2017 CAI Expo: Another Successful Event!

Russ Rader [The Westmoreland], President, DC/CHC

No cooperative board member should miss the WMCCAI Expo. The reason is its one-stop shopping for a wealth of information. The Washington Metropolitan Community Association Institute stages the Expo each year at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center providing educational programs, an opportunity to network, and access to 200 vendor exhibitors. In 2017, the D.C. Cooperative Housing Coalition was once again an allied partner for the Expo, and we were pleased to meet some of you at our display table.

The Expo is content packed. Topics of this year’s 15 education seminars included Being an Effective Board Member, Seniors Aging in Place, It All Begins with a Budget, Seniors Aging in Place, and Using Positive Leadership Skills in Communities. The seminars get high marks from Coalition board members who have attended.

Another benefit of the Expo is being able to talk with exhibitors who offer services from auditing to banking to landscaping to reserve studies. If you’re looking for a vendor for just about any project, this a great way to start your research.

Whatever issues or projects your cooperative faces, chances are you’ll find help, contacts, and education resources at the Expo. We hope to see you at next year’s Expo—March 10, 2018, in the Washington Convention Center!

USDA Presentation

Mike O’Dell (Harbour Square), Coalition Director, was the guest speaker before a group of US Department of Agriculture, Community Economic Development researchers involved in part working with different cooperatives. The CED works with communities that live in persistent poverty and in rural areas that have limited resources.

The CED researchers were interested in learning more about the Coalition and how it goes about serving its members.
Coalition Plans for the future!

Jan Sten (3020 Tilden Street), CHC Director

The DC Cooperative Housing Coalition has a clear mission, laid out in its Articles of Incorporation: “to promote the concept of cooperative housing as a desirable and beneficial form of home ownership and to protect the common interests of cooperative housing associations in the District of Columbia through education, research, lobbying, the exchange of information and such other related activities. . .” The Board recently initiated a strategic planning process to reinvigorate and focus its efforts to effectively serve the DC co-op community. We are well underway in setting goals and a roadmap to enhance two-way communication with coalition members and establish plans to better meet the needs of our community and partners. It’s an exciting undertaking as we review and assess our past efforts in order to plan for the future! We will keep you informed of our progress.

5 New Service Providers!

Facts LLC

The Coalition is pleased to announce that FACTS LLC is a new Coalition web sponsor and supporter of the District’s cooperative housing community. FACTS LLC, co-located with the Edmund J. Flynn Company, is the transfer agent for cooperatives. It handles the corporation’s ownership records for more than 200 Cooperatives in the DC Metro Area. FACTS LLC will assist with resale packages, application packages, and transfers of ownerships. Their full listing and contact information can be found on our web site: http://coopsdc.org/service-providers/. Thank you, Facts LLC!

M&T Bank, Mortgage Division

The Coalition is pleased to announce that M&T Bank, Mortgage Division is a new Coalition web sponsor and supporter of the District’s cooperative housing community under the “Mortgages/Lenders (Share Loans)” provider heading. They provide several types of loans including co-op unit, construction, and renovation loans, among several other types. Their full listing and contact information can be found on our web site: http://coopsdc.org/service-providers/. Thank you, M&T Bank, Mortgage Division!

Caulkins & Bruce, PC

The Coalition is pleased to announce that Caulkins & Bruce is a new Coalition web sponsor and supporter of the District’s cooperative housing community. Caulkins & Bruce, PC represents numerous common interest communities—both as general counsel and for specific disputes, litigation and collections. The firm provides practical guidance to common interest community boards and managers regarding the unique variety of issues that confront community living entities. Their full listing and contact information can be found on our web site: http://coopsdc.org/service-providers/. Thank you, Caulkins & Bruce!

Roost DC

The Coalition is pleased to announce that Roost DC is a new Coalition web sponsor and supporter of the District’s cooperative housing community. Roost DC is a property management company focused on smaller (under 100 units) condominiums and cooperatives throughout the District. Roost pays attention to detail, strong systems, and great communications. To learn more about them, see their full listing and contact information on our site: http://coopsdc.org/service-providers/. Thank you, Roost DC!

Pillar Finance, A Division of SunTrust

The Coalition is pleased to announce that Pillar Finance, A Division of SunTrust is a new Coalition web sponsor and supporter of the District’s cooperative housing community. Pillar focuses on the specific individual needs of each client, customizing a financing solution that best fits the borrower’s business plan. They provide underlying building loans. Their lending platform consists of Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and HUD products. Their full listing and contact information can be found on our web site: http://coopsdc.org/service-providers/. Thank you, Pillar!

Remember: If you contact a Coalition web sponsor, please let them know that you learned about them from the Coalition web site! Welcome Global Inc. and thank you for supporting the District’s cooperative housing community!

-------------------------------------------------

e-Mail surveys

The following surveys were conducted at the request of Coalition members January through April, 2017:

- Voting & Proxies (January)
- Capitalization Policies (March)
- Interpreters (April)
- Financial Management (April)
- Refinancing & DHCD Loans (April)
Board of Directors

President
Russ Rader
The Westmoreland, 60 units

Vice President
Lynn Ohman
Shoreham West, 60 units

Secretary
Art Leabman
1870 Wyoming Avenue, 28 units

Treasurer
Dottie Moskowitz
Tiber Island, 389 units

Directors
Fred Dyda
Tilden Gardens, 170 units
Stephen McKevitt
Beverly Court, 39 units
Susan Muhlbach
Madison Terrace, 44 units
Michael O’Dell
Harbour Square, 447 units
Ray Olson
River Park Mutual Homes, 518 units
Nancy Skinkle
The Broadmoor, 194 units
Janet Sten
3020 Tilden Street, 20 units
Katie Wilson
Cathedral Avenue Cooperative, 145 units

Counsel
Joseph Douglas
Whitelord, Taylor & Preston, LLP
1800 M Street NW Suite 450N
Washington, DC 20036
202-659-6779
jdouglass@wtplaw.com

Administrative Assistant
Jim Smith
700 7th Street, SW #633
Washington, DC 20024
202-488-3670
DCCHC@aol.com

Contact us:
CooperativesDC@aol.com
www.CoopsDC.org

About DC/CHC, the Coalition

Established in 1984, the DC Cooperative Housing Coalition exists to advance the common interests of cooperative housing associations in the District of Columbia and to promote cooperative housing as a desirable form of home ownership. It is therefore both an advocacy organization that articulates the interests of members before government officials and regulatory agencies and a service organization that provides information and education to members.

Membership is open to all District housing cooperatives, regardless of size. A volunteer board of directors, elected by member co-ops, governs the Coalition. Activities are financed through annual dues, $1.50 per unit per year (12.5 cents per month).

The Coalition grew out of an ad-hoc group of District cooperatives that formed in response to a judicial ruling that had cast a cloud over many cooperatives by banning proportionate voting. By marshaling the forces of more than 3,000 housing cooperative units, the ad-hoc group persuaded the District’s City Council to resolve the matter.

Recognizing the importance to the cooperative housing community of speaking in a single voice and maintaining the ability to respond quickly and knowledgeably to matters affecting cooperative housing, the ad-hoc group decided to form a permanent organization.

The Coalition was established in 1984 and was incorporated as DC/CHC, Inc., a nonprofit, IRS Code 501(c)(6) organization in the District of Columbia, May 24, 1993.