

Minutes of the Executive Board of the Pullman Civic Organization – March 9, 2022

In Attendance: President Rachel Smith, Vice President John Lydon, Treasurer Debbie Newman (also Pullman Flyer), Secretary Wyatt Ollestad (also Beman), Zone Directors Tom McMahon, Susan Schoephoester (also Hospitality), Margaret Kania, Megan Lydon (also Beman); HPF Representative Jim Badali; Fernando Rosique & Claudia Flores (Membership), Beverly Ash-Larson & Bob Bushwaller (Vision), Larry Lagadinos, Patrick Watson & Lorraine Brochu (Bylaws)

A quorum having been established, President Smith convened the meeting at 7:35PM.

Draft February Executive Board & General Membership Minutes were circulated in advance and posted to the website.

Motion: To adopt the February Executive Board Minutes as posted. M/S/P (ML/JL)

Treasurer reported an Opening balance of \$36,821.59 and a Closing balance of \$35,677.48 for the month of February, broken up as follows: Operating: \$19,690.28; Façade: \$11,140.75; Kirchner: \$1,414.23; Savings: \$3,432.22. The report will be filed for audit.

Membership Committee announced that Lynn Smith had taken over for Jennifer Manika as Block Captain for the 112th block of St. Lawrence, East side, and that plans were currently underway for the May cookout.

Beman Committee announced that it had received the Timuel D. Black Grant from Landmarks Illinois to complete its Façade Legacy Project to cover the facades of the northern part of the District, and informed the Board that membership to Landmarks Illinois was required in order to receive the grant, at a cost of \$35. There being no objections thereto from the Board, the Committee will seek to gain membership to Landmarks Illinois for the PCO, with associated costs to be deducted from its Stewardship Awards budget line item. Additionally, the Committee reported that it would present its annual Stewardship Awards at next week's General Membership meeting.

It was announced that Bob Bushwaller and Cheryl Briscoe had applied to once again serve on the Local School Council, and that the elections for such would be held in April. Local residents can vote in the election.

Bylaws Committee announced that its review of the Organization's Bylaws had been completed, and the Committee thus submitted its proposed changes to said Bylaws in both full and in truncated versions; the former will be posted to the website, and the latter will be printed in the Pullman Flyer. Thanks were given to the co-Chairs of the Committee and its members for all of their hard work.

Vision Committee announced that its final review was submitted to the website, and that the Committee was looking forward to further discussion related thereto with the Membership at forthcoming meetings.

The President suggested that an Ad Hoc Committee be formed for the purposes of further developing efforts of inclusivity by the PCO, with such developments potentially including the retaining of a facilitator specialized for such work. A donation from Amazon would possibly be available for such a

purpose, and there were no objections from the Board as to further pursuit of the formation of such a Committee.

The President announced that Beverly Ash-Larson had been appointed to the Nominating Committee, joining elected members Felipe Granados, Cheryl Briscoe, and Annie Lira.

Motion: To approve the appointment of Beverly Ash-Larson to the Nominating Committee. M/S/P (DN/TMcM)

Nominating Committee (Beverly) announced that the slate would be presented at the March and April General Membership meetings, and published in the March and April editions of the Pullman Flyer.

HPF announced that preparation for its upcoming Railroad Days exhibit was in full swing, with the weekend so far to feature historic train cars on display and tours of the Hotel and Monument in addition to the photograph display. Volunteers will soon be sought for that weekend, May 14 & 15. Further, it was announced that the Exhibit Hall would be closed for all of April and the first half of May in preparation for the exhibit, and possible alternative locations for PCO meetings were discussed.

Old Business:

- Open volunteer opportunities remain; interested parties should contact the President.

New Business:

- The Vice President detailed an initiative by the American Red Cross to have a volunteer-led effort to have smoke detectors installed for free throughout the 60628 zip code. The target date for the Pullman community's involvement in the effort is May 22, and volunteers are welcome.
- Condolences were offered to the friends and family of Cathy Theisen on her recent passing; further details will be in the Flyer.
- The traffic light system at 111th and Cottage Grove is under discussion with the Alderman's office for its timings, due especially to a recent collision that resulted in two fatalities. Safety concerns regarding traffic at that intersection in general will also be considered and discussed.
- Early framework for a potential coalition among the PCO, NPS, and groups in the northern part of the District is currently being discussed, with the hope of setting up a quarterly meeting schedule and to be conducted by the NPS.

Motion to adjourn at 8:35PM M/S/P (TMcM/ML)

Submitted,
Wyatt Ollestad, Secretary