

Minutes of the General Membership of the PCO – February 16, 2022

A quorum having been established, President Smith convened the meeting at 7:38PM.

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

Motion: To adopt the January General Membership Minutes as posted. [M/S/P Ed Krueger, Tom McMahon]

Treasurer's report was deferred until the February meeting due to the Treasurer not being present.

Membership Committee reported 302 members for the year, and thanked everyone who helped make this an exceptional year in terms of membership numbers.

Further, it was announced that Sophie Phillips had volunteered to be a Block Captain for the 113th block of Champlain, and Kia McLaine for the 113th block of Langley, east side.

Beman Committee announced that it would be hosting a permit workshop on Saturday, February 19 at 3:30PM at the Exhibit Hall.

Education Committee reported that Principal Salter's contract had been renewed, so she will continue to remain as Principal of Pullman Elementary for the next four years. Additionally, it was reported that elections for the LSC would be occurring in March and April, with representatives elected therefrom serving two-year terms.

Welcome Committee mentioned that three welcome bags are ready to go out, pending confirmation of names and addresses of the new neighbors to which they're to be delivered.

Business was temporarily suspended to allow for a virtual presentation by Nona Yehia, CEO of Vertical Harvest, about that company's proposed vertical greenhouse in the northern part of the District. A question & answer session followed.

Brief discussion was held regarding Black History Month virtual programming being posted to social media in lieu of the cancelled in-person events, with particular emphasis on the need for individuals to lead the discussion on the Pullman National Monument's Facebook event page about black authors and artists.

Vision Committee announced that it was nearing the conclusion from its findings, and that final next steps would likely be debuted soon. Further, it announced that the Executive Board had been polled of the Committee's Priority Action Survey.

Bylaws Committee announced that it had so far conducted three meetings, and that it was hoping to have its proposed changes to the Bylaws sometime in March.

The President announced that two more individuals were needed to fill out the Nominating Committee, and that anyone interested in serving on it are encouraged to contact the President.

HPF reminded those gathered to mark their calendars for May 14 & 15 for its Railroad Days, and that volunteers would be needed for that weekend.

NPS announced:

- Dr. Sarah Buchmeier and Sarah Holding are now employed full-time at the Monument
- Three more educational positions will be opening soon: a GS9 Training Specialist, and two GS7 Training Technicians
- There will be a 7th Anniversary virtual event on Saturday, February 19 at 11:00AM
- April 16-24 is National Park Week, with Earth Day falling on April 22, and the NPS is currently planning programming for that week

The President suggested a more 'open forum' approach to the New Business/Announcements section of the agenda, yielding:

- Andy Bullen announced that he had recently become President of the Garden Club, and that he encourages residents to think about how the Garden Club could better benefit the community. Further, the Garden Club is planning to host a presentation by the landscape architect of the Monument's grounds on March 27, though all plans are currently tentative
- It was suggested that a virtual component be added to PCO General Membership meetings, even if said meetings are to continue with an in-person format
- The Exhibit Hall interior will be temporarily modified in the coming months to accommodate the Railroad Days exhibit, but General Membership meetings should still be able to be held there during that time
- Said Railroad Days exhibit was partially detailed, and will run mid-May until House Tour

Motion to adjourn at 8:45PM [M/S/P Mike Shymanski/Tom McMahon]

Submitted,
Wyatt Ollestad, Secretary