

Chateau Estates Civic Organization Minutes of Board Meeting

Chateau Estates Civic Organization (CECO) conducted a Board Meeting on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at the Kenner Pavilion at Kenner City Park. The meeting started at 6:00 p.m. This was a meeting of Officers and Area Directors.

Present: Bob Bales, Alton McFarland, Rita Bezou, Garey Mann II, Ted Berggren, Terrence Duffy, Ira Snyder, Brad Bohannon, Todd Murphy, Alison Wolf, Sharon Kochera and Ex-Officio Councilwoman Kristi McKinney.

Absent: Kerry Marcus, Ron Updegraff, Sid Bullard and Ex-Officio Council George Branigan and Tom Willmott.

Topic	Discussion	Action Item
Meeting Convened	<p>A quorum being present, CECO President convened the meeting welcoming Todd Murphy and reviewed the agenda. The secretary circulated a sign in sheet.</p> <p>Reviewed minutes of last Board Meeting. Old Business was carried forward to tonight's meeting. Motion. Accept the minutes from the meeting of October 18, 2023. Seconded and carried without dissent.</p>	<p>None</p> <p>None</p>
Reports	<p>Reported on minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on December 12, 2023, minutes of which are included in handout. Went over the end of year Financial Report with no questions raised. The yearly financial review by Ron Updegraff is complete and was accepted by the board.</p> <p>The Board was informed about how a homeowner Wind Mitigation Survey could potentially reduce a homeowners' insurance rate. This is a one-time survey. Citizens is one of the companies giving discounts depending on the survey.</p>	<p>Make homeowners more aware of this program. Reach out to the respective companies for newsletter article contributors, table sponsor or presenters.</p>

<p>March 6th General Meeting Speakers</p>	<p>Reviewed the 2024 schedule for Board Meetings and General Membership meetings. In conjunction the board discussed the frequency of the newsletter and the potential for producing four newsletters per year versus three. Agreed to move forward with four General Meetings per year. Motion. Go to quarterly newsletters and adjust ad rates for 2025 to cover the expense. Seconded and carried without dissent.</p> <p>State Senator Kirk Talbot agreed to provide an update on legislation including insurance at the March 6th members meeting. The board discussed that inviting KPD Police Chief Conley would be of interest to homeowners.</p>	<p>Adjust calendar to reflect four General Meetings.</p> <p>Amend budget to fund quarterly newsletters.</p> <p>Invite KPD Chief Keith Conley to the March 6th meeting.</p>
<p>2024 Committee</p>	<p>Beautification of Williams was a priority issue in the last city and parish council elections. Consensus gathered around steps to improve store front appearances of businesses along Williams Blvd and thereby improving the overall aesthetics of Kenner.</p> <p>Handout with committee assignments reviewed. Ted agreed to participate on the Communication Committee. Ira agreed to chair the membership committee. Emphasize the 6:30 - 7:00 segment before meetings as a social time and invite sponsor tables.</p>	<p>Include public initiatives to beautify Williams Boulevard as a CECO priority for the year, including code requirements.</p> <p>Committee members approved. Opportunities for expanded social activity be carried as old business.</p>
<p>Membership Update</p>	<p>As of January, we have 86 paid renewals with a goal of 215. Suggested that the Membership Committee explore strategies to increase membership.</p>	<p>Continue with email reminders. Membership committee to schedule a meeting.</p>
<p>Newsletter and Sponsorship Update</p>	<p>Newsletters will include a field (possibly in the address box) to indicate a person's dues status. The printer has said this can be done.</p>	<p>Create a field on newsletter to indicate due. The newsletter will reach all homes and will include a membership reminder status.</p>

<p>Garden Club Update</p>	<p>Reviewed topics for the March newsletter. The Garden Club was invited to contribute an article.</p> <p>Motion. Give up content on page 2 of newsletter to create space for two additional paid advertising spaces. Seconded and carried without dissent.</p> <p>A PowerPoint was distributed to board members before the meeting summarizing a meeting with the garden club and including the direct expenses of keeping up the gardens for the past two years. CECO is funding about 20% of the direct cost of keeping up the gardens.</p> <p>Motion. Pay the 2023 allocation of \$2400 to the Garden Club and include \$2400 in the 2024 budget. Seconded and carried without dissent.</p> <p>Sharon Kochera was asked if she'd be interested in serving as a liaison between CECO and the Garden Club and facilitate communication between CECO and the Garden Club.</p>	<p>Focus will be on spring fix up and clean up.</p> <p>Mac will recruit for two additional business size ads for page 2. Adjust newsletter accordingly.</p> <p>Disburse \$2400 to the Garden Club for prior year.</p>
<p>Old Business</p>	<p>Revisited initiatives with Kenner Parks and Recreation advisory committee.</p> <p>Community Rating System (CRS) and Accident Reduction programs. CECO contacted Congressman Scalise' office and was pointed to information that under Risk 2.0 NFIP premiums will more than double. Risk 2.0 raises the value of CRS discounts to NFIP policy holders to \$1.5 million across the city. The Board agreed to continue our interest in these areas.</p>	<p>Ms. Kochera agreed to approach the Garden Club to see if they would be open to her being the Garden Clubs liaison.</p> <p>The first meeting is February 5th. The 22-member committee includes Bob, Brad and Kerry.</p> <p>Identify members to serve as Leads to develop further information. Consider a CRS presentation at the second general meeting of the year.</p>
<p>March 6th Checklist</p>	<p>Went over checklist for next General Meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Refreshments/Pickup-Garey ● Posting to Nextdoor-Alison 	

2024 Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sponsors Desk-Mack and Terry ● Invites to other Civic Organizations-Garey <p>CECO Treasurer provided an examination of the budget. Motion. Approve the budget as presented amended to fund four newsletters. Seconded and carried without dissent.</p>	Execute approved budget.
New Business	<p>Sid Bullard agreed to donate space for a Blood Drive [before April] at the Event Center. The board agreed to endorse and support this effort.</p> <p>President mentioned Jefferson Parish Election of Voters is looking for Voting Commissioner. Alison agreed to work with President to post a blog.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 7:53p</p>	<p>CECO endorsement and promotion.</p> <p>Alison creates blog.</p>

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Garey N. Mann II January 27, 2024.