Safety committee meeting, 12/8/20

1. Introductions
2. Update from John Sales:
   1. Camera policy timeline: Make sure that there’s a policy in place so that residents have say in how cameras are used.
   2. A policy determines where cameras are used and who’s watching the footage
   3. Resident panels to determine when the footage can be viewed. Which requests for camera footage are approved and denied. Have access to the system when needed but can’t abuse the footage.
   4. Placement of cameras: protect residents’ privacy. Policy will determine where the cameras are placed
   5. How will cameras be utilized? Policy will determine when cameras will be utilized and why. No evictions at Crescent Halls due to camera use since they’ve been put up. Police review footage there when a crime is committed.
   6. Footage oversight: risky for PD to have control of the footage. Can’t afford to have police monitor the cameras.
   7. Elements of a camera policy have been drafted and will be presented at the next meeting on Dec. 22nd.
   8. Will take 6-9 months for cameras
3. Brandon: are there things that residents don’t want out of cameras?
   1. Resident: cameras provide proof that something happened and so can be used to protect residents in a court of law
   2. How long should footage be kept?
   3. Who gets to request? Need to have this in a policy.
4. Century Force: provides perspectives on what cameras are used at their other sites
5. Brandon: what happens if a resident lets a barred person onto the property?
6. Resident: can’t stop people from walking in behind them into Crescent Halls
7. Mr. Sales: lease enforcement doesn’t have to be punitive. Can be about educating residents.
8. Shelby Edwards: what are the short- and long-term goals for the cameras.
   1. Mr. Sales: short term is to get installed. Long term is to make them effective.
   2. What about present concerns rather than future concerns?
   3. Cameras not currently in the redevelopment plans. Resident wants them in redevelopment plans. Mr. Sales talks about those plans
9. What about Westhaven? Not all Westhaven residents want cameras. Want everything to go out in writing to residents. Want lights!
10. Mr. Sales talks about lighting projects and the lighting survey they want to do.
11. Trying to work closely with PHAR to get more resident involvement. Residents want CRHA to reach out more
12. Resident: Create a flyer that explains what happens in the safety meeting and what’s been discussed. Lots of people don’t know what goes on in the meetings. Need more transparency between housing and the residents
13. Shelby Edwards: are there notes being taken? Yes and being posted on the website.
14. Brandon: Residents want action and for the first time CRHA is committed to a comprehensive approach to safety.
15. Provide constant updates to residents on the lighting plan. Hopefully folks will see a difference soon.
16. If people are shooting out lights won’t they shoot out cameras, too?
    1. Mr. Sales: addressed cutting of wires with lights. But also cameras will be more difficult to shoot out.
    2. Some lights owned by Dominion. Difficult to get Dominion to change lights. Trying to look into taking over lights with redevelopment so that CRHA can own and manage the lights rather than working with Dominion.
17. What’s in draft policy:
    1. Usage; who monitors and reviews cameras; how requests are viewed; how community review board will be created; how you submit requests to view camera policy
    2. If we have a policy, must be followed no matter what
    3. Lighting will be addressed in the next 6 months. Lights will be done before cameras.
18. Question about cars being towed when there’s no lights in front of some units. Places where wires were cut, going to upgrade the lights.
19. Resident: can people who own their property view the camera footage?
20. Cameras should be focused on open public property, not individual units.
21. Resident: Need a policy for emergency lockboxes.
22. Resident: Will there be an MOU with the Police Department? One resident thinks it would be better to work with the assistant police chief.
23. Update from new security firm: Did a site tour and took notes for each property. Several areas of concern:
    1. Lighting was one area of concern. Many properties have poor lighting. Will do a night assessment soon.
    2. Cameras. They think cameras would be a benefit, especially to family properties.
    3. A lot of non-residents on the properties. Going to take a lot of work to turn things around. Community relations standpoint. Some service proposals for CRHA’s consideration, even if down the line. Utilizing special conservators of the peace in addition to armed security. Other options like this that might be beneficial. Challenges but nothing that they can’t handle. Noticed a lot of drug activity. Visibility is a deterrent.
    4. Have a goal of working closely with police and developing a good working relationship
    5. Suggest signage about no loitering and no trespassing (this pends a no loitering policy). Also looking into speed bumps.
24. Can residents get service calls from police in terms of the reports of what they police are responding to?
25. How will Sentry Force be introduced to residents?
26. What about safety survey?