

Minutes of the General Membership of the PCO – June 15, 2022

A quorum having been established, President Smith convened the meeting at 7:41PM.

Installation of new officers commenced, with the following being inducted:

President – John Lydon

Vice President – Kathy Lynch

Treasurer – Elizabeth Mishler

Secretary – Wyatt Ollestad

Zone Directors – Eva Villagomez, Harriette Burks-Watson, Susan Schoephoester, Beatrice Hardy

Introductions and welcomes were given by and to Colette Copic of Chicago Tree Initiative and Mike Mancarini of the National Park Service.

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

Motion: To adopt the May General Membership minutes as posted. [M/S/P Lorraine Brochu, Mike Shymanski]

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: \$1,413.23; 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 month of May for the House Tour Fund, with its presumed closing balance to be \$29,766.86 once its funds are re-allocated properly.

Thanks were given to Debbie for her laudably diligent work as PCO Secretary.

Membership Committee announced that there were 125 members to date, and thanked the Zone Directors and Block Captains who have started working on solicitation memberships.

Education Committee announced that students are now out of school, and that residents are thus advised to be cautious, especially while driving.

Welcome Committee asked that the chair be informed of all known new residents so that welcome bags can be distributed accordingly.

Communication Committee announced that a new web-based app was being worked with to help improve communication channels, both existing and yet-to-be-devised.

Community Improvement Committee announced that the missing concrete on the sidewalk in front of 11125 St. Lawrence has been reported to the Alderman's office, and that the chair will be investigating the proposed timeline for completion of the street re-paving along Champlain.

DEI Committee reported that it is working on partnerships and opportunities, that it has a mission statement, and that it hopes to have more updates and activities debuting in the fall.

House Tour Committee announced that it has now met twice, with its next meeting to take place on June 27 at 5:30PM at the Florence Lowden Miller Historic Pullman Center. Additionally, the Committee announced that a few houses and other buildings have already been secured for this year's Tour, with more still being sought.

Historic Pullman Foundation (HPF) announced that Railroad Days was a success, and thanked all who volunteered for it. Further, apologies were expressed for the accounting error that resulted in Railroad Days and First Sunday Walking Tours income being deposited incorrectly into the House Tour Fund. Additionally, it was announced that the Exhibit Hall would be open Tuesdays-Sundays starting in July, and that volunteer staff is needed. Finally, it was announced that there will be a speaker event featuring author Ken Schoon Sunday, June 19, at 4:00PM at the Greenstone Church.

Garden Club announced that its annual Garden Walk, 'Bees and the Birds', will take place on June 25 from 10:00AM-4:00PM. Additionally, there will be a lecture and walk-through of the Monument site featuring Rob Reuland on July 24 from 2:00-4:00PM. Further, the Club will be replacing missing flowers in Pullman and Arcade Parks on June 16.

For Old Business:

- The Red Cross' 'Sound the Alarm' event resulted in 289 people being serviced and 364 smoke alarms being installed.

For New Business:

- Introductions were given by the new Executive Board Officers;
- A questionnaire was disseminated to the Membership and discussion held regarding the state and strengths/weaknesses of the PCO to date;
- It was announced that the National Monument's summer camp programs for kids going into the fourth grade is still taking applications for registration, despite it being past the stated deadline;
- It was announced that fitness events will be occurring on the remaining Saturdays in June at the Monument;
- Chicago Tree Initiative (CTI) announced and detailed the following:
 - o Colette has printed materials available regarding tips for garden and tree maintenance, as well as general conservation tips;
 - o the CTI has programming happening regularly, including assessment of diseased and aging trees, and is happy to partner up with any interested groups regarding such;
 - o the CTI can do free tree plantings for any project requiring ten or more trees; and
 - o the CTI is having virtual presentations/workshops on Wednesday, June 22 virtually from 3:00-4:00PM and Tuesday, June 28 from 5:00-6:00PM about Arbnet accreditation, which allows any site with more than 25 different species of trees that applies to become part of an international network of arboreta.
- It was announced that an Animal Blessing event for the community is currently scheduled for October 2, with the Greenstone currently a sponsor. Sponsorship from the PCO is being sought, and volunteers will be needed for the event;
- It was announced that Alderman Beale's resource event featuring paper shredding and electronics recycling will take place on June 16 from 10:00AM-2:00PM; and
- The Taste of Chicago localized event will be take place on Saturday, June 18.

Motion to adjourn at 8:34PM [M/S/P Lynne Collins/Andy Bullen]

Submitted,
Wyatt Ollestad, Secretary