

CONSTITUENCY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday March 27, 2025, 6:15 p.m.

Attendance:

Online: Nick Setten, Babak Ziraknejad, Erik Pihl, Gina Karaba, Liz Hughes

In Classroom: Bob Braun, Jonathan Berner, Chris Scott, Emily Pike, Russell Monroe, Alex Rasmussen, Skip Knox, Graham Marmion, Christine Vaughan, Janis Jordan, Gina Karaba, Heather Pihl, Joan Paulson, Howard Anderson, Craig Eidsmoe

Chair Bob Braun called the meeting to order at 6:52 pm.

Agenda: Approved by acclamation.

Approval of minutes: February 27, 2025

Approved by acclamation.

Public comment

Graham asks to have a resolution created so that the outreach committee can move forward with creating a handbook. He also says, in regards to Robert's Rules and internet voting, that it's easy to run out a clock if there's a roll call vote and asks the ExCom to create a process improvement committee to find and improve solutions to expeditiously use Robert's Rules. Example: poll option or someone be tasked with managing the membership list.

Chris thinks that there was an error made at the last GA, there should have been a special meeting called to finish the discussion, and asks that a special meeting be convened so a vote can be taken.

Howard mentions that he does not support a pedestrian-only market experience. He says traffic should be improved, and passenger and customer overload from cruise ships hasn't been addressed, but the street shouldn't be closed.

Gina wants to submit a minority report on the listening committee's findings, asks if it's appropriate to submit it.

Old Business

Nick asks what will happen with the unfinished conversation at the last GA. Bob reminds us that we chose to postpone it to April 15. Chris reiterates that he wants to have a special meeting called. Heather points out that the letter was not discussed, just whether or not to send it.

Handbook

Christine suggests that the recommendation of a membership handbook
Since we started a conversation about a membership handbook, we can bring a short presentation

Chris suggests having a handbook for members, and a booklet for executive committee members, including faq, org chart of the pda staff, org chart of constituency excom, roles and responsibilities, calendar of PDA meetings.

Bob asks that outreach committee put together a proposal outlining handbook(s) for members and board members to bring forth to the general membership

New Business

Elections

Jonathan moves to run the 2025 elections in the same way as the 2024 elections. Bob points out that Skip has had a motion on the books for two months now, and suggests we add this to the agenda. Jonathan suggests that at GA he moves to do the election as it was, then Skip proposes a motion to amend that.

PDA Committee reports

Nick reported on the full council meeting.

Christine touched on FAM, and said that the Market is in good financial standing. She mentioned that the MHC approved grids on the slabs for one year. Also, seating areas proposed by the PDA were approved for one year, except that this year, they will be open to all public, not just specific restaurants.

Russell reported on the Programs Committee – new busker spots, permits, etc; farm visits ongoing; a new community space will be opening upstairs in the Sanitary Market for Market workers; discussion of potentially rehoming the rummage hall; info about the guest vendor program; participation in Valentine's Day incentive; daystall rules – passed out of committee, approved with a friendly amendment tonight so they're going into effect April 1. Lots of discussion about 'regular' vs 'procedural' rules.

Russell touches on today's full council – Gerry Johnson & OPMA & what not to do, with a 'how does this apply to the Constituency' – Gerry says that as an element of the PDA, with the exception of the ExCom, members aren't subject to the same limitations. Also had recommendations to council from the governance workgroup. Recommendations were offered about how to create more social cohesion; also a job description for PDA councilmembers was floated. Goal is to have everyone on council understand what is required for work
Christine says some of it felt kind of corporate, and having experience in the Market is a good qualifier.

Bob says that he and Bruce are going to work on a similar thing of 'what should you be prepared for if you want to be involved in the ExCom of the PPMC'

Some discussion around when would be appropriate to bring this to a GA meeting – probably plan to do this in April.

Nick will get the ball rolling on this discussion item at the upcoming GA.

Public Comment

Chris says he asked EJ to share the presentations about good governance and OPMA, offers to send it to Bruce as well. Bob says he is requesting the video clip of the OPMA presentation.

Chris says that he suggested holding meetings prior to the elections to outline what service on the board involves. Jonathan agrees that he likes the idea of an 'open house' for interested candidates. Bob says that it would have to be clear that this is strictly informational and not conducting business of the Constituency. Russell says if you want to explore sitting on PDA Council, go to PDA Council meetings. Heather says she'll send out the April newsletter on 4/2 and will include an announcement that elections are coming up with a suggestion to attend upcoming meetings for those who are interested.

Skip says the bylaws require that at each meeting we have a physical copy of the bylaws, Robert's Rules, and the PDA charter. He said that it needed to be the current edition of Robert's Rules and that the one in the Classroom is out of date. He recommends that this body take up the position to hire a registered parliamentarian for the next public meeting – they can solve problems and bring a meeting to a point without offending people.

Set agenda for next General Assembly meeting

Bob says he'll work with Bruce to set the agenda

Emily asks to add a motion at the next GA to form a committee tasked with researching and updating the bylaws and online voting to ensure equitable access – Bob says he'll add this to New Business.

7:40 p.m. Meeting adjourned