

Minutes of the Executive Board of the Pullman Civic Organization – April 13, 2022

In Attendance: President Rachel Smith, Vice President John Lydon, Secretary Wyatt Ollestad (also Beman), Zone Directors Tom McMahan, Susan Schoephoester (also Hospitality), Margaret Kania, Lynne Collins; HPF Representative Jim Badali; Fernando Rosique & Claudia Flores (Membership), Beverly Ash-Larson (Nominating), Larry Lagadinos (Bylaws); Cindy McMahan (House Tour); Elizabeth Mishler, Sue James, Bob Bushwaller

A quorum having been established, President Smith convened the meeting at 7:36PM.

Discussion was held regarding the venue for future PCO meetings in light of the ongoing construction at the Exhibit Hall. Pullman Elementary and Greenstone Church may be available as options, but until further notice, all Executive Board and General Membership meetings will continue to be held at the Exhibit Hall.

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

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

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

Membership Committee announced that the Membership Drive Cookout will take place on May 18, 5:30-7:30PM, and that all are encouraged to attend and renew their memberships. Further details will be in this month's Flyer, and brief discussion was held regarding thus conducting the accompanying General Membership meeting outside, weather permitting. Further, the Committee announced that membership packets had been delivered to Zone Directors and Block Captains.

As an update from the Local School Council, concerns were expressed about the difficulties faced by Pullman Elementary in light of the recent CPS budget developments. Further data will be gathered regarding what might best assist with student recruitment, which for the time being is a key initiative. Discussion was held regarding ways the community might best help the school, with any positive word-of-mouth amongst neighbors to encourage recruitment being the most beneficial effort for the present.

Additionally, it was announced that the Local School Council election will take place on April 20 at Pullman Elementary, with proof of residency in the community being the only requirement to vote. An announcement will also be posted in the Flyer.

A brief overview of Pullman National Monument & the Alderman's office recent meeting regarding 111th St. traffic concerns was detailed, including the following updates:

- a traffic signal timing survey has been requested for the traffic light at 111th St. and Cottage Grove Ave.;
- a turn signal for west- and eastbound traffic at the same traffic light has also been requested;
- investigation will be made into how to better correct GPS systems at the local level to help alleviate truck traffic in the residential part of the community;
- a speed tracking device for 111th St. has been requested;
- the program for seasonal pedestrian crossing guards for the entrance to Pullman National Monument has been funded; and

- the Beman Committee is investigating the requirements associated with potentially having the State Historical Marker installed on CDOT property along 111th St.

Further, it was announced that the Safety article in this month's Flyer will be about teen suicide prevention, and all are encouraged to read it.

Communication Committee (Susan) reported that it is primarily brainstorming how to establish an in-person and virtual hybrid format for future PCO meetings.

It was reported that the Community Improvement Committee is planning on having its neighborhood cleanup day on April 23, same-day as the City's Clean & Green and Pullman National Monument's cleanup of the grounds, and starting at 9:00AM. Participants are encouraged to bring their own gloves, but other tools will be provided.

Bylaws Committee announced that no requested changes to its proposed Bylaws have so far been received.

Nominating Committee (Beverly) announced that a full slate has been completed, and will be both presented at the General Membership meeting and published in the Flyer.

A group focused on how to further Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) initiatives for the PCO has met and discussed how best to address community concerns and engage a facilitator for such a purpose. They will be meeting every other week for at least the next three months.

House Tour stated that the dates of this year's Tour will be October 8 & 9, that houses are still needed, and that its open meetings will be starting up in May.

HPF announced that the Exhibit Hall will be closed starting mid-May for Railroad Days, and that volunteers for that weekend are needed and will be sought soon, with new employee Rebecca Conant taking up that charge. Discussion was held on how the PCO could use the space's new layout for its meetings, with the note that any chairs used for said meetings will have to be set up and taken down before and after each meeting. Thanks were given to Julian Jackson for his accommodation to the PCO for its meeting space, and his collaboration with the Organization on the logistics related thereto.

Hospitality Committee inquired if refreshments should be served at the April General Membership meeting, with the consensus that refreshments will be postponed for the April and May meetings due to Exhibit Hall construction and the Membership Drive Cookout, respectively.

Old Business:

- Open volunteer opportunities remain; interested parties should contact the President.
- The American Red Cross's 'Sound the Alarm' program regarding installation of free fire alarms into homes within the 60628 zip code is now scheduled for May 22 for Pullman, with the goal of getting 15 volunteers to perform installations on that day. Volunteers should sign up by the end of this month, and training and tools will be provided by the ARC. Details will be made available via social media and printed flyers to be disseminated. Additionally, the ARC will be disseminating forms for those wishing to receive smoke alarms, and may present at the April General Membership meeting.

New Business:

- The President presented a 'Scorecard' based on the findings of the Vision Committee and to be used as a live tracking document for the PCO to keep sight of its goals across multiple categories. Discussion was held regarding possible changes to the document itself, and how best to keep it available and workable for the membership.
- The President also announced that a 'Standard Operating Procedure' document was being worked on in order to facilitate a smooth transition among Executive Boards, and is anticipated to be presented at the next Executive Board meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 8:39PM M/S/P (TMcM/JL)

Submitted,
Wyatt Ollestad, Secretary