

PTOEC
Board Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2021
Corrected and Approved December 1, 2021

The meeting was held at the Swansea Moose Lodge and was called to order at 6:06 PM. Those present were: David Wettig, Sonji Palmer, Tanya Tepen, Marcia Morgan, Jennifer Otero, Colleen Costello, Lisa Elbe, Janice Pfeil, Beverly Love, Jerry Russell, Emily Wittenhauer, Scott Lanxon, Ellen Schwoebel, Kelly Wettig, Kathy Costello, Robert Edwards, Tara Edwards, and Susan Jasiewicz.

OPENING REMARKS: Dave stated we have a lot to get taken care of tonight.

MINUTES REVIEW: The October minutes had been previously distributed. Only one correction was needed. The minutes were approved with that correction.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Tanya reported the October income was \$164.01; expenses were \$3,964.10, which resulted in a loss of (\$3,800.09). Fixed assets were reported as \$63,881.72.

SOAD REPORT: Tara reported:

Volleyball: Both volleyball teams competed at the State level. The modified team won the gold medal and the traditional team won silver.

Basketball: Practice has not yet started because practice facilities have not been obtained as yet.

Membership Shirts: The supply of shirts has been depleted and 100 shirts need to be obtained.

Flag Football: Both teams are going to State competition this coming weekend.

Microsoft Office: Tara had stated that she needed Microsoft Office to do her work. Jennifer suggested that we use the PTOEC email to obtain Microsoft Office. Janice motioned and Jennifer seconded the motion to obtain Microsoft Office. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORT: Ellen reiterated the need to have more fund raisers and get more people involved. Dave stated that Jan, Sonji, Lisa, Beverly, Ellen, and Kelly are currently on the committee.

ATHLETE'S CORNER: Kathy explained how Colleen composes her report with Kathy's help, and that all of the ideas are Colleen's.

Colleen reported that Team USA probably would not be going to Russia for the World Games in 2022. Maddie Harnar, Colleen, and Jenny Hitt will be going to National Games in Orlando as members of the gymnastics team. Colleen was invited to the Gala in Chicago which she attended and enjoyed.

She explained that the Unified Leadership program was established to give athletes the opportunity to be involved in leadership roles at all levels. Colleen feels that more athletes should be involved in the Dumpster Plunge, and she felt that PTOEC should get more athletes involved in our procedures. She also feels that our Regional Offices should have mentor programs, shadowing days, and internships for

the athletes. That would give the athletes the opportunity to learn how to plan events instead of just showing up for them. If PTOEC encouraged all of our sponsors and showed them how it can be done, soon there could be athlete leaders all over our area. Colleen stated the most important thing to her and one that we should do within PTOEC is to make sure there are athletes serving on the boards and decision making committees all over the state. She is the first and still the only athlete on the PTOEC Board. She stated she is here, but does not think she is participating enough. She feels that the Board knows that she has an intellectual disability, but she is not sure the Board understands. Colleen is not sure that PTOEC realizes that all the athletes are the reason there is a PTOEC board. She knows our hearts are in the right place, but isn't sure our understanding is. As athlete leaders, we may have good speaking and social skills, but it is often difficult to think on the spot with our opinion on things. More time is needed to process the concepts and prepare her thoughts. Some athletes are comfortable giving their opinions right away, but some of us need people who have the patience to ask us the right questions...then wait...and listen...and help us think through the decisions being made. That is what unified leadership is really all about: being willing to work patiently with an athlete where they are, helping them to find where they belong, and supporting them to be what they want to be. I hope PTOEC can do that for our athletes. I hope we follow our By-Laws and have 2 athletes on the board to help make decisions. I know that the State Board thinks PTOEC is doing things right, and that we are a good model for other boards in the state that are run by parents. I hope we can keep that up.

Colleen was commended on her presentation. Sonji added that the board needs to give athlete board members access and time to know what we are saying and doing. Kelly feels members that aren't athletes should be allowed on the board also. Kathy will work on a change for our By-Laws regarding those ideas.

Tara suggested we establish an advisory board with 5 members on it. 2 of those 5 would to come to our monthly board meeting and report on their ideas. The 2 members would serve 3 years (if they want) while the other 3 would drop-off after 1 year. Jennifer will send an email regarding the above. Sonji motioned and Beverly seconded the motion to send that email. The motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS: Two potential board members were present. They were Susan Jasiewicz and Scott Lanxon. Each of them introduced themselves to the board and explained why they are interested in being on the board.

Two guests were present to speak about "dual agency" participation in Special Olympics. Dave stated that PTOEC is not excluding athletes that participate in other agencies.

Kelly reported that only 14 people are selling pizzas in the TJ's Fund Raiser. She stated that we need better participation.

NEW BUSINESS:

Storage Shed: Sonji reported the costs of the buildings she saw were all over \$7,000. She did find that Lowes had an 11 X 20 "build it yourself" unit that was \$2,500. Kelly stated she found a shipping

container for \$2,800 plus \$250 for shipping. Emily stated she will check into the cost of a 10 X 20 cinder block building. Scott state he will check into the zoning requirements for a shipping container.

Debit Cards: Ellen reported that she had talked to someone from the bank who had indicated that we should switch to credit cards to better protect our bank account. Tanya will talk to our bank regarding this matter.

Fun Nights: Ellen requested donations for gifts by December 1 for gifts with a \$5 limit. The fun night is December 10. She also asked that someone look into Amazon Smiles to see if PTOEC could benefit from it.

PTOEC Field of Dreams: Scott reported that the toilets have to be repaired. There is a leak and our water and sewer bill are at \$332.63. The cost will not be refunded until the problems are fixed, and since the building has already been winterized, the repairs won't be made until next year.

Donation: Dave made the announcement that Contegra Construction Company has given us a generous \$25,000 donation.

Jerry made the motion to adjourn and Marcia seconded it. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully,
Marcia Morgan
Recording Secretary