

**Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance
Regular Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Lincoln Center – Room 503
September 26, 2007**

Attendance: Jane Amorosi, Laurel Bowen, James Cavallo, Aspasia Colias, Gordon Goodman, Ihor Hlohowskyj, Ken Lerner and Charley Smart (Quorum present)

Absent: Lee Forsythe, Bill Runyon, Chris Saricks, Dave Schulz and Jerry Yoksoulian

Guests: John Schofield, Shannon Forsythe, Christa Christensen, Linda Pierce, and John Gaudette

Meeting called to order by Chairman Cavallo at 7:10 p.m.

Approval with revisions of meeting minutes of July 18, 2007: see attached

Acceptance of Treasurer's Report: see attached

Decision on a memorial for Rita Martin: Laurie Bowen discovered that the park district is willing to purchase a tree or two as a memorial to Rita Martin, plant them in Hummer Park, and bill us. The board voted to authorize the spending up to \$150 for this memorial. Laurie Bowen and Aspasia Colias agreed to oversee this action.

Discussion of proposed action by the village council on recycling and construction and demolition waste site: The board members and guests conducted a discussion of the issue of amendments to village ordinances regarding sites within the village for recycling and construction and demolition waste. The village council is expected to take action to restrict such sites within 1320 feet of residential areas. There was general agreement with this action. However, the village action is expected to include 4 exceptions to the 1320 feet restriction: the Morton Arboretum, Forest Preserve lands, village water towers, and the tollway. The board members expressed opposition to the exceptions of the Arboretum and natural areas, although there was disagreement over whether arguing about areas in addition to the Arboretum would be necessary or would dilute the point to be made. A resolution was passed by unanimous voice vote. See attached.

Presentation by John Gaudette: John Gaudette made a presentation about the Illinois Environmental Council. He is their outreach coordinator. He also solicited our concerns and interests on environmental topics. He left printed material. Those interested should see Jim Cavallo for copies of the material.

Presentation by Shannon Forsythe: Shannon Forsythe reported that sufficient funds have now been identified for the Little Sprouts grade school education program to match PDHA's approved contribution of \$750. She also summarized the current activities at Lyman Woods and Belmont Prairie. Copies of her report can be received by contacting Jim Cavallo.

Presentation by Christa Christensen: Christa Christensen is the new supervisor of the DG Park District Museum. She presented on the activities at the museum. Copies of the material she passed out are available by contacting Jim Cavallo.

Charley Smart and Gordon Goodman reported that a benefit concert for the 1846 Blodgett House is to be held at the Tivoli Theatre on Sunday afternoon, October 21, 2007. This concert features storytellers and singers Kim & Reggie Harris presenting "Music and the Underground Railroad. The General Admission Tickets cost \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door.

Ken Lerner and John Schofield thanked the Directors for funding the first printing of the Neighborhood Construction Watch Handbook and presented the few remaining copies to the Alliance for their use at the annual meeting. The Village of Downers Grove has stated that an official document will be published that might supplant the Handbook, and reprinting plans await analysis of the forthcoming official document.

The next highway clean up will be held on October 13.

Possible dates for the PDHA Annual Meeting were discussed. Dates under consideration are Wednesday November 28th or December 5th. Jim Cavallo offered to investigate availability of meeting space and available of speakers.

Volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee are Ken Lerner and Gordon Goodman.

Lee Forsythe resigned from the board because he is moving to Denver to take a new job. Laurel Bowen read a prepared statement and also resigned from the board. We thank them both for their hard work and dedication over many years.

Meeting adjourned: 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jim Cavallo

Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance
<http://www.pdha.org>
Approved as Revised Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Lincoln Center – Room 305
July 18, 2007

Attendance: Jane Amorosi, Laurel Bowen, James Cavallo, Aspasia Colias, Lee Forsythe, Ihor Hlohowskyj, Ken Lerner, Bill Runyon, Jerry Yoksouliau (Quorum present)

Absent: Gordon Goodman, Chris Saricks, Dave Schulz, Charley Smart

Meeting called to order by Chairman James Cavallo at 7:10 p.m.

Secretary's Report: No minutes available for March 21, 2007 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Gordon Goodman reported beginning balance (as of 3/19/2007) = \$4,709.42.

Income was \$110 (7 donations) and CD interest was \$16.11.

