14 All campaign materials and the material used to attach campaign materials, except handbills posted on resident apartment doors, must be removed by Friday, April 16, 2021 by 9:00 PM. Failure to comply will result in a fine not to exceed ten dollars ($10.00) per infraction.

Section 4 - Complaints and Infraction
4.1 There shall be an Election Grievance Committee (EGC) comprised of any three (3) members of the Elections Committee. The purpose of the Election Grievance Committee shall be to determine the validity of any alleged campaign violations and to impose proper sanctions. An individual EGC member may be called upon to witness the violation of Election Rules and Procedures. Any violation of the above Election Rules and Procedures shall be considered infractions and shall be subject to action by the Election Grievance Committee.

4.2 Complaints may be filed by the Elections Committee, residents and staff of University Student Apartments. Complaints should include time, location and section of the Election Policy violated. Complaints must include the name, phone number, and email address of the person submitting the complaint. Complaints must be submitted by email to residentcouncilelections@gmail.com. Any complaints concerning an infraction of Election Rules and Procedures by a Candidate must be submitted via email within twenty-four (24) hours of discovery of the infraction and must be submitted no later than Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 12:00 Noon. Any complaints submitted after this date shall be resolved by the Advisory Board of the Resident Council. Decisions of the Advisory Board shall be final and not subject to appeal.

4.3 The EGC shall have five (5) business days within which to render a decision regarding the infraction. All EGC decisions shall be made by a majority vote.

4.4 Any Candidate shall have the opportunity, upon notification of an infraction and sanction against them, to have his/her complaint heard before the EGC. All notifications of infractions and sanctions will be sent by email. The EGC will meet with all parties involved, if requested by the Candidate found in violation of the Election Policy to discuss any infraction or sanction. The candidate must respond to the email from the EGC to request a meeting to appeal the infraction and the sanction.

4.5 Any Candidate may appeal the final decision of the EGC to the Advisory Board of Resident Council within twenty-four (24) hours after the decision is rendered. Appeals shall be decided only by members of the Advisory Board who had no involvement in the decision made by the EGC.

4.6 On Election Day, the Elections Committee reserves the right to initially notify candidates of infractions by email, phone or personal contact.

4.7 In case the EGC shall have reason to question any campaign tactics or devices of any individual Candidate, the Candidate shall be answerable to the EGC. Each individual Candidate is answerable and is responsible for his/her own actions or conduct.

4.8 The EGC shall determine the degree of punishment for all recorded infractions, which may include but not be limited to, any or all of the following sanctions:
4.8.1 Name shall be removed from the ballot.

4.8.2 Disqualification from the race.

4.8.3 The assessment of a fine of up to one hundred dollars ($100.00) for each infraction.

4.8.4 Forfeiture of the right to office.

4.9 The EGC shall record all infractions and the assessments made for each infraction. All fines will be applied to the candidate’s rental account and be subject to the all policies of the University Student Apartments Rental Agreement.

4.10 Official election results shall not be announced until all grievances and appeals have been acted upon by the EGC and any assessed fines are paid. Fines not paid by the deadline set by the EGC shall result in a Candidate’s disqualification or forfeiture of the office.

Section 5 - Elections

5.1 The order of the names on the ballot shall be determined by lot.

5.2 Each adult resident shall have the right to vote by secret ballot. Election records shall be confidential and may not be examined except by the Elections Committee until after the election is completed and the ballots have been counted.

5.3 Elections shall be held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021.

5.4 Polling hours shall be 7:00 AM - 8:00 PM.

5.5 Polling shall take place via a unique survey link sent to the email address of each adult on the emergency card. At any time during the designated hours, residents may click on the link and submit their anonymous votes. The survey link will not be active outside of the polling times.

5.6 A test email shall be sent to all residents no later than Tuesday, April 6, 2021. Residents who do not receive this email should go to the Main Office to add or update their email address by Friday, April 9, 2021 at 4:30 PM to be included in the election.

