

COLONNADE RESIDENTS COALITION NEWSLETTER

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EMAIL VERSION

PO BOX 893, NEWARK, NJ 07104

COLONNADEINFORMATION@GMAIL.COM

862-234-2728

The mission of the Colonnade Residents Coalition (CRC) is to represent tenants and collaborate with owners, management, agencies, or other associations to optimize the quality of life at the Colonnade Apartments.



Your CRC Board

During the October 13, 2015 CRC meeting, the by-laws were approved and the elected Executive Board Members were installed.

The CRC by-laws can be viewed from the web site:
<https://colonnaderesidentscoalition.wordpress.com/>

Following is the email contact information for your Executive Board:

President: Shawn Johnson	crc.pres2551@gmail.com
Vice President, C Building: Wesley Jones	crc.vp.cbldg@gmail.com
Vice President, D Building: Chris Anderson	crc.vp.dbldg@gmail.com
Treasurer: Hazel Currie	crc.treas2551@gmail.com
Secretary: Position Vacated Nov 5	crc.sec2551@gmail.com

Note: Roslyn Gillespie was elected and installed as Secretary for the CRC Board. She has since vacated the position due to moving from the premises. This position is now available. Please volunteer.

President's Message

As the newly installed President of the CRC, I extend a sincere thank you to Mr. Carlton Tilley. His vision for a best possible community within the Colonnade brought us to this point and we are honored to have his continued support and participation as we move forward. We also appreciate Ms. Elaine Ellsberry who continues to work with the CRC as well as outside organizations during this transition period. Within the past few months, we have seen increased momentum and support for the CRC as well as its mission - to support the residents of the Colonnade Apartments. With that said, the CRC speaks on behalf of the Residents of the Colonnade. In order for this to be done properly and legitimately, we need the input, feedback and the participation of the residents. Out of many, one voice.

Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER 11

Tenants' Associations
RCO Meeting, 6:30PM
CL Meeting Room

NOVEMBER 11

Monthly CRC Board
Meeting, 7:30PM
CL Meeting Room

DECEMBER 8

Monthly CRC Board
Meeting, 7:30PM
CL Meeting Room

JANUARY 12

Quarterly CRC
General Meeting,
8:00PM
CL Meeting Room

Rent Control Ordinance

The November 6 hearing to allow a group of Tenant Associations to intervene during the pending RCO lawsuit was postponed to allow development of an amendment by the attorneys representing the petitioning Tenants' Associations. A draft memo to Mayor Baraka planned to address the substantial rehabilitation section of the RCO. However, there are problems with other areas of the RCO that also must be addressed. Rather than developing a memo that provides an amendment for only one of the RCO issues, a November 11 meeting between liaisons for the Tenants' Association and its attorneys will seek to build consensus for addressing additional RCO sections that require either strengthened language or further clarity. In the interim, the City Council will be convening on November 16 and tenants are encouraged to register to speak about rental issues or concerns with the RCO.

At the heart of the current landlord-initiated lawsuit is the revised rent control ordinance now caps any rent increase for substantial rehabilitation to 20 percent and raises the threshold for requesting that rent increase to \$5,000 per room in a given unit. Landlords claim the new rules fail to take into account the cost of maintaining their buildings and creates disincentives for making improvements to their properties. Let the Newark City Council and Mayor Baraka know you expect elected officials to defend the RCO as adopted on June 20, 2014!



In the Community

November 16

6:30; Municipal Council Chambers in City Hall:
Council Hearing
Agenda includes the opportunity for tenants to address concerns related to the RCO

Mayor and City Council Contact Information

Mayor Ras Baraka	(973) 733-6400	BarakaRa@ci.newark.nj.us
Salimu Taylor - Mayor's Asst.		TaylorSa@ci.newark.nj.us
Council President Mildred C. Crump	(973) 733-8043	Crumpm@ci.newark.nj.us
Councilman At-Large Eddie Osborne	(973) 733-3794	Osbornee@ci.newark.nj.us
Councilman At-Large Carlos M. Gonzalez	(973) 733-6425	Gonzalezc@ci.newark.nj.us
Councilman At-Large Luis A. Quintana	(973) 733-5880	Quintanal@ci.newark.nj.us
North Ward Councilman Anibal Ramos	(973) 733-5136	RamosA@ci.newark.nj.us
Councilwoman Gayle Chaneyfield-Jenkins	(973) 733-5870	Chaneyfieldg@ci.newark.nj.us
Councilman Augusto Amador	(973) 733-6571	AmadorA@ci.newark.nj.us
Councilman James John Sharpe	(973) 733-3753	Jamesjoh@ci.newark.nj.us
Councilman Joe McCallum	(973) 733-6427	Mccallumjo@ci.newark.nj.us

Residents Satisfaction Survey

As the Colonnade Apartments transitions to both new property owners and management, the CRC has developed a Residents Satisfaction Survey. We have met with a member of the new management who presented himself as very interested in improving upon many areas at the Colonnade as well as working with and assisting the CRC. We plan to share the results of this survey with him/them as residents' feedback and direction towards where improvements could start. Please complete the survey online by Nov 30, via the link provided in the email cover.