Expenditures: \$140 – Newsletter printing

71.70 – Postage

45.00 – Woodsfest pamphlet printing

300.00 – IEC 2007 dues

250.00 – Printing of DG Coalition for Redevelopment booklet (500)

Total: \$1,896.70

Ending Checking Balance as of 7/17/2007 = \$731.24 with \$3,627.10 CD maturing 7/30/2007 at Community Bank of DG. New 1846 Blodgett House on the Move Account: "1846 Blodgett House" account (balance: \$979.00) closed on May 22, 2007.

Discussion regarding the Receipt of \$90 on 5/31 and \$1,000 on 6/29/2007 for the 1846 Blodgett House project and then transferred out on 5/29 and 6/29 to the DG Heritage Preservation Corporation ensued. Full "explanation" follows.

All of the donations deposited into the Closed "1846 Blodgett House" account totaled \$1,250 and the expenses paid out of that account were \$171 so that we were able to transfer \$979 to the Downers Grove Heritage Preservation Corporation when that account was closed on May 22nd.

After that original "1846 Blodgett House" account was closed a check for \$90 that was drawn on that account was presented to the Community Bank. Community Bank paid this \$90 check #1004 on 5/29/07 using funds from our PDHA checking account. Then on 5/31/07 we transferred \$90 from the DG Heritage Preservation Corporation's checking account into the PDHA checking account to reimburse this payment.

On 6/29/07 PDHA received a check for \$1,000 as a donation intended for the DG Heritage Preservation Corporation. On the same day PDHA wrote a check in the amount of \$1,000 to the DG Heritage Preservation Corporation. The donor of the \$1,000 wanted to write his check to an organization that already has received a letter from the IRS confirming that the organization is classified as a charitable and educational not-for-profit corporation. PDHA had already received such a letter from the IRS, but DGHPC is still in the process of applying to the IRS for such recognition. There is one more check made out to PDHA that is a donation of \$800 indented for the DGHPC. We expect that this \$800 check will be handled in the same fashion as the \$1,000 check was handled.

Much Discussion followed regarding the appropriateness of the deposit and withdrawals of \$90 and \$1,000 (on 5/29/07, and 6/29/07, respectively) for the 1846 Blodgett House project and liability of PDHA. Chairman Cavallo explained his support of using PDHA as an “incubator” for other organizations. He apologized if his actions in this matter were viewed as inconsistent with PDHA Bylaws and assured Directors that his future actions would strictly adhere to the Bylaws.

Treasurer's report was approved (7-2) with further discussion to take place at September meeting.

Lee Forsythe motioned that \$3,000 be rolled over on 7/30/2007 to CD at bank and \$627.10 be put into the checking account. Motion passed.

2007 Highway Clean-up: Highway clean-up was not held on Saturday, June 23 due to heavy rains. Remaining Clean-up Days: August 25 and October 13

Cool Cities Program: D. Schulz and J. Cavallo gave statements at the Village Council meeting on July 10 to encourage this municipal program. The U.S. Mayor’s Climate Protection Agreement is designed to influence decision making at local, state and national levels. This was originally proposed to Council in March and they referred for review to the Environmental Commission in April. Last week Council referred back to the Environmental Commission for further review and financial implications. This program relates to sprawl, alternative transportation, fleet vehicles, etc.

Chicago Wilderness: Motion passed at March 21 meeting to join, application still in process.

Rita Martin Memorial: Discussion and decision to be tabled until September meeting.

Mark Your Calendar:

DG Environmental Concerns Commission Meetings: 2nd Thursday, Public Works at 7 p.m.

Village Council: Meets every Tuesday at Village Hall: 7:00 p.m.

Park District: Meets first (Lincoln Center) and third (Village Hall) Thursday: 7 p.m.

Highway Clean-up Dates: Aug 25, Oct 13

Next PDHA Meeting: Wed. September 26, 2007, 7:00 p.m. in Lincoln Center Room 202

Lyman Woods Work day: July 21, August 18, November 17, December 15

Belmont Prairie Work day: September 22, October 20

Websites of Interest: www.pdha.org www.greenfund.com
 www.environmentaldefense.org
 www.ilenviro.org
 www.earthshare.org
 www.PRESERVEtheDCFPD@aol.com
 [www:preservationofourforests.org](http://www.preservationofourforests.org)
 www.dgcmr.org
 www.1846BlodgettHouse.org

Meeting adjourned: 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Laurel Q. Bowen, Secretary

Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance

Corrected Treasurer's Report

September 25, 2007

Beginning Checking Balance, December 1, 2006 **\$925.08**

Income:

Income from December 1, 2006 through September 25, 2007

Date	Amount	Remarks
12/06/06	60.00	2 Donations
12/09/06	375.00	4 Donations
1/06/07	100.00	1 Donation
1/23/07	100.00	1 Donation
2/10/07	50.00	2 Donations
2/28/07	100.00	1 Donation
5/07/07	50.00	1 Donation
5/15/07	20.00	2 Donations
5/30/07	30.00	2 Donations
5/31/07	90.00	Transfer Credit from DG Heritage Preservation Co.
6/11/07	10.00	1 Donation
6/29/07	1,000.00	Donation for 1846 Blodgett House
8/08/07	643.11	Transfer of \$143.11 Interest & \$500. Principal from Maturing CD

Total Deposits 12/1/2006 – 9/25/2007 **\$2,628.11**

Expenditures:

Expenditures from December 1, 2006 through September 25, 2007

Date	Amount	Remarks
12/04/06	82.14	Laurel Bowen - Reimbursement for Newsletter postage
12/06/06	200.00	Ted R. Gray – Honorarium
4/12/07	140.00	Office Max – Spring Newsletter printing
5/02/07	71.70	Laurel Bowen – Reimbursement for Newsletter postage
5/04/07	45.00	Office Max – Printing PHDA History for Woodsfest
5/12/07	300.00	Illinois Environmental Council – 2007 Dues
5/22/07	250.00	Anita James Printing Co. – Construction Watch Handbook
5/29/07	90.00	Paid Check # 1004 Written on Closed “1846 Blodgett House” account
6/29/07	1,000.00	Donation Transferred to DG Heritage Preservation Corporation
8/06/07	34.99	Reimburse Mark Sklair for Domain Name Renewal Fee

Total Expenditures 12/1/2006 – 9/25/2007 **\$ 2,213.83**

Ending Checking Balance September 25, 2007 **\$1,339.36**

Other Assets:

Community Bank of DG CD Matures on 7/30/08 **\$3,012.10**

Total Assets September 25, 2007 **\$4,351.46**

Total Assets December 1, 2006 **\$4,441.04**

Difference **(\$ 89.58)**

Approved Future Expenditures: \$50 2007 Dues for Chicago Wilderness
\$750 Matching Funds Donation for Interpretative Center Programs

Total Already Approved Future Expenditures: **\$ 800.00**

1846 Blodgett House ... on the Move Account:

“1846 Blodgett House” Account closed May 22, 2007 transferring \$979.00 to DGHPC

**Resolution Requesting
Protection of The Morton Arboretum from Environmental Impacts
of Recycling and Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling Facilities**
September 26, 2007

Whereas the Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance is dedicated to preserving the natural and cultural heritage of Downers Grove; and

Whereas the Downers Grove Environmental Concerns Commission has found that there are environmental impacts associated with recycling and construction and demolition debris recycling facilities; and

Whereas the mission of The Morton Arboretum is to collect and study trees, shrubs, and other plants from around the world, to display them across naturally beautiful landscapes for people to study and enjoy, and to learn how to grow them in ways that enhance our environment; and

Whereas The Morton Arboretum has been a good neighbor of Downers Grove for 85 years and provides the residents of Downers Grove with opportunities for appreciation of and learning about the environment, and also provides open green space that directly benefits all residents of Downers Grove; and

Whereas, in a letter to the Mayor dated June 26, 2007, Dr. Gerard T. Donnelly, President and CEO of The Morton Arboretum, identified significant environmental threats that could adversely effect Arboretum operations and jeopardize conservation, scientific, and economic goals resulting in undue hardships and consequential damages and asked the Village of Downers Grove for protection from recycling and construction and demolition debris recycling facilities in the immediate neighborhood of The Morton Arboretum; and

Whereas The Morton Arboretum is zoned residential;

Now therefore the Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance requests that the Mayor and Village Council of Downers Grove eliminate an exception in the proposed zoning ordinance that would allow facilities for recycling and construction and demolition debris recycling to be closer than 1,320 feet (1/4 mile) from The Morton Arboretum, thereby providing the same protections for The Morton Arboretum as for other residentially zoned land within the Village limits;

And the Chair of Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance is authorized to communicate this resolution to the Mayor and Village Council of Downers Grove as well as to Dr. Donnelly and otherwise to publicize the Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance's request in this matter and to express our concern for protection of Forest Preserve lands.

- Approved by unanimous voice vote of Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance Directors on September 26, 2007.