

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

President John Lydon convened the meeting at 7:38 pm.

Greeting activity by the President. (5 minutes)

All present to turn to someone next to them and discuss either:

A goal you are working on and where you are in that goal

OR

Highlight of your summer so far

Recap of the June meeting survey results regarding why you attend PCO meetings:

- Members look forward to being informed about the community and connecting with neighbors at meetings.
- Members' favorite events are House Tour, the Holiday Party, and the Garden/Art Walks.
- Members most frequently cited the work of the Beman Committee and opportunities for volunteerism as areas of praise for the PCO.
- Members had an array of questions and suggestions, ranging from having more communications with Spanish translations to new events such as a weekend that features neighborhood small businesses.

Intro to the July survey - information channels in Pullman

Provided paper survey and digital version for people to complete

Presentation - Stories from the Pullman Building by Andy Bullen

Blessing of the Animals Presentation - Marnee Schereck and Andy Morgan

October 2, 2022 - 12-4pm

Provided background on the event and what is planned.

St. Anthony and Greenstone Church will be participating along with a number of animal organizations

Funds raised through food sold at event (donations) and a silent auction

Will be publicized in Flyer and on social media, as well as through an event poster that will be posted in the area and in the greater area neighborhoods.

Volunteers are also requested to help with setup between 10-11, as well as vegan food donation for sale.

Requesting:

PCO to sponsor the event to allow the event to use the HPF grounds (\$75 charge)

Proceeds from the PCO's share of the event be divided and donated to the participating organizations

Motion to sponsor and split proceeds as requested (M/S/P Tom McMahon, Lynn Smith)

Motion to adopt the June minutes (M/S/P Patrick Watson, Andy Bullen)

Treasurers Report – no formal report this month.

Committee and Other Organization Reports

Membership

180 members and additional new members joined that evening. Continuing to take new memberships.

Thank you to the membership committees were made.

Beman

No report

Education

Problem with construction noise starting early mornings at Pullman School. City ordinance requires a start after 8:30 am but they are starting as early as 5:30-6:00 am. CPS was provided an exemption to start early to allow them to fast track the work to be done by the start of the school year.

Concerns were expressed that they are starting early but finishing at 2:00. So, the explanation of extra time to get the scope of work done does not make sense.

Hope to get additional information out to the neighborhood

Also concerns of kids from Pullman School causing damage, both around the construction site and in the broader neighborhood. If you see them, call the police.

Safety

Looking for Members and Chair

Questions came from the body about the role of the committee and the chair.

Floor was opened to discuss the recent issues with the teens causing damage in the neighborhood.

Recap on what had been happening - two teens have been vandalizing the neighborhood over the past week or two, mainly in the afternoons. Includes throwing bricks and debris to break windows on houses and cars, kicking in doors. Seen on multiple security cameras walking through alleys and streets, appearing to scope out points to vandalize and running away after an event.

Concerns about the police response to these events when called.

John Lydon said he would try to contact the School and the CPS Capital/Facilities to see if they can work with the construction company to better secure the site, too easy to get in and obtain bricks, etc.

Noted that the principal is not at the school most days in summer.

Discussed to maintain diligence as a neighborhood - keep sharing notice on when they are spotted, stay on porches to show eyes on the street, share when you do see something, report to the CPD and file a police report when something does happen (must be the owner).

Roderick reported to 911 that he saw them throwing bricks at the windows and doors by Pullman School Door #4 and described the kids doing it. Had to call multiple times and waited for CPD to respond, but never came. Kids would duck behind the dumpster if anyone came by to hide.

Welcome

About 15 welcome bags have been delivered recently for distribution to new neighbors and about 5-10 still to be delivered.

Communications

No report

Community Improvement

2 potholes in North Pullman reported on Langley to 311

Light by Arcade Park and Hotel Florence still out

Andy working with 9th Ward regarding other capital improvement projects

Question about state of alley behind 112th and Champlain. How can we request to get it repaired? Patrick Watson explained the ward capital process, it costs about \$100-200K to repave an alley and it has to come from the ward "menu money" that is set by the Alderman each year. Best to contact their office with information and pictures if possible and request to be added for consideration.

Issue raised about the public garbage can on the right of way by Pullman School on St. Lawrence at the south end of the school grounds. It is currently only emptied 1x/week and it is most often overflowing in between those pickups with people putting household garbage and other waste in there. Is this CPD or Street and San responsibility? Andy will follow up to inquire.

DEI

Partnership with Kelli Covey; will provide updates soon.

Program to present to membership regarding workshop to discuss race relations, biases, etc.

House Tour

Still looking for 1-2 houses for this year's tour.

Meeting will be Monday, 7/25 at 5:45 at the Lowden Center.

HPF

Exhibit Hall now open Tuesday through Sundays, adding Tuesdays back for Summer.

NPS

Elijah is a new ranger that has just joined and will be responsible for community outreach
Open position for maintenance worker at PNM and interviews will be held soon.

Thanks to HPF for 3 summer hires for the Summer Explorer program. Did not have the attendance they hoped for with this program but had great feedback from the ones that did attend.

General Management Plan will be presented and available for public comment in August.
Open houses are geared for the public to provide information about the plan and answer questions. August 8/3 at PNM 9-12, 1-4, 6-8. August 4 at Altgeld Gardens Library. August 5 at Lexington Betty Smokehouse. August 6 at Palmer Park Fieldhouse.

New dog waste stations are coming to the site soon in a cooperative effort between NPS and the State Site.

Announcements

- 5th annual Life Out Loud storytelling event will be held August 13 at 8pm in Arcade Park
- Garden Club Event July 24 at 2pm at the PNM featuring the landscape designer for the PMN grounds as speaker.

- North Pullman residents re: community improvement
- Board email address are currently locked out right now, please reach out to the board in other ways until this is resolved
- 114 Forestville Block Party - August 21

Motion to adjourn at 9:06 (M/S/P Andy Bullen, Linda Bullen)

Submitted,
Kathy Lynch, Vice President