

## **Resident Council and Administration New Sunnyside Apartments Rental Rates Meeting Minutes**

**December 12, 2022**

Venue: John R. Park Building, Board Room

Attendees: Jennifer Reed, David Kieda, Lori McDonald, Cathy Anderson, Blake Billings, Natalie Cottle, John Ellis, Annie Pond

- Welcome
- Resident Council presentation
- Discussion
  - Want to allow USA to continue providing unique environment which promotes education of following populations:
    - Families
    - Underrepresented populations
    - International students
  - Need to be realistic with the bond repayment
    - Payments must be completed
    - Administration to run the numbers on the possibility of grandfathering in the residents who are close to finishing their education
      - Factor in that it is difficult to understand who will stay within USA housing and who will not; and those who are interested
      - Around 353 apartments are impacted with the Phase 2 closure.
        - Look at individual residents to see the possibility of their grandfathering-in to the new Sunnyside apartments
  - Generally reducing Sunnyside rates is not an option based on the bond repayment necessary and what the University is currently charging for other housing.
  - Expense reports of housing are available
    - High level budget is shared during the USA forums happening twice a year
    - Peoples' livelihoods are also dependent on the running apartments
    - Other U auxiliaries need subsidies from USA rent
  - Stipend concerns
    - Two types of stipends
      - Grants: based on what individual faculty and departments determine
        - Forseen as easier to employ toward student stipends
      - University account: money from the state
        - Forseen as harder to employ toward student stipend
    - Graduate Students, specifically PhD, are a critical investment for the UofU in maintaining U's vision. Benefits feed directly into U.
    - President Randall has assembled a task force working to solve stipend issue.
      - Hoping for a resolution in spring 2023

- Financial Office is still behind on determining loan allotment changes
- Many international students' spouses are unable to work due to visa restrictions
- UofU's goal to have \$1 billion in research
  - Currently below on this goal.
  - Concern that if something doesn't change in regards to the new housing rates, researchers will go to less expensive schools.
  - Many research students are international
  - Concern of current research students not finishing education due to the increased financial demand.
- Finding donations
  - Development team is currently working on finding donations to fund scholarships
  - Possibility of a campaign specifically targeting former USA residents to fund housing subsidies
- David to meet with Deans to discuss stipend increases from grants
- RC to send digital handbook to attendees
- RC to follow up with attendees around January 15, 2023