

Des Plaines Youth Commission Minutes- September 23 2024
PLCC- 515 Thacker, Des Plaines, Il. 60016

Call to Order -The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call- Burton, R Cullotta, M. Cullotta, AL-Naemy, Ludwig, Sebastian, Doerr, & Dankowski were present. Absent: Neil

Also present: A. Cengel , Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services- D62, R, Ludwig, J Bober, A. Osinski, & D.Keegan

August 26th minutes were distributed. Amendments to the minutes: Keegan talked about publicity.It was amended from CHANGE to continue doing as we have been doing. (referring to contacting news media about events) Also, M. Cullotta was unable to be there to assist with bowling as shown in the minutes. Motions made: Ludwig/Burton to approve minutes with amendments- Minutes were approved.

Public Comment - A special thanks to A. Cengel for representing D62.Mr. Bober is all set for his role in December and Mr Osinski was at the D62 Board Presentation. Thanks to all for attending.

Review of Sept. 5th, 2024 Intergenerational Trivia Contest - Great job by Steve S.in preparing questions. Ludwig spoke about the camaraderie among the students and teens, who have seen one another multiple times. Neil & Dankowski were present to assist, as was P.Depcik, NHS sponsor. All received snacks. Congratulations to R.Ludwig (first place with his group) and G. Ludwig & J.Al-Naemy with their group - third place) MW and Prospect students participated in this event. (approximately 40 people there)

Middle School Bowling- Sept.9th, 2024-Doerr- Great turnout of MS students and mentors at River Rand Bowl,. Thanks also to J Hock, P. Depcik , Neil,Sebastian, and Dankowski, for helping out.-4 pm until 6:30 p.m. We are awaiting an invoice from the bowling alley.

District 62 Board Presentation September 16th, 2024 - Neil, Dankowski, teen Ariana, & Burton. Neil picked up plaques on Friday instead of Monday. Burton reported that the film on the plaques was not removed and pictures and certificates had to be reassembled. (This had to be removed and reassembled prior to presentation). Plaques were favorably received by administrators at schools for the Pay it Forward initiative. Thanks to Dr.Amadei and Tracy Sommerfeldt for their help. Burton suggested that commissioners attend this in the future..

Fire Dept. Open House, September 21st, 2024- R, Cullotta and M. Cullotta, as well as Dominic C. and Luca B. , distributed 150 bags with pens and keychains. They suggested that we have our own tables next year because we were right near the DPPD climbing wall and people were waiting in line and did not see us initially. Dankowski will contact FD for next year.

Upcoming:

Blanket Making -Intergenerational & DPYC - October 14th- Sebastian has ordered fabric and scissors. We will also make cards for Thanksgiving baskets. Dankowski gave lists of volunteers to Sebastian. *Need to check on construction paper and markers in cabinet.*

Intergenerational Veterans' Roundtable- November 14th- FC- 5:00 p.m.

Intergenerational & DPYC Gingerbread House Decorating Contest- Dec. 2nd - - Wear your ugliest sweater as you compete for the BEST GH. 4:45 until 5:30 p.m. - Frisbie Center- Dankowski will get info from Samuelson for order and Keegan will get large GHs.

Tree Lighting - Dec. 6th - Metropolitan Square- 4:00 until 5:00 p.m. - Neil - Items already purchased. Get tickets in advance for FREE Trolley Ride. *Pictures need to be printed and inserted into ornaments.*

Holiday Hoopla, December 14th - DPPL/DPYC, 12:30 until 3:00 p.m. - Sebastian - Thanks to Bober, AL-Naemy, and Ludwig for volunteering. Wear red & green. Items being ordered per budget by Sebastian.

ELS Homecoming - Friday, September 27th- 4:00 p.m. -Dankowski asked to purchase pizza and crazy bread for them, as we have done in the past. Motion was made by Burton/ Al-Naemy \$ 150.00. Motion was carried. Dankowski gave the order to Keegan who will meet someone from MW to pick up at 4:00 p.m.

Cards for Thanksgiving Baskets - Dankowski asked about getting cards printed so that the community can help make the 500 cards needed for baskets. Ms. Cengel said she thought that the homemade cards from kids would be great. We had done these a year and people kept them because they meant so much to know someone was thinking of them. Decision was rendered not to proceed in ordering cards. Everyone suggested that we make them using construction paper, with handwritten notes and/or drawings from students.

Budget - Keegan - Copies of current budget were distributed. Dankowski asked if a four column format could be used in the future so that allocations and expenditures were clearly seen. This would give us a better idea of balances for each item. Burton had sent copies of this to Keegan a few months ago.

- DPYC Black Tablecloth - We discussed the need for a second tablecloth to be used for tables at various events. Dankowski is looking for a price from a vendor who did the black shirts for us since this would feature the same colors. Keegan was also looking at a price. R. Cullotta asked about something to put on the table to show our dates and clips for the tablecloth. A motion of \$300.00 was made to purchase these items by R. Cullotta/M.Cullotta. Motion was carried.
- Keegan told us that prior to anything being picked up at city offices, an appointment must be made with her because of her schedule. She was concerned because of Neil picking up plaques on a Friday, instead of Monday. The person who helped him had some health issues and had difficulty with transport.
- The commissioners were told that all items that have been ordered have to go directly to city offices to be counted, etc. Dankowski asked some time ago about items being dropped off at Prairie Lakes CC, since it is open until late evenings and would facilitate pickup for volunteers. It is difficult because the commissioners are working and Neil has had some back issues. We also house our cabinets there and can store them securely. Keegan said they could not do that. Bober and Sebastian said they could arrange to help. We will revisit this in the future.
- Keegan also mentioned that at some point volunteers would all have to be fingerprinted in order to work with kids. This includes the 18 year old volunteers. Even if you have

been fingerprinted by another agency because of your work, you would need to do this again. The city is waiting for paperwork, so we are currently awaiting more information.

Nominations - Dankowski resigned her position as DPYC Chair and had Burton run the meeting to secure nominations. Ludwig nominated Dankowski for Chair. There were no other nominations for Chair, so Dankowski will continue as Chair. She thanked the commission for the vote of confidence and then took over the meeting. M. Cullotta was nominated by Burton as Secretary and will be secretary starting in October, 2024. Neil was also nominated to be Vice Chair by Burton and will continue in that role, as no other nominations were announced. (Neil was absent and will have the option at the next meeting if he should choose not to continue in the role.

D62 -Burton talked about D62 lunches and creating a “sharing table” at the end of lunch period for students who would have an opportunity to get additional food that was left over from lunches. Conversation will continue in October to see if DPYC can assist in any way. All agreed that this is a great idea and that food could be sent home to those in need also. Burton said they were happy with the new lunch provider.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m. **The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 18th, 2024.**

Note: *Dankowski sent out emails to various groups to secure volunteers for all of our events for the rest of 2024.*