5.7 Newly elected Council Members shall receive training prior to taking office on Monday, June 1, 2021. Newly elected Council Members must attend a mandatory preliminary training session with their respective predecessor before Monday June 1, 2021. These training sessions will be scheduled by the retiring council member and the newly elected member.
Section 6 - Counting the Ballots

6.1 Each authorized Candidate may provide one witness on his/her behalf during the election data verification process. No Candidate shall be allowed in the virtual meeting where data verification will take place.

6.2 Ballots shall be counted by the Qualtrics software. Results will be viewed by the members of the Elections Committee and their designees.

6.3 Results will be viewed by at least 3 election committee members via Zoom at approximately 8:15 PM April 13, 2021.

6.4 Members of the Elections Committee shall make a good-faith effort to contact each candidate with the unofficial results immediately following the viewing of results. The contact will be made by telephone or email at the candidate’s prior written request. Unofficial results from ballot counting will be posted in the Main Office of University Student Apartments and on the USA Resident Council Facebook page by 5:00 PM the day after elections.

6.5 Official election results shall be posted at the University Student Apartments Main Office and communicated electronically to current residents after the confirmation of the Advisory Board (from Constitution, Article VII, Section 2.5). These results shall be considered final.

Section 7 - Election Rules and Procedures Revisions

7.1 Election Rules and Procedures shall not be revised during the “election period.” The “election period” begins with distribution of the election packets on Thursday, March 11, 2021 and concludes with the posting of official election results.
DECLARATION OF INTENT

I, _________________________________, am declaring my candidacy for the office of:
(First and Last Name)
(Check only one)
○ Mayor
○ Campus Liaison
○ Community Liaison
○ Communications Liaison

I would like my name to appear on the ballot in the following manner:
____________________________________________________________________

E-mail_________________________________________________________________
Apartment # _____________________ Phone #____________________________

By submission of, and my signature upon this Declaration of Intent, I state that I have read, understood, and agree with all of the documentation and information contained in this 2020 Election Packet. I agree to abide by all election rules and procedures as set forth in the Resident Council Election Rules and Procedures packet and the University Student Apartments Resident Association Constitution.

_______________________________________  _______________________
Signature      Date

Please return this Declaration of Intent by emailing it to residentcouncilelections@gmail.com by 4:30 PM on Tuesday, March 30, 2021.

The Election Committee will notify candidates immediately following the counting of ballots with unofficial election results. Please indicate your preferred method to be contacted: ______ Email    _____ Phone
Resident Council Bio Sheet

Name: ______________________________________ Position: ___________________

E-mail: ___________________________ Phone # ___________ Apt. #__________

Please submit a statement of 250 words or less telling residents why you should be elected to this position. You may include a photo of yourself. Please email your statement and photo in a Word document to residentcouncilelections@gmail.com no later than 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 30, 2021. We reserve the right to edit for document size. Candidates' statement and photo will be distributed to all residents and posted on the University Student Apartments website.
CONSTITUTION
of the University Student Apartments Resident Association
at the University of Utah

PREAMBLE
We, the residents of University Student Apartments (USA) at the University of Utah, in order to form a community government that represents the interests and concerns of the residents, advocates for policies consistent with those interests, and acquires funding for resident life programming, do hereby establish this Constitution for the University Student Apartments Resident Association (USARA).

ARTICLE I
MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION

Section 1 - Membership
1.1 Membership of USARA shall be limited to adult residents (ages 18 and older) of University Student Apartments at the University of Utah.
1.2 This organization shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, age, or status as an individual with disability, or as a protected veteran, and any other status protected by applicable state or federal law. (University of Utah, Policy 6-400, Section II-E)

Section 2 - Governing Bodies
2.1 The governing bodies of USARA shall consist of the Resident Council, the Executive Members, and the USA Advisory Board.
2.2 The four Resident Council members serve in a voting capacity and Executive members are non-voting. The Mayor casts the deciding vote in the event of a tie.

Section 3 - Resident Council
3.1 The Resident Council shall consist of four resident members of USARA holding the positions of Mayor, Community Liaison, Communications Liaison, and Campus Liaison.

Section 4 - Executive Members
4.1 The Executive Members shall consist of two USA staff members designated by the USA Director.

