# Mayors’ Council
## Residents Meeting Minutes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>University Village South</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>07/17/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>UVS BBQ Pavilion (Next to the UVS Laundry Facility)</td>
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<td>Meeting started</td>
<td>5.00 p.m.</td>
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## Topics discussed

### Announcements about upcoming events/ Updates for residents

- Upcoming Events were informed to the residents.
  - Recreational Event – August
  - Back-to-School Event – September
- The availability of equipment to check out from the Maguire/UVS office has been announced. The residents were explained the check in/out process and the related COVID prevention protocols.
- Information regarding the possibility of organizing swimming classes by the Mayors’ Council for graduate student residents and their family members has been shared with the residents.
- The plan to organize a dental and oral health promotional event in the village with the participation of a faculty member from the UF Dentistry has been discussed. The residents shared a great interest in this event.
- The basketball game with the UFPD officers on July 24th was announced to the residents and they were encouraged to participate in the event.
- The bicycle registration that will take place on the above event date was reminded.

### Answers for questions/ issues from previous meeting(s)

- The information provided by GFH regarding the large item disposal unit. The residents were informed it was removed due to a large number of non-residents disposing items to it, and due to the cost associated with emptying it.
- The residents were informed of the request by the GFH to submit a detailed proposal regarding the establishment of composting bins.
- The information provided by GFH regarding the iservice response time has been shared with the residents. It was informed to the residents that there is no fixed time period to receive a specific service.
- It was informed to the residents that GFH did not provide a proper answer regarding the possibility of having a notice posted near the UVS BBQ Pavilion regarding the grill cleaning instruction as they previously requested.

### New questions/ Concerns/ issues/ complaints raised

- The residents shared their displeasure regarding the delay from the GFH to send the reminder on the new breezeway policy as well as the garbage categorizing email, as promised a couple of months ago.
- The residents greatly expressed their displeasure towards the GFH for the lack of maintenance of the village facilities at present, compared to the previous years. They expressed their utmost disappointment on how the quality of services have gone down in UVS, at a time a rent increase has taken place claiming increases in the GFH operational cost. They shared their thoughts as if these measures are deliberately planned to discourage future graduate students from choosing on-campus housing and hence targeting further closures of Graduate and Family Housing Villages on UF.
- The residents shared their displeasure regarding having to submit proposals for every worthy cause.
The residents inquired the possibility of establishing a common bookshelf in the laundry room/other village facility for the village residents to share books, magazines and other reading materials with each other.

Couple of residents expressed the concerns regarding the rising number of roaches in the villages.

Couple more residents expressed their concerns regarding a ‘mold issue’ in some buildings/apartment units (e.g., 324-3 and 329-6). They expressed that the cleaning and washing by the GFH staff did not help and the mold continues to reappear after a while and affect clothes and their belongings. They express health related concerns and requested GFH to take measure to fix the issue or allow them to move apartments within the village (given the availability of empty apartments). It was mentioned thata request to change an apartment within the village was denied by an area coordinator. They informed it would not be ideal for them to move villages owing to the moving cost, and some being closer to their graduation.

**Other topics/ suggestions from residents**

- The residents requested for a cross-cultural exchange/potluck themed event. The mayor gratefully accepted the suggestion.
- The residents requested for a treasure hunting themed activity/event for especially the child residents in the coming months.
- Some residents inquired of the possibility of serving ‘halal’ food for the residents with Islamic faith. The mayor expressed the willingness to explore the options to better serve the participating members.

**Mayor’s Remarks:**

- The mayor is delighted to highlight the gradual increase in the number of residents participating in the village events. As a result, a higher number of participants were present this month.
- The participating residents requested to continue holding the UVS monthly residents’ meeting at a venue on the side of the UVS (e.g., UVS BBQ pavilion) acknowledging the ease of commute and attendance with children and having more time to discuss village specific concerns.
- The residents joined to celebrate the village July birthdays with a cake and a card! The transitioning to an ‘eat-at the venue’ (catering) event was a great success. The residents expressed it was joyful to get back to in-person events in the village.
- The UVS Mayor gratefully acknowledges the assistance from the Maguire-UVS Community Assistant, Katarzyna Emin in organizing the event, the Area Coordinator Kaila Aimino for the assistance with communicating event announcements, and the GFH for providing the food for the residents’ meeting.

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<th>Food</th>
<th>Pizzazs, ice cream, and a birthday cake were served.</th>
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<td>Total number of people in attendance of the residents meeting</td>
<td>20 (including student residents, spouses, and children) – 2 residents that came late didn’t sign</td>
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<td>MC community event</td>
<td>Hydration &amp; Wellness Kits and food snacks (chips, healthy food snacks, and drinks) were distributed to the registered participants by the Mayors’ Council. The community event benefitted a total of 45 residential members in UVS.</td>
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Meeting adjourned at 6.30 p.m.
Lakshitha Perera
UVS Mayor