

Chicagoland Toys For Tots Board Meeting

August 19, 2025

Attendance:

Tom Dertz #455 – President

Sharon Choate #1798 – Vice President

Wanda Perlinski #543 – Secretary

Sandy Scheel #491 -Treasurer via Teams

Matt Ksycki #1747 - Sargent at Arms

Richard Link #1853 – Northside Coordinator

Bruce Weaver #843 – Product Coordinator

Sam Johnson #870 – Parade Coordinator

Kim Allen #1827 – By-Laws/Historian

Visitors:

Jack Voss #415

Jim Fannello #435

Scott Rehak #1935

Nichole Rehak #2028

Kelly Doherty #1759

Tom Mantel #549

Roshanda Luter

Chuck S #1099

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Sargent at Arms,
Matt Ksycki

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion to approve the minutes from July 15, 2025 board meeting was made by Matt Ksycki and 2nd by Bruce Weaver. All were in favor.

President – Tom Dertz

He wanted to let everyone know that the new By Laws do not go into effect until September, 2025. The new by laws have nothing to do with prior happenings in the membership. At the last meeting we got away from Roberts Rules of Order.

Budgets need to be turned in at the September meeting.

Vice President: Sharon Choate

The day of the Kick off party the doors will open at 5:00 p.m. She will meet with venue people to confirm all the details. Attendance was for 300. Should we lower it to 250-275?

President Tom made a motion to lower it to 250 people and it was 2nd by Sharon. All were in favor.

Will need desserts. Jack Voss will post on Facebook. She suggested maybe a sheet cake, a big one with our emblem on it. Scott Rehak said he will look into it.

Currently we have 25 baskets for raffles and 24 gift cards. We are good on baskets.

We need an idea for the big raffle. Suggestions were 55 inch TV, the mini bike in the warehouse, E-bike.

Sharon made a motion for an E-bike for the raffle.

Tom Mantell said what about a Gron bike by Honda motorcycle? He will look into it. Sam suggested we need more information on it. Tabled till next meeting.

Front gate, car groups in the parade? Should we put a vehicle registration form and have them pay a fee? If we do this, we can't tell Chicago.

Sharon made a motion to allow car groups to fill out a form and pay \$100 fee to participate. Bruce Weaver 2nd the motion. All were in favor.

Secretary: Wanda Perlinski

The member gifts have been ordered and sitting in her garage. A total of 350 were ordered and the cost was \$4,568.67. Sandy has been provided the invoice to pay.

Working on the postcard for the kick off party with the meeting dates on it. Should go out early next week.

The permit for the forest preserve is filled out and need to get President Tom's signature. Also need the contract for the porta potties before submitting.

Treasurer: Sandy Scheel

General Account: \$15,336.35 as of the end of July. As of today: \$16,284.89

Product Account: \$19,065.43 as of the end of July.

Donation: \$836.23

Paid for the Renewal of 5013C in the amount of \$200.00.

Go Daddy was renewed for 3 years for \$2000.

Tree and card for Chester Pirog for \$52.99 in his memory.

Motion was made by Sharon to pay for summer shirts to Stars and Stripes in the amount of \$3,564.56. 2nd by Tom. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Sandy to pay for the members gifts in the amount of \$4,568.67. 2nd by Wanda. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Tom to pay the attorney fee in the amount of \$1,700. 2nd by Rich. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Bruce to transfer \$10,000 from the product account to the general account. 2nd by Tom. All were in favor.

Queen of Hearts Account: \$2,582.75 after the payout. Will start a new board in September after Labor Day. Will discuss with the bar to change the amount they sell the tickets for.

She will create a spreadsheet with members addresses/phone #'s, e-mail addresses and a signature slot for the kickoff party.

When people sign in, will have to verify and update their info and year started.

She will make a sign out sheet for the donation circles with all the member's information.

She will switch over to the new system with Tera.

Sargent at Arms: Matt Ksycki

He will submit a list of members working Security at the Kick Off party.

He suggested to Jack Voss if he wants a picture of the Board at the Kick Off party, he needs to do it early.

He feels the speeches for the kick off party don't need to be an in dept analysis. Just introduce the board.

Need a timeline for the parade with a checklist.