Section 5 – USA Advisory Board
5.1 The USA Advisory Board shall consist of three appointed representatives of the University of Utah Administration appointed by the USA Director for a three (3) year term.
Section 6 – Statement of Compliance

6.1 We agree to abide by all regulations described in the Guidelines for Recognized Student Organizations, all University policies, in addition to all federal, state, and local laws.

ARTICLE II
RESIDENT INVOLVEMENT
Section 1 – Involvement Guidelines

1.1 The Resident Council meetings shall be open to residents of USA in a non-voting capacity. Residents may ask the Resident Council for time during the meeting to present issues of concern.

1.2 The Resident Council shall serve as advocates for the residents and bring resident concerns to the Executive Members, the Advisory Board, and USA Administration.

1.3 As designated by the USA Director, members of the Resident Council shall participate in appeals committee meetings in order to provide student representation in the appeals process.

ARTICLE III
RESIDENT COUNCIL
Section 1 - Resident Council

1.1 Each Resident Council member shall:
(a) Represent the interests and concerns of all USA residents;
(b) Promote equity, diversity, and social justice and strive to create an inclusive community for all USA residents;
(c) Propose policies, changes to policy, or projects consistent with resident interests;
(d) Attend six (6) Resident Assistant (RA) court events per year;
(e) Assist with the Block Party and three (3) USA large-scale event(s);
(f) Attend a minimum of four (4) USA Advisory Board meetings per year;
(g) Hold a minimum of one (1) Resident Council meeting per month with at least one Executive Member present;
(h) Organize and facilitate two (2) resident forums per year and ongoing communication with USARA about resident questions and concerns;
(i) Complete four (4) village walkthroughs per year (2 during the day and 2 at night) and communicate infrastructure issues to USA staff;
(j) Assist with Special Appeals as appointed by the Director of USA;
(k) Oversee requests for extended use of the Community Centers;
(l) Organize and facilitate annual election process;
(m) Serve in responsibilities specific to your job description or as assigned by the Mayor.

Section 2 - Mayor

2.1 The Mayor shall:
(a) Coordinate Resident Council activities;
(b) Facilitate Resident Council meeting schedules and establish meeting agendas;
(c) Distribute meeting minutes within two (2) business days of meeting;
(d) Appoint a member of the Resident Council to act as Chair in the Mayor’s absence;
(e) Call special meetings of the Resident Council and Executive Members as needed;
(f) Act as a liaison to the Resident Life staff;
(g) Assist as necessary with regards to USA resident ideas and concerns.

Section 3 - Campus Liaison
3.1 The Campus Liaison shall:
(a) Maintain active communication and updated membership with ASUU;
(b) Prepare budgets as needed to be presented to the ASUU General Assembly;
(c) Attend ASUU Sub-committee meetings in conjunction with proposed budgets;
(d) Review resources available on campus and inform Communications Liaison about advertising relevant resources to USA residents;
(e) Update and maintain USARA OrgSync page;
(f) Assist as necessary with regards to USA resident ideas and concerns.

Section 4 – Communications Liaison
4.1 The Communications Liaison shall:
(a) Update, maintain, and monitor USARA Facebook page;
(b) Post information regarding USA sponsored events;
(c) Provide USA residents with relevant University and community resources;
(d) Respond to resident emails and Facebook private messages within 48 hours;
(e) Direct resident concerns and ideas from social media to the Mayor;
(f) Assist as necessary with regards to USA resident ideas and concerns.

Section 5 – Community Liaison
5.1 The Community Liaison shall:
(a) Assist in supporting USA large scale events, Resident Assistant programming, and providing information about Resident Council at events;
(b) Maintain consistent communication with USA Programs Coordinator, Community Club Coordinator, and Garden Coordinator;
(c) Facilitate Resident Council involvement in Resident Life events;
(d) Solicit suggestions for programming options from residents;
(e) Assist as necessary with regards to USA resident ideas and concerns.

Section 6 - Vacancies
6.1 Should the position of Mayor become vacant, the Executive Members and Advisory Board shall use a majority vote to appoint a member of the Resident Council to fulfill the position for the remainder of the current term.

