

Draft minutes
CONSTITUENCY GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
Tuesday, January 17, 2023, 6-8pm

In attendance

Officers: Jerry Baroh, Bob Braun, Gordie McIntyre, Joan Paulson, Bruce Rutledge, Nick Setten,

Members: Maggie Haines, Haley Land, Skip Knox, Bob Messina, Erik Pihl, Heather Pihl, Christine Vaughan, Patricia

6:10 p.m. Meeting is called to order by Vice Chair Bob Braun

6:10 p.m. Nick moves to approve agenda. Jerry seconds. Agenda is approved by acclamation

6:12 p.m. Approval of minutes

Nick moved to approve the minutes for the Sept. 2022 & October 2022 general assembly meetings. Jerry seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by acclamation.

6:13 p.m. Public comment

Haley spoke about the need to hire a staffer to help with Constituency work.

6:15 p.m. Dept. of Neighborhoods/MHC update

Christine says a rally to support Councilmember Lewis's amendment to leave the Market Historical Commission out of proposed legislation CB 120456 that would strip it of much of its authority has been moved from Jan. 19 to Jan. 26.

Haley stresses that the bill needs to be stopped at the Committee level before it comes to a full vote of the Council.

Erik gives details on the strong showing of the Market at the latest Committee hearing.

Nick talks about a letter from the PDA that was drafted by Devin McComb. The letter basically says the PDA is trying to figure out future plans and doesn't support the bill as it is drafted at this point.

Christine asked if a letter had been sent by the Constituency. Advises that the letter be sent again with an addendum that the Constituency supports the proposed amendment.

Bob says we can send that letter.

Nick thanks Haley for helping get out a call to action to the crafters community.

Bob gives shout out to Heather for all her work on the subject.

Heather adds that she hopes the PDA looks to the MHC's expertise earlier in the future.

6:40 p.m. In-person meetings

Bruce said that he was talking with Karin Moughamer and Mary Bacarella about moving our meetings to the Classroom and doing hybrid meetings. The Constituency is hoping to move to this hybrid model in February. Bruce will meet with Mary this Friday. Bruce asks how the membership feels about meeting in person.

Members voice support for using the Classroom for hybrid meetings.

6:48 p.m. New business

Bob asked Bruce to acquire a budget service agreement form from Mary so that the Constituency could begin its efforts to hire a part-time assistant. Bob offers to fund an ad for the Constituency. He also mentions that the Constituency has been given a new computer and scanner from the PDA.

Christine says from her experience with the PDA, the more specific we can be about the chores we want the part-timer to handle, the better. She says the PDA should fund an ad and not have that fall on Bob, saying it could be a slippery slope.

Nick says the person should help digitize Constituency records.

Bob says that's important but having an engaged membership is of the utmost importance considering that a 50-year plan by the PDA is underway.

7:10 p.m. PDA committee reports

Gordie gave an update on the latest FAM meeting, mentioning budget outlays and new leases. Finances are looking good. He bemoans the fact that the PDA hasn't applied for federal infrastructure money.

Nick gave an update on the Programs meeting. In 2022, Market saw a 31.9% increase in pedestrian traffic. Co-op advertising program is seeing increased participation. Also, two long-time crafters – Jon Strongbow and passed away recently.

7:20 p.m. Public comment

Erik said he had heard rumors that the PDA is setting sales targets for shop owners and wondered if others had heard the same.

Nick offers to look in to that issue.

Jerry says that 2022 was one of the best years financially for the Market. Nick concurs.

Skip wants meeting minutes to reflect that he is reinstated as Constituency member after some missteps last fall with the PDA prompted him to temporarily resign. He has retracted his resignation from the Constituency.

Skip says many members don't have email. Bob asks what the percentage is. Bruce reports that as of the last membership list update, the amount of people who request physical mail instead of email has dropped from 108 to 30-something.

Skip also moved that he would be assigned to physical mailings of the Constituency's monthly newsletter. Christine seconded the motion. It is approved by the 10 members present.

Haley stressed the need to build and enliven the Constituency membership in 2023.

7:43 p.m. Erik moves to adjourn. Christine seconds. The meeting is adjourned by Vice Chair Bob Braun.