

Minutes of the Executive Board of the Pullman Civic Organization – June 8, 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; HPF Representative Jim Badali; Claudia Flores (Membership), Elizabeth Mishler, Kathy Lynch

A quorum having been established, President Smith convened the meeting at 7:37PM.

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

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

Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$34,282.51 and a closing balance of \$32,843.30 for the month of May, broken up as follows: Operating: \$17,856.03; Façade: \$10,140.75; Kirchner: \$1,414.23; Savings: \$3,432.29. The report will be filed for audit.

Additionally, the Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$30,543.26 and a closing balance of \$45,097.83 for the House Tour Fund for the month of May.

Membership Committee announced that the cookout had yielded 117 memberships purchased, and that Zone Director materials had been delivered accordingly last week.

Community Improvement Committee had inquired of the President if the PCO would be willing to sponsor a community animal blessing event, currently scheduled for the fall, in order that the Committee can make use of the HPF facilities. The matter will be transitioned to the new Executive Board for further consideration.

DEI Committee (Margaret) reported that parameters, plans, and goals for the Committee are currently being set, and a comprehensive plan for the Committee's next steps will be presented to the Board at a later date. Additionally, it was mentioned that the Block Captain of the 113th block of Champlain, East side, had resigned and expressed hopes that the PCO will take concrete steps towards greater inclusion in the future.

HPF announced that Railroad Days was a success, and that it hopes to have the Exhibit Hall open Tuesday-Sunday weekly soon.

NPS announced:

- Its first internal workshop regarding the General Management Plan was held last week;
- In late July, there will be 2-3 public information meetings regarding said Plan at the Clocktower, and an article will be accompanying in the Flyer;
- The first public interface opportunity regarding the Plan will take place in September;
- The banner currently on display on the north side of the Hotel Florence Annex is *not* related to the Plan;
- Yoga at the Parks will be hosted this Saturday, and every Saturday in June will feature a fitness-related event;

- The Summer Explorers program will begin the week of June 19, and registration is likely to remain open until all spots are filled;
- Despite hiring woes felt throughout the Park Service, there will hopefully be a new full-time ranger hired by the end of this month – Lisa Burback has been hired as a seasonal ranger, and a very positive article has recently been published that features her;
- Recent financial proposals to renovate the 2nd and 3rd floor of the Clocktower building have been approved, and detailed plans for both floors are currently in the works; and
- Chicago Regional Trees Initiatives is looking for a community partner for their grant-based efforts in the neighborhood, and will be referred to the new Board and to the Garden Club for such a purpose.

Old Business:

- The American Red Cross's 'Sound the Alarm' event was a success, with 289 houses served and more than 300 alarms installed, many of which were in Pullman.

New Business:

- The Garden Club's annual Garden Walk will take place on June 25th;
- There will also be a health fair of some kind in Arcade Park on that date, though further details were not known at the time;
- President Smith presented a Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) document for the incoming Officers of the Organization to aid in their transition into their roles and their efforts;
- A fundraiser for Pullman Tech Workshop will take place tomorrow evening at Columbia Yacht Club.

Motion to adjourn at 9:01PM M/S/P (TMcM/DN)

Submitted,
Wyatt Ollestad, Secretary