6.2 All other Resident Council vacancies shall be filled either by:
(a) special elections if there is more than six (6) months remaining in the current term; or,
(b) appointment, if there are fewer than six (6) months remaining in the current term. Any member of the Resident Council may nominate a current resident for the position, after which the individual will be appointed by majority vote of the remaining members of the Resident Council.
Section 7 - Terms of Office

7.1 All members of the Resident Council shall be elected by eligible members of USARA for a term of one (1) year to begin on the first (1st) day of the month of June with a maximum of two (2) elected terms for any residents within the same household.

ARTICLE IV
EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Section 1 - Responsibilities

1.1 At least one Executive Member shall attend all Resident Council meetings:
   (a) To review the interests and concerns of residents;
   (b) To review and advise all Resident Council activities;
   (c) To facilitate clear communication between Resident Council and USA Administration.

ARTICLE V
ADVISORY BOARD

Section 1 - Responsibilities

1.1 The chief responsibility of the USA Advisory Board is to provide the opportunity for members of the Main Campus community to interact with USA staff and elected Resident Council leaders to learn about ongoing operations and to provide input into policy and programs for student families. The USA Advisory Board shall:
   (a) Assist in overseeing the annual Resident Council elections and may be required to attend Special Hearings as directed by the USA Director
   (b) Assist with removal from office of a Resident Council member following the steps outlined in Article VI of the Constitution
   (c) Validate Resident Council election results.

ARTICLE VI
REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section 1 - Removal From Office

1.1 Members of the Resident Council may be removed from office for any of the following offenses:
   (a) Inadequate fulfillment of aforementioned duties or the violation of regulations described by University policies or any federal, state, or local law;
   (b) Actions deemed unbecoming of a Resident Council member;
   (c) 3 consecutive unexcused absences from meetings

September 2020
(d) Failure to comply with all provisions of the Rental Contract and Handbook of Terms and Conditions of Occupancy for University Student Apartments (the “Rental Contract”) as it may be updated and revised from time to time.

1.2 A request to remove a Resident Council member from office shall be brought by:
   (a) Any member of the Resident Council; or
   (b) Petition signed by a minimum of 50 USARA members.

1.3 Petitions must specify the reasons for desiring the removal of the Resident Council member from office.

1.4 Hearings to remove a Resident Council member from office shall be conducted by the USA Advisory Board. The Advisory Board will first meet with the initiator of the removal request (either the Resident Council member or the initiator of the petition) to hear their reasons for requesting a removal from office. Then the Advisory Board will meet with the Resident Council member in question. Next, the Advisory Board will make a decision regarding the removal from office. That decision will be communicated to the Executive Committee and to the residents (if any) who initiated the request.

1.5 The details and timeline of removal from office shall be determined by the USA Advisory Board.

ARTICLE VII
ELECTIONS

Section 1 - Eligibility and Registration

1.1 Resident Council members shall be elected in a USARA general election to be held prior to the first (1st) day of June in accordance with this Constitution and the Election Rules and Procedures.

1.2 All eligible USARA members may vote during Resident Council elections.

1.3 Candidates for the Resident Council must register by completing an election packet found on USA’s web page and following the submission guidelines in that packet prior to the deadline set.

1.4 Neither full-time staff members of Student Apartments nor current Resident Life Staff nor their family members shall serve on the Resident Council.

1.5 No two members of the same household may be elected to Resident Council.

Section 2 - Votes and Election Results

2.1 The candidate receiving the most votes is the winner.

2.2 In the event of a tie, a run-off election shall be held.

September 2020
If one of the two candidates in a run-off election withdraws, the other candidate shall be declared the winner.

The USA Advisory Board shall confirm the election results. If there is a vacancy or unfilled position following the initial election results, there will be a special election wherein all unelected candidates can run to fill that vacancy.

Election results shall be posted at the USA Main Office and communicated electronically to current residents upon confirmation by the USA Advisory Board.

Candidates serving as members of the current Resident Council shall not participate in the administration of the election.

Newly elected members of the Resident Council shall take office on June 1st of the new calendar year as set forth in Article III, Section 8.

An Elections Committee shall be appointed by the USA Advisory Board to oversee and administer the elections, and shall be comprised of five members as follows:

(a) USARA members or retiring Resident Council members; and,
(b) one University of Utah Administration member of the USA Advisory Board to serve as Chair of the Elections Committee.

