

2022 Community Manager Topic Ideas

Please note that this is a starting point and not an exhaustive list. Topics can be approached from several angles and adapted to different sections. Additional suggestions are always welcome.

Best Practices

- Addressing mental health challenges (e.g., identifying and treating burnout, coping with stress, setting boundaries and expectations, etc.)
- Welcoming new residents
- Communicating with different people in different settings (e.g., residents, board members, business partners, staff, supervisors, etc.)
- Conflict resolution
- Planning and running virtual meetings and elections
- Emergency preparedness
- Pet policies

Board Relations

- Maintaining a productive relationship with homeowner volunteers (i.e., board members and committee members)
- Preparing orientation packets for new board members
- Assisting the board with financial responsibilities (e.g., drafting budgets, managing payroll, etc.)

Business Resources

- Managing different types of communities, i.e., small associations, large-scale communities, communities with higher proportion of seasonal residents, high-rise communities (condominiums or housing cooperatives)
- Succession planning
- Meeting the needs of diverse communities (e.g., 55-and-older communities or those where residents are choosing to age in place, multigenerational households, etc.)

Business Trends

- Ongoing challenges due to COVID-19, such as financial (e.g., assessments, budgets, service contracts, salary reductions) and operational (e.g. vaccine mandates, labor shortages, work arrangements)
- Housing trends (e.g., short-term rentals, investor-owned properties, accessory dwelling units) and their effect on community associations.
- Technological trends and how they can be leveraged in community management (e.g., automation, management software, cybersecurity, etc.)
- Ways to improve residents' community association living experience
- Hotel and resort-like services in community associations

Career Path

- Management challenges stemming from COVID-19
- Transferable skills to bring to community management
- Professional development, mentoring, and training (e.g., continuing education, salary negotiation, skill set expansion, etc.)
- Working for or running a family business
- Timely issues that influence/impact the profession (e.g., legislative changes, licensing or education requirements, etc.)

Common Area

- Environmentally sustainable initiatives
- Risk management for natural disasters and long-term climate change
- Addressing aging infrastructure
- Topics on general maintenance and upkeep (e.g., winterizing equipment, preparing pools for summer, etc.)
- Overseeing capital improvement projects and building maintenance

Peer Perspectives

- Attracting and retaining talent
- Diversity within the profession
- International views on community management
- The manager's role during developer transition
- Community management lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic

Community Spotlight

- Resident engagement initiatives
- Seasonal activities
- Volunteering in the broader community (e.g., food, donation, and blood drives, fundraising events, etc.)