

Minutes of the General Membership of the PCO – April 20, 2022

A quorum having been established, President Smith convened the meeting at 7:40PM.

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

Motion: To adopt the March General Membership minutes as posted. [M/S/P Cindy McMahon, Tom McMahon]

The Treasurer's Report was tabled due to the absence of the Treasurer.

Business was temporarily suspended to allow for a presentation by the American Red Cross regarding their 'Sound the Alarm' campaign, with opportunities both to sign up for free fire alarms and to help install said fire alarms on Sunday, May 22 from 9:00-3:00PM being made available.

Membership Committee reported 300 members for the year, and announced that the annual Membership Drive Cookout would take place on Wednesday, May 18, before the General Membership meeting. All are encouraged to renew their membership at that event.

Education Committee announced that the LSC election had resulted in discrepancies that were currently being investigated, and that a further report on the matter would be forthcoming.

Welcome Committee encouraged Zone Directors and Block Captains to alert the Chair about any new residents so that the Committee can provide welcome bags accordingly.

Vision Committee thanked the President for the PCO 'Scorecard', a concise interpretation of the Committee's final report into an action-item list that is to be used as a benchmark document to gauge the Organization's progress on various objectives. The Scorecard will soon be added to the PCO website.

Bylaws Committee announced that sufficient time had now elapsed for its proposed changes to the Organization's Bylaws to be made available to the community, and that no requested changes thereto had been received.

Motion: To adopt the proposed changes to the Bylaws and dissolve the Bylaws Committee. [M/S/P Cindy McMahon, Lynne Collins]

Community Improvement Committee announced that the PCO's Clean & Green event will be Saturday, April 23 from 9:00AM-12:00PM, meeting at the southeast corner of Arcade Park, and that refreshments will be provided. Anyone willing to donate any amount of workforce time is encouraged to participate.

Nominating Committee presented its current slate of nominees, as follows:

- President: John Lydon
- Vice President: Kathy Lynch
- Treasurer: Elizabeth Mishler
- Secretary: Wyatt Ollestad
- Zone Directors: Eva Villagomez (Zone 1), Harriette Watson (Zone 2), Susan Schoephoester (Zone 3), Beatrice Hardy (Zone 4)

- Nominating Committee: Cheryl Briscoe, Wyatt Ollestad, Beverly Ash-Larson

The floor was opened to further nominations, there being no further nominations thus made. The President thanked the Committee and the current nominees for their efforts and willingness to volunteer.

House Tour (Cindy McMahon) announced the dates of this year's Tour as October 8 & 9, and further announced that its regular meetings would begin in May, with specifics relating thereto to be posted in the Flyer and announced at the next General Membership meeting.

Historic Pullman Foundation (HPF) (Julian Jackson) detailed a bit of the construction currently underway at the Exhibit Hall, and reminded those gathered of its Railroad Days event May 14 & 15, which will feature a mixture of free and ticketed events. Further, the Foundation announced that a centralization and organization of its archives is currently ongoing, and introduced to those gathered new Programs Coordinator Rebecca Conant. Volunteers for Railroad Days are currently being sought, with morning and afternoon shifts available; those interested in volunteering were provided a sign-up sheet at this meeting, or may contact Rebecca at rconant@pullmanil.org. Additionally, as a result of its recent fundraising efforts, the HPF announced that it had secured a \$300,000 grant to stabilize Market Hall.

National Park Service (NPS) (Sue Bennett) announced that through partnerships, the tours of the historic train cars over Railroad Days weekend would remain free, with the Visitor Center also being free and open those days. In celebration of National Park Week, the NPS will be hosting a Clean & Green around the Visitor Center and grounds on Saturday, April 23 from 9:00AM-1:00PM, as well as a bonfire and musical performance on Sunday, April 24. Additionally, the NPS announced that new hiring is ongoing, and that anyone with recommendations for local, furnished short-term housing for one of its seasonal interns should contact Sue.

For Old Business:

- Open volunteer opportunities remain

For New Business:

- Lake Calumet Vision Committee announced that the Illinois International Port District (IIPD) has new board members, who have met with members of the Committee and appear agreeable to the Committee's proposal for more public accessibility to Lake Calumet. Further, the Committee will be meeting with the IIPD again on Friday in presentation and hopeful adoption of the latter's master plan for the Port, which includes many of the features advocated for by the Committee. The Committee thanked those residents who had supported its efforts over the years and who participated in community meetings related thereto. Additionally, it was announced that the Active Transportation Alliance looks to be working on a bike path along 111th St. to cross the expressway, as well as a path and bridge over Lake Calumet to Big Marsh, both of which would further enhance public accessibility to nearby parks and neighborhoods.
- Discussion was held regarding expanding the borders of the PCO to the north and furthering efforts of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), the latter for which a Committee has been formed; members and residents of the northern part of the community alike participated, underlining shared objectives and goals, procedural logistics, and how best the discussion might be carried further, possibly with the aid of further interest groups and parties.

Motion to adjourn at 8:58PM [M/S/P Norma Zarris/Tom McMahon]

Submitted,
Wyatt Ollestad, Secretary