Any Election protest(s) not resolved by the Election Grievance Committee must be submitted in writing to the USA Advisory Board within forty-eight (48) hours after posting the election results.

Written protest(s) submitted within forty-eight (48) hours after posting the election results shall be resolved by the USA Advisory Board.

This Constitution shall become effective upon the approval of:
(a) the USA Advisory Board;
(b) the USA Administration; and,
(c) the Resident Council.

Amendments may be proposed by:
(a) at least two of the four Resident Council members;
(b) both the USA Director and an Executive Member;
(c) at least two of the three USA Advisory Board members; or,
(d) a petition signed by at least 100 USARA and presented to the mayor.

2.2 Amendments must be ratified by a 2/3 majority vote of the following nine people: The Resident Council, the USA Advisory Board, the USA Director, and an Executive Member.

2.3 Amendments to the Constitution must be submitted to and approved by the Department of Student Leadership & Involvement before they become effective.

2.4 Proposed amendments shall become a valid part of this Constitution upon ratification as set forth in Article VIII, Section 2.2 and 2.3.

Section 3 - By-Laws

3.1 By-laws not in conflict with this Constitution may be adopted, amended, or repealed by a majority vote of the Resident Council. By-laws adopted by the Resident Council will only be valid for one year—the length of that Council’s term of office.
Mayor

The Mayor provides leadership and guidance to the Resident Council, organizing and facilitating all Resident Council activities. The ultimate goal of all Council members is to foster an engaged and inclusive community for all USA residents. The Mayor’s responsibilities include:

- Act as a liaison and advocate for the University Student Apartment (USA) residents
- Coordinate Resident Council activities
- Facilitate Resident Council meeting schedules and establish meeting agendas
- Ensure that RC meetings are scheduled to allow at least one Executive Member to attend
- Distribute meeting minutes draft within two (2) business days of meeting to council
- Appoint a member of the Resident Council to act as Chair in the Mayor's absence
- Call Special Meetings of the Resident Council and Executive Members as needed
- Act as a liaison to the Resident Life staff
- Assist as necessary with regards to USA resident ideas and concerns
- Respond to RC related emails within 48 hours
- Organize and facilitate two (2) resident forums per year to address resident concerns
- Assign RC members to build relationships and communication with Resident Life staff (RA's and Program Coordinators)
- Assign an RC member (including Mayor) to attend one (1) RA meeting per month
- Maintain a record of RC member hours worked
- Establish monthly contact with assigned Resident Assistants
- Coordinate training and transition with the newly elected Mayor
- Support all RC members in fulfilling their individual duties

Duties for all Resident Council (RC) members are outlined in Article III Section 1 of the USARA Constitution. The above duties are not comprehensive and are subject to change.

Please be aware that being a Resident Council member can be a demanding job. Members will be expected to have availability during weekday business hours for some tasks.
Campus Liaison

The Campus Liaison works to develop and maintain relevant campus relationships and acts as the liaison between the greater USA community and the University of Utah’s main campus. The ultimate goal of all Council members is to foster an engaged and inclusive community for all USA residents. The Campus Liaison responsibilities include:

- Maintain active communication and updated membership with ASUU
- Attend ASUU, student leadership training, and relevant campus meetings as necessary
- Prepare budgets as needed to be presented to the ASUU General Assembly
- Attend ASUU Sub-committee meetings in conjunction with proposed budgets
- Review resources available on campus and inform Communications Liaison about advertising relevant resources to USA residents
- Update and maintain USARA OrgSync page
- Assist as necessary with regards to USA resident ideas and concerns
- Respond to RC related emails within 48 hours
- Attend monthly Resident Council meetings
- Attend Resident Assistant meetings as designated by Mayor
- Establish monthly contact with assigned Resident Assistants
- Track individual hours and report to Mayor
- Coordinate training and transition with the newly elected Campus Liaison
- Support all RC members in fulfilling their individual duties

Duties for all Resident Council (RC) members are outlined in Article III Section 1 of the USARA Constitution. The above duties are not comprehensive and are subject to change.

