



As you have been informed, there were two disturbing graffiti incidents recently. The incident in the C building was determined to be an act of vandalism and the shareholder has been identified. The incident in the B building has been assigned to the NYPD Hate Crimes Unit. Given that this is an ongoing investigation, the Police will not disclose any other details at this time.

In the meantime, Management and Board members have contacted or met with NY State Senator Brian Cavanagh, the 7th Precinct Commanding Officer Rhonda O'Reilly-Bovell, and NY State Assemblymember Yuh-Lin Niou.

The following measures have been taken: 1) Increased police presence on foot patrol and 2) NYPD security audit to determine improvements in our security system. Research is underway for: 1) grants and other funding programs at the state and city level and 2) cost-effective additions to our current security system. Assemblymember Yuh-Line Niou will monitor the increased police presence in our area and the progress of the case. We will meet again in one week for an update.

Finally, there is an important role that we as shareholders play in keeping our community safe and secure. Please keep the following in mind.

- Even though it may seem rude, DO NOT let anyone follow you into the building unless they are known to you.
- ALWAYS ask for a response before buzzing someone in.
- If you SEE any suspicious activity, report it to Security.
- ASK elected officials to advocate for increased policing in our neighborhood.
- BE VIGILANT.

On a different but related topic, the Board has met with Councilmember Chin's staff, the New York City Department of Taxation and Finance, and Assemblymember Yuh-Lin Niou about the staggering increase in real estate taxes. We have communicated the huge impact this has had on our budget and the fact that many shareholders live on a fixed income. Tax relief = more funds to allocate to security enhancements. We encourage all shareholders to determine your eligibility and to register to receive tax-relief benefits. Below are some of the most common.*

- Coop and Condo Tax Abatement
- STAR (School Tax Relief)
- Senior citizen exemption
- Veterans' exemption
- Exemption for persons with disabilities

**Seniors please note that Assemblyperson Yuh-Lin Niou's staff is regularly present at the Orenstein luncheon and can help with completing the exemption forms.*

For more information contact the Management office at 212-677-5858 or visit tax.ny.gov/pit/property/exemption/index.htm.

SAVE THE DATE!

Hillman Finance Meeting Monday, February 24, 2020

We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Hillman Finance meeting on Monday, February 24, 2020 at 7 pm in the Orenstein Building, 15-17 Bialystoker Place (across from the C building). We invite you to join the Board and Management to review the financial results for 2019 and discuss the financial strategy of the past few years and plans for 2020 and beyond.

One of the topics to be discussed will be security, shareholders will have the opportunity to ask questions and share their views. If time allows, we will address other issues of concern to shareholders.

Project Updates

Elevator Renovation

The elevator renovation project is in its final phase. B, E, and H buildings are progressing on schedule and all other buildings are complete. There have been no further issues with the new elevators in Shabbos mode.

Laundry Rooms

The E-F laundry room gas dryers were taken out of service last year by the NYC Department of Buildings due to compliance issues with the gas piping. The initial approach was to work toward restoring service to the gas dryers. However, there are significant complications with restoring the gas lines to code. After undertaking a cost analysis and proposal review, the Board has directed Management to fast track bids for installing sufficient lines to accommodate Hercules' replacement of gas dryers with electric dryers in all Hillman laundry rooms. The work has begun with the E-F laundry room and the Board will work with Management to make sure updates are communicated to shareholders in a timely manner.

Intercom Upgrade

Upgrades were done to all of our intercoms. If a shareholder dials 711, the intercom will dial the security booth located on the same block as the intercom. If a shareholder dials 911, the intercom will dial NYPD/FDNY/EMS. There is a maximum of four talking minutes before the call ends.

Board Initiatives

Basement Survey

The Hillman House Committee in coordination with the Board is in the process of surveying all the various basement rooms and spaces in all the buildings. One of the goals is to assess the possibility of creating revenue streams such as additional self storage and bicycle storage.

Did you know?

- ★ Laundry carts are to be used exclusively in the laundry room. By removing a cart for your own purposes, you are not being considerate of your neighbors. Also, leave AC operation to porters; units are turned on for summer months only.
- ★ Your personal items, including wet shoes, boots, umbrellas, scooters, carriages etc. belong in your apartment and NOT in the hall. Here's why:
 - Any and all items are a FIRE HAZARD and Hillman will be fined by the NYC Fire Department.
 - The porters spend extra time moving YOUR belongings to mop the floors. This takes time that can be spent on their other work keeping our buildings looking good.
 - The hallways are common areas and NOT your personal space.
 - It is UNSIGHTLY and impacts sales. Real estate agents have told us so and we believe them!
- ★ You can ensure that your package is not lost or stolen. Address package delivery to: East River Housing Maintenance Department, 568 Grand Street, New York, NY 10002.
- ★ The Hillman Gym has a monthly maintenance contract. Members, please report any equipment issues to Management at 212-677-5858.
- ★ It is easy for you to become involved in the community. The Hillman House Committee meets at 7:00 pm on the first Thursday of every month in the Hillman Community Room to discuss shareholder concerns and work on all sorts of projects to enhance Hillman quality of life. For more information, send an email hillmanhousecommittee@gmail.com.

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Submit Board-related issues in writing to:

Hillman Board of Directors
Cooperative Village
530 Grand Street
New York, NY 10002
or send an e-mail to hillmanboard@gmail.com

E-mail notification service:

Visit www.coopvillage.coop/emailsignup to register.

View your monthly invoice information online using the Cooperator Portal:

Send your name, address, apartment number, email, and phone to portal@hillmanhousing.com to receive a PIN number and further instructions for signing up.