Northside Coordinator: Rick Link

There are no changes of the ending point of the parade.

The dates just came open at DeVry and he sent an e-mail. He doesn't know about the fee yet.

Parade Coordinator: Sam Johnson

He wants to know when do we want to contact the alderman and streets and sanitation about the potholes down Western. Send the letter out in October.

Need boxes at the kick off party. 40 boxes Sam will bring to the kick off party and Bruce will take what is left over to the warehouse.

All of the boxes that are at the Arc with Pastor Al need to be brought to the warehouse.

Tom thanked him for fixing the issue with Facebook and Jack Voss.

Tom asked him to delete Kim Allen's admin account on Facebook since someone hacked her account. Please check into it and once the problem has been fixed, you can re-add her account.

Due to health issues, he can't do as much as he did last year.

Product Coordinator: Bruce Weaver

Marlins on Pershing sold \$500 in merchandise and gave us a check donation of \$900.

Twin Distribution Services gave us a check for \$200 for a donation.

Bruce made a motion to pay for the shipping of the pillows a lady made for us out of some of our older product. 2nd by Matt. All were in favor.

He is looking at poker chips to be sold.

For the Queen of Hearts, we will need to make a list of dates and which board member will attend.

The River Rat Run is 8-24-25. Scott and he will be there. BB1 does really good at this run.

On September 21 there is a poker run from Davers to Bad Attitude.

Tom Mantell will talk to the New Lennox Real Estate.

He asked how orders posters, flag patches and donation buttons for the parade? The posters are free/donated. He needs to order the flag patches and donation buttons. Tom will help.

Board shirts will be done for the kick off party.

Rich said he found a bumper for BB1 for \$218.

Bruce made a motion to have Rich purchase the bumper. 2nd by Matt. All were in favor.

Bylaw/Historian: Kim Allen

She said she sent out the copies of the corrected copies of the by laws by e-mail.

River Rat Run is on website.

Will change the dates on the website for the meetings.

Tom asked why did Karen Artis ask questions about by laws if she is on the committee? Unable to answer.

Tom said we need a copy of the list of last year boxes.

Tom asked her to do 50/50 at the kick off party. She will have to make sure she brings all the appropriate supplies for it. There is

raffle tickets in the warehouse. She will need the buckets and possibly signage. She said she will take care of it.

President: Tom Dertz

Next court date is August 26, 2025

He and Sharon and Scott Rehak are meeting with the state's attorney on 8-22-25 at 2:00 p.m. at the courthouse in Room 233.

There has been a request of St. Vincent DePaul Christmas in August to provide toys. Sharon made a motion to bring toys to them. Chi Chi is a member and she is involved with them. 2nd by Richard. All were in favor.

Visitors:

Roshanda Luter is from The Kindness Campaign. They were recipients of our toys. They sent in a letter and received toys. They truly appreciate the donation of toys. She said when she picked up the toys at the warehouse, you needed help. She volunteered her young men in their organization to help out. She wanted to let us know that they would like to continue to help in any way they can at the warehouse.

Jim Fannello – He said we should think about the truck with the trailer being in the parade.

The City of Chicago uses a drone on our parade day. We should choreograph our parade.

Scott Rehak – He said that he e-mailed Sharon the name of the person that can make the cake for our kick off party. Her name is Theresa.

Can we pin new events to the top of the page.

Tom and Bruce he will get the name of the company for the patches.

He advised Wanda that Harold and Sheena are not on the master list

Nicole Rehak – She wanted to know if it is possible for someone to be able to make the TFT cards at the meetings

She knows someone who wants to recruit new members. Will need to make a flyer.

Kelly Doherty – She advised that she is not on the roster.

Wanda advised her she will look into it.

Facebook posts. You can put one post on Facebook page about by laws. Sam says you can create an event or use @ one person and it invites everyone.

She asked if we are doing buttons that we sell. Tom said we will bring it up at the next meeting. Bruce will order.

Tom Mantel – He still needs rockers for his Tier from 2023 and 2024. 15 total.

Chuck – wanted to know if the by laws will be available at the kick off party. He was told yes

Motion to adjourn by Matt and 2nd by Bruce at 9:15 p.m. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Wanda Perlinski

Secretary