Please be aware that being a Resident Council member can be a demanding job. Please be aware that being a Resident Council member can be a demanding job. Members will be expected to have availability during weekday business hours for some tasks.
Community Liaison

The Community Liaison works to support USA sponsored events by assisting the appropriate USA Coordinators and through soliciting and communicating USA resident programs related input. The ultimate goal of all Council members is to foster an engaged and inclusive community for all USA residents. The Community Liaison’s responsibilities include:

- Assist in supporting USA large-scale events and Resident Assistant programming and providing information about Resident Council at events
- Maintain consistent communication with USA Programs Coordinator, Community Club Coordinator, and Garden Coordinator
- Communicate ASUU funding requests from Program Coordinators to Campus Liaison
- Facilitate Resident Council involvement in Resident Life events
- Solicit suggestions for programming options from residents
- Respond to RC related emails within 48 hours
- Assist as necessary with regards to USA resident ideas and concerns
- Attend monthly Resident Council meetings
- Attend Resident Assistant meetings as designated by Mayor
- Establish monthly contact with assigned Resident Assistants
- Track individual hours and report to Mayor
- Coordinate training and transition with the newly elected Community Liaison
- Support all RC members in fulfilling their individual duties

*Duties for all Resident Council (RC) members are outlined in Article III Section 1 of the USARA Constitution. The above duties are not comprehensive and are subject to change.*

*Please be aware that being a Resident Council member can be a demanding job. Members will be expected to have availability during weekday business hours for some tasks.*
Communications Liaison

The Communications Liaison strives to provide USA residents with relevant resources, information, and updates through the USARC Facebook page, text line and regular email updates. The ultimate goal of all Council members is to foster an engaged and inclusive community for all USA residents. The Communications Liaison’s responsibilities include:

- Update, maintain, and monitor USARC Facebook page and text line
  - Monitor page daily
  - Respond to Facebook private messages within 48 hours
  - Direct resident concerns and suggestions from text line and Facebook messages to council members and appropriate USA Staff for response
- Post information to the USARC Facebook page a minimum of twice per week
  - Communicate RC agenda and minutes as directed by Mayor and RC members
  - Post information regarding USA sponsored events and University resources
  - Provide USA residents with relevant University and community resources
  - Post responses to text line concerns or inquiries as appropriate
- Communicate with USA office about Marketplace Facebook as needed
- Draft quarterly RC reports for email distribution
- Respond to RC related emails within 48 hours
- Assist as necessary with regards to USA resident ideas and concerns
- Attend monthly Resident Council meetings
- Attend Resident Assistant meetings as designated by Mayor
- Establish monthly contact with assigned Resident Assistants
- Track individual hours and report to Mayor
- Coordinate training and transition with the newly elected Communications Liaison
- Support all RC members in fulfilling their individual duties

Duties for all Resident Council (RC) members are outlined in Article III Section 1 of the USARA Constitution. The above duties are not comprehensive and are subject to change.

Please be aware that being a Resident Council member can be a demanding job. Members will be expected to have availability during weekday business hours for some tasks.
DECLARATION OF INTENT WRITE-IN CANDIDATE

I, ____________________________, am declaring my candidacy as a Write-In Candidate for the office of:

(First and Last Name)

(Check only one)

○ Mayor
○ Campus Liaison
○ Community Liaison
○ Communications Liaison

I understand my name will NOT appear on the ballot.

E-mail ________________________________________________________________

Apartment # ____________________        Phone #_____________________________

By submission of, and my signature upon this Declaration of Intent, I state that I have read, understood, and agree with all of the documentation and information contained in this 2021 Election Packet. I agree to abide by all election rules and procedures as set forth in the Resident Council Election Rules and Procedures packet and the University Student Apartments Resident Association Constitution.

_______________________________________  __________________
Signature      Date

Please return this Declaration of Intent by emailing it to residentcouncilelections@gmail.com by 4:30 PM on Tuesday, April 6, 2021.

The Election Committee will notify candidates immediately following the counting of ballots with unofficial election results. Please indicate your preferred method to be contacted: _____ Email   _____ Phone