

Minutes of the Executive Board of the Pullman Civic Organization – May 11, 2022

In Attendance: President Rachel Smith, Vice President John Lydon, Treasurer Debbie Newman (also Pullman Flyer), Secretary Wyatt Ollestad (also Beman), Zone Directors Tom McMahan, Harriette Burks-Watson, Lynne Collins, Susan Schoephoester (also Hospitality), Margaret Kania, Megan Lydon (also Beman); HPF Representative Jim Badali; Claudia Flores (Membership), Beverly Ash-Larson (Communication); Cindy McMahan (House Tour); Lorraine Brochu (Vision), Elizabeth Mishler, Sue James, Alfonso Quiroz

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

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

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

Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$35,677.48 and a closing balance of \$34,486.12 for the month of March, broken up as follows: Operating: \$18,498.90; Façade: \$11,140.75; Kirchner: \$1,413.23; Savings: \$3,432.24. For the month of April, Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$34,486.12 and a closing balance of \$34,282.51, broken up as follows: Operating: \$18,295.26; Façade: \$11,140.75; Kirchner: \$1,414.23; Savings: \$3,432.27. The reports will be filed for audit.

Additionally, the Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$30,543.37 and a closing balance of \$30,543.49 for the House Tour Fund for the month of March, and for the month of April an opening balance of \$30,543.49 and a closing balance of \$30,543.61.

Membership Committee announced that membership cards for the upcoming year have been ordered, and that the Committee is ready for the Membership Drive Cookout, which will take place on May 18 from 5:30-7:30PM. Further, it was reported that two memberships that had been recently purchased will be applied to the forthcoming membership year instead of the current one.

Education Committee (Rachel) announced that Bob Bushwaller and Cheryl Briscoe had been officially re-elected to the Local School Council, and Bob & Cheryl thank all those who supported them.

Safety Committee (Tom) reported on the following:

- The recent shooting within the neighborhood will result in further investigation by the Civilian Office of Police Accountability, which will be taking place soon. The suspect in the incident is currently in the hospital and under guard. Residents are encouraged to be patient for the facts surrounding the incident to be released rather than relying on social media for information. Additional police protection will be placed at Langley Playlot as a result of the incident.
- The recent daytime police presence at intersections throughout the community were part of a protection detail stemming from a gang-related shooting in the nearby area. No incidents within the community were reported on the day of the police presence.
- A recent meeting with CDOT, the Alderman's office, et. al. included discussion regarding how to decrease speeding and accidents along 111th St., especially at the intersection of 111th St. and Cottage Grove Ave. Under discussion for possible implementation is a left turn lane for westbound 111th St. at Cottage Grove, a 'speed tracker' device, and a speed camera (which would necessitate navigation of current City ordinances). Additionally, improvements to GPS

systems to properly direct truck traffic away from the neighborhood are under consideration, and discussion was held about the traffic problems caused by the two traffic lights that are in close proximity on 115th St. at Cottage Grove Ave.

Welcome Committee (Rachel) requested that the Committee chair be notified of any new residents moving in so Welcome bags can be distributed accordingly.

Communication Committee (Beverly) announced that improvements to the PCO website are being worked on, with a focus on how to make the Events page more dynamic and easily editable.

It was announced that attendance at the neighborhood Clean & Green event was good, and that the event was a success.

DEI Committee (Elizabeth) reported that it had met three times so far, and that a report will be given at the June Executive Board meeting. Meetings are currently scheduled for every other Tuesday at 7:00PM, with the next one to take place on May 24 at that time. The President mentioned having recommendations for a facilitator, and will pass those recommendations along to the Committee.

House Tour (Cindy) announced that the brochures for this year's Tour have been printed, and that the Committee has held its first meeting. Videographers from past House Tours will be present this weekend to document the Railroad Days event.

HPF (Cindy) detailed the following regarding Railroad Days (May 14 & 15):

- The event will have a mixture of ticket and free events, with said tickets being valid both Saturday and Sunday. The ticketed events are: Hotel Florence self-guided tour; 'Railroaders' exhibit at the Exhibit Hall; Neighborhood and Monument grounds walking tours; and Bon French lecture at the Greenstone (Sunday only). All other events, including access to the railcars on display, are free;
 - o Some such free events are: musical performances, Lionel Trains display, Norfolk & Southern experiences (including Virtual Reality), and Model A Club car display, among others; and
- Event set-up will begin at 3:00PM on Friday, and any volunteers for that would be welcome.

Further, it was announced that after Railroad Days there will be an admission charge for entrance to Exhibit Hall. HPF members will not be charged admission.

Old Business:

- The American Red Cross's 'Sound the Alarm' program for the 60628 zip code will take place on May 22. Flyers have been distributed in the local area, and 60 people are currently signed up. Details will also be posted in this month's Flyer.
- Illinois International Port District recently held an open house regarding their Master Plan for the port, which revealed increased public access and bike trails, as well as a series of other perks and features that are currently under consideration.

New Business:

- The President mentioned that a 'transition session' will be held at the next Executive Board meeting to help facilitate the new Officers into their positions.

- During Open Discussion, thoughts were shared and discussion held regarding how to conduct the May General Membership meeting and its orders of business with regard to the Membership Drive Cookout.

Motion to adjourn at 8:58PM M/S/P (TMcM/ML)

Submitted,
Wyatt Ollestad, Secretary