WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, January 13, 2010, for the purpose of meeting with Green Ridge House Management.

Mayor Davis started the meeting at 7:39 p.m. It was held in the Dining Room of Green Ridge House.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Silke I. Pope, Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Edward V.J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts, Emmett V. Jordan and Mayor Judith F. Davis.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager; Christal Batey, Community Resource Advocate; Sharon Vanzego, Service Coordinator and David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Douglass Erdman, William McClain, Lynnette McGrath and Kim Potts, Community Realty (Green Ridge House management) representatives and many Green Ridge House residents

Mayor Davis began with introductions. She described the survey process and noted there were 58 responses which was a 56% response rate.

Mr. Erdman stated that the survey was overwhelmingly positive and they were pleased with the results. Mayor Davis noted that Community Realty's cover letter to the residents indicated that negative comments in the survey were being addressed. She asked Community Realty to elaborate on these. Ms. McGrath stated that some concerns were expressed about staff interaction with the residents. She indicated that staff would be undergoing specialized training on interacting with senior populations.

Ms. Mach asked about the installation of window alarms on the terrace level. Ms. McGrath responded they would investigate these alarms.

Mr. Roberts asked about the faucet leak in several residences. Ms. McGrath responded that the water needed to be cut off in order to make this repair.

Mr. Herling asked how the resident concerns about staff interaction with them would be addressed. Mr. Erdman responded that they were seeking specialized training for staff.

Mr. Jordan asked how they were addressing parking concerns. Ms. McGrath indicated they were at capacity with 54 spaces and more than 54 permit holders. She stated they would be looking at speed humps or traffic calming.

Mr. Putens requested that Community Reality provide the City with plans for their training of staff in response to this survey. He also noted that the survey mentioned some "resident vs. resident" issues. He suggested someone be brought in to help address these concerns. Mr. Putens suggested the rules be looked at carefully and he encouraged residents to abide by the rules particularly related to animals.

Ms. Pope suggested that if there is a problem with one or two residents, it should be addressed with those residents rather than creating a rule that impacts everyone.

Mayor Davis asked about the reasons for a sign-in sheet in the lobby. Ms. Potts responded that this was for fire safety and security reasons. Mayor Davis asked about inspections at Green Ridge. Ms. McGrath explained the inspection procedures.

Several residents made comments. One resident asked about burning food in the microwaves. Council encouraged the resident to provide specifics to management.

Another resident asked about the smoking survey. Ms. McGrath responded that a survey was taken and that 75% favored non-smoking in the building and 25% wanted to retain smoking privileges. She noted that they were working on a smoking cessation program and hoped to eventually have a smoke-free building.

One resident requested that her issue with not having a pet be revisited. Ms. McGrath responded that this was a private matter. Another resident asked about the privacy of records in the office. Ms. McGrath responded that this was a HUD requirement and information about individual residents was kept confidential.

Another resident requested higher wattage lamps or 3-way bulbs in the lamps in the lounge. One resident expressed concern about the Zipcar reimbursement process. Another resident expressed concern about a staff member screaming at her

Several residents thanked the City and management for providing such a good place to live.

Mayor Davis closed by stating that the survey was a good idea and would be conducted annually. She thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The meeting ended at 8:27p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Moran Assistant City Manager

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