

Minutes of the General Membership of the PCO – November 17, 2021

A quorum having been established, President Smith convened the meeting at 7:34PM.

Thanks were given to Mark Mesle and Lynne McClure of the NPCA for their provision of pizza and beverages for the meeting.

Secretary reported that the Draft September and October General Membership and November Executive Minutes had been posted in advance online; there being no corrections, additions, or deletions requested.

Motion: To adopt the September and October General Membership Minutes and Notes as posted. [M/S/P Tom McMahon, CJ Martello]

Treasurer reported an Opening Balance of \$35,865.99 and a Closing Balance of \$33,106.33 for the month of October, broken up as follows: Operating: \$21,102.27; Façade: \$6,958.20; Kirchner: \$1,614.23; Savings: \$3,432.13. The report will be filed for audit. Further, the Treasurer reported an Opening balance of \$21,874.48 and a Closing balance of \$37,982.15 for the House Tour Fund.

The annual PCO Budget was presented to those gathered, with subsequent discussion.

Motion: To adopt the Budget as presented. [M/S/P Mike Shymanski, Cindy McMahon]

Membership Committee reported a total 287 members for the year.

Beman Committee reminded those gathered that the Application and Guidelines for its Façade Reimbursement Program for 2022 are currently available both online and at 11307 S. Saint Lawrence, and are due back December 31.

Safety Committee reported on the following:

- Six auto accidents in the immediate area had been reported last month, mostly occurring near the Bishop Ford.
- There were two catalytic converter thefts in the neighborhood within the past month. Residents are encouraged to read the Committee's article in the November Flyer for tips on how to protect from theft.
- An unmarked yellow and white tow truck has been spotted on 113th St. recently. Residents are encouraged to remain on the lookout for any unmarked tow truck in the community, out of caution for illegal tows.
- Gun violence has continued in the surrounding areas, including Palmer Park, North Pullman, and Kensington.
- The Factory Gentlemen's Club license has been revoked.
- There will be no Committee meeting in December, and Beat meetings will resume in the Spring.

Welcome Committee introduced Andrea Little, recent Pullman resident and teacher at Poe Classical School.

Communication Committee reported that an accessibility/readability option has been added to the PCO website, and that the video of and content from the recent Veterans Day event will be posted to the website soon.

Hospitality Committee announced that requests have been made of Committees, Organizations, and individuals to sign up for providing refreshments each month next year at General Membership meetings, and anyone wanting to sign up should see the Chair. A reminder was given that next month will be the PCO holiday party, and that everyone attending is encouraged to bring a dish to share. Volunteers to help set up and take down will be most welcome.

Vision Committee presented its Priority Action Survey, made available to members at the meeting and which will be disseminated to all members over the following weeks to be due back by January 1; the results therefrom to be presented in January. The Committee also provided a reminder that the full results of its preliminary survey is still available in limited paper copies, and online.

The President announced the convening of the Bylaws Committee, with Larry Lagadinos appointed as its Co-chair. Members Lorraine Brochu, John Cwenkala, and Beverly Ash-Larson volunteered to be a part of the Committee.

Community Improvement reported that some streetlights that were out, especially along Cottage Grove, are now back on, but some others – including the one south of the Hotel – remain off. The Chair also noted that contact info and methods of getting in touch with him are in the November Flyer.

Hour Tour thanked all who participated in and helped with this year's Tour, and announced that approximately \$14,000 in total net profit is expected. Anyone willing to have their house on Tour in 2022 are encouraged to contact the Committee at any time.

HPF reported that both Market Hall and the Florence Lowden Miller Center had undergone recent improvements. Further, Christmas decorating will occur at the Exhibit Hall the day after Thanksgiving, and volunteers are welcome. The Exhibit Hall is looking to stay open throughout the winter on weekends, and new exhibits will be forthcoming in the new year.

It was announced that:

- December 17-19 will have a holiday-themed model train exhibit at the Exhibit Hall from 11:00-3:00 each day, and to include a Polar Express display
- A group of residents will be traveling to Blue Island to participate in that community's 'lights out' holiday parade on December 4, the parade starting at 5:30PM and the group leaving at about 4:00PM. Those wishing to join are encouraged to see social media for details
- The Christmas Car Caravan is currently planned for Christmas Eve, and all residents are encouraged to participate via putting up Santa decorations in their windows and ringing bells as the caravan comes by
- Holiday caroling will take place on December 12 from 3:00-5:00PM, beginning at 619 E. 111th St.

For Old Business:

- Volunteer positions remain open, including for that of Block Captains

For New Business and Announcements:

- Piffington, Inc. held its community meeting on November 8, thereby satisfying its need for such a meeting for its special use permit application for a cannabis facility
- Pat Brannon will be hosting a choir concert at the Greenstone Church December 19 at 6:00PM
- PullmanArts is hosting a holiday bazaar and party on November 27 from 11:00AM-4:00PM
- Donations are currently being collected to help two families of Pullman Elementary students that were recently displaced by a fire. Clothing especially is needed. Those gathered raised \$200 in cash and \$100 in gift cards for both families.

Motion: To donate this month's Split the Pot winnings to the affected families. [M/S/P Cindy McMahon, Larry Lagadinos]

Motion: To donate \$200 from the Operating Fund to *each* of the two affected families. [M/S/P Andy Bullen, Susan Schoephoester]

- Condolences were extended to the friends and families of Fred Fallin and Alberta 'Tina' Valente on their recent passing

Motion: To allocate an additional \$200 from the Kirchner Fund to pay for the pole for the Illinois State Historic marker. [M/S/P Tom McMahon/Cindy McMahon]

- Black History Month Committee is meeting currently and volunteers are welcome
- Greenstone Church announced:
 - o Christmas Eve service will likely take place that day
 - o A service for Mack Boyd will be held on November 21 at 4:00PM
 - o Phase 1 restoration projects on the Church are complete, with additional restoration projects (Phase 1.5) to occur in the Spring
 - o A new shared space tenant will likely be arriving in the Spring
 - o Financing for projects is hoped-for from both Adopt a Landmark and Sacred Spaces
 - o Landmarks Illinois had a successful visit to the Church on Tuesday
- The Veterans Day event was a success, and thanks were given to the volunteers and Boy Scouts troop

Split the Pot was \$58, donated to the aforementioned families who were displaced by fire.

Motion to adjourn at 9:01PM [M/S/P Andy Bullen/Lynne Collins]

Submitted,
Wyatt Ollestad, Secretary