

Minutes of the General Membership of the PCO – February 15, 2023

President John Lydon convened the meeting at 7:42 pm.

Brief greetings were performed and the meeting agenda detailed, as well as particular thanks given by the President to those who provided neighborly appreciations for the Flyer.

In lieu of Mark Doyle presenting in-person regarding Veteran Roasters, President Lydon presented on his behalf, including display of current renderings and a gathering of community questions.

Upcoming events were detailed, including:

- Red Line Extension public feedback period commencing now through March 14;
- a virtual brick and masonry workshop presented by Landmarks Illinois February 16;
- a dry food pantry event February 17;
- Winter Fest at Big Marsh Park February 18 11:00AM-3:00PM;
- Beat meeting February 21 at 6:00PM at the Greenstone Church;
- 9th Ward Community Meeting February 21 6:30-7:30PM at Pullman Presbyterian Church;
- Roseland/Pullman Black History Virtual Social Hour February 23 6:00-7:30PM;
- PCO collaborative Black History Month event, 'Agency & Activism', February 25 1:00-3:00PM at the Greenstone Church;
- Garden Club/National Park Service Winter Lecture – 'How to Make Your Neighborhood an Arboretum' February 26 starting at 2:00PM at the Visitor Center;
- local voting February 28;
- Invest/Southwest Virtual Roundtable March 2 at 11:00AM;
- Beman Committee's Permit Workshop March 4 1:00-3:00PM at the Florence Lowden Miller Historic Pullman Center; and
- the previously occurred Chicago Neighborhood Summit, at which the President, Vice President and Treasurer were in attendance and at which a Home & Business Protection Program was detailed, allowing for residents to apply for reimbursement for the installation of security devices by applying via the City's website, as well as a street tree planting program, allowing for residents to apply for new trees to be planted in their parkways by applying via either calling 311 or the City's website.

Secretary reported that the Draft January General Membership and February Executive minutes had been posted in advance online.

Motion: To adopt the January General Membership minutes as posted. [M/S/P Pat Brannon, Ed Krueger]

Treasurer reported a closing balance of \$36,162.13 for the House Tour Fund for the month of January, and a closing balance of \$38,671.87 for the PCO account for the month of January. The report will be filed for audit.

Hospitality & Black History Month Committees noted that the Historic Pullman Empowerment Organization is one of the sponsors of the PCO's forthcoming collaborative Agency & Activism event, and reported that plans for additional events to begin in the spring and ideas for

destinations for the Summer Outing are currently being brainstormed. Anyone with additional ideas for new or existing events are encouraged to contact the Chair.

Beman Committee detailed its forthcoming Permit Workshop, and announced that approximately fifty percent of its façade documentation project for North Pullman had been completed, with associated funding paperwork having recently been filed.

Historic Pullman Foundation reported that its next exhibit to be displayed will be showcasing 50 years of the Foundation's existence and operation, with a curator recently having been hired to gather community feedback regarding such. Additionally, it was reported that Railroad Days would take place May 20-21, and that volunteers are needed for the event. There will be three historic train cars on display, and a presale ticket that will allow early access to said cars. The event will be a mixture of ticketed and free events.

Safety Committee reported that there had been a vehicle theft and attempted burglary recently in the neighborhood, both of which are to be discussed at the forthcoming Beat meeting, at which also a limited quantity of steering wheel clubs will be distributed. Additionally, it was reported that approximately eighty vehicles had participated in the recent catalytic converter 'marking' event, and that a repeat event was hoped for.

National Park Service reported that it was currently working on its General Management Plan, with a draft of said Plan anticipated to be made available in the Fall, followed by a public comment period. Additionally, it was reported that ranger Ve'Amber Miller would be leaving, with an informal send-off event for her to take place after the Agency & Activism event, and that an education programmer had been hired. Finally, the NPS reported that it will run its localized National Park Week programming April 22-30, and that the neighborhood cleanup might be moved to prior to said week.

Black History Month Committee requested \$600 from the PCO Budget for its Agency & Activism Event.

Motion to allocation \$600 from the Monthly Celebrations, Special Events, Holidays PCO Budget line item to the Black History Month Committee for the purposes of paying for catered food for its event. [M/S/P Susan Schoephoester, Lorraine Brochu]

Community Improvement Committee reported that the lights along Cottage Grove in front of the Clock Tower had initially been re-lit, but are now back off. Additionally, the Committee will be providing further details in March regarding the neighborhood cleanup.

New residents Juanita, Selena, and Rodney were welcomed.

Membership Committee reported that Claudia and Fernando would be stepping down as Chair in May, and mentioned that a replacement Chair is needed quickly due to the Membership cards requiring advanced printing prior to the May Membership Drive Cookout. Thanks were given to Block Captains who help solicit memberships.

The President directed those interested to the Pullman House Project's 'The Jordans of Pullman' video, available online.

Motion for the PCO to renew its membership to Landmarks Illinois, the cost of which being \$35
[M/S/P Cindy McMahon, Lynne Collins]

For Announcements:

- Ideas for the Summer Outing and other events are welcome; and
- the HPF has budgeted for the purchase of a canopy to protect the musicians on the bandstand during Railroad Days, among other uses.

Split the Pot was \$35 and Claudia Flores was the winner.

Motion to adjourn at 9:01PM [M/S/P Susan James, Pat Brannon]

Submitted,
Wyatt Ollestad, Secretary