

Chicagoland Toys For Tots Board Meeting

June 17, 2025

Attendance:

Tom Dertz #455 – President

Sharon Choate #1798 – Vice President

Wanda Perlinski #543 – Secretary

Sandy Scheel #491 -Treasurer

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

Kelly Doherty #1759

Ashley Rosch – Dignity Memorial

Tom Mantell #549

Scott Rehak #1935

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Visitor Ashley Rosch spoke to the Board. She is from Dignity Memorial, Blake & Lamb and Chapel Hill Funeral Homes.

She advised the board that they are having a motorcycle run on July 19, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. line up. The run will be from Chapel Hill Funeral Home to Black and Lamb Funeral Home. The participants will need to bring a toy. She asked the board if we would like to partner with them on this run. She explained that they have everything set up with the Village of Oak Lawn. The Oak Lawn Police is involved with assisting in blocking. She would need about 20 toy boxes to put out in the businesses. She also needs participants to ride. The toys would be donated to Chicagoland TFT. They have a Mrs. Claus but would need someone for Mr. Claus. Needs Elves. Need help with the lineup. They are not going to take any cash donations. However, we can provide a QR code, and the cash donations can be sent directly to us. We can have BB1 there and sell product. We will check with Hot Dog to see if he can participate with his crew. She will get us copies of the insurance. Would like us to advertise on our website.

President Tom said we would be happy to participate and partner with them. She can use our logo on her flyers.

All the board members agreed to partner with them for this run.

Motion to approve the minutes from May 20, 2025 board meeting was made by Sharon Choate and 2nd by Tom Dertz. All were in favor. Sandy asked that her toy number be corrected on the list of board members present.

Vice President: Sharon Choate

She went to look at a new warehouse space, in Bridgeview, same area where we are at now. It is still with KA Properties. They have a tenant moving out and they are getting it ready to rent. It is a 75 by 31 wide. Small office. Has upstairs for storage. More parking. Same street. Rent is \$2600 a month. We are paying \$1150 now. With the bigger space, we can eliminate the extra storage areas we rent during the season. Would like all the board members go look at it. July 16 after the court hearing would be a good time.

Sam said that Mr. Aguilar said maybe a county building we can purchase for \$1.00 plus taxes. Sam will look into it.

Advised that we will need to go thru the Member Handbook and make some changes after we get done with the By-Law changes.

She has the stack of responsibilities for everyone.

Secretary: Wanda Perlinski

She advised she will get an answer from our agent regarding the refund for the truck policy.

She showed the gift possibilities to the board. A grill apron, a toiletry bag with a package of small sunscreen, after sun spray, hand sanitizer, insect repellent, insect bite relief spray.

It is very hard to find gifts for under \$15.

Tom Dertz made a motion that we need to raise the dues by \$5 across the board. \$25 for returning members, \$30 for new members. It was 2nd by Bruce Weaver. All were in favor.

Wanda asked for ideas for the member gifts.

Treasurer: Sandy Scheel

Account balances as of 5-31-25

Queen of Hearts 5/3rd - \$3,830.75

Product – Wintrust – closed in June and moved to 5/3rd account.

5/3rd product account - \$15,810.23

General Account 5/3rd - \$25,628.42

A deposit was made of \$300 from Mugshots for advertising on BB1.

Went over all the statements. She advised she has all the receipts needed for these statements.

She met with Accountant Tera. She said that currently using QuickBooks and it cost \$1000 a year. Tera has a new software to use and it is a cloud-based program and it is cheaper. \$180 a

year. You can set up the board members so they can view the accounts. It is called Pistus Software.

Tera charges us a discounted rate. Fiscal year is end of April. Can start using it in May. Good time to switch. It was asked if we can get a walk thru on the software? Tabled till next month.

Bruce paid for patches out of Product so Sandy will have to transfer it to the General Account.

Sargent at Arms: Matt Ksycki

Are we doing our meeting on Zoom/Teams in July?

Update on his health: he has Wagners Disease, Autoimmune disease and will be on meds for a year.

Northside Coordinator: Rick Link

Lane Tech has been in contact with him.

He will work with Sam on stuff he needs for the Northside.

Parade Coordinator: Sam Johnson

He has enough work on Xmas in July.

Potholes, will need to send letters to the Alderman.

Work out cone and barricade issues.

Rich will work on getting guys.

Product Coordinator: Bruce Weaver

Ready to go for Christmas in July at Lakeshore Camp Resort in Portage, Indiana. Need 12 bags of toys mixed ages. If anyone

wants to come out, let us know so they can be put on the guest list.

The bumper is still in limbo. Still working on it. Can't find one, so they may have to make one.

What type of Board shirts does everyone want? Button down, navy blue.

Summer shirts are in. Board gets first sale of them. \$20 each.

Working on the design for the run shirts. 4x and 5x will have to be requested by the person and will be ordered.

Bylaw/Historian: Kim Allen

Barb will get back to Kim and go over the changes in the By-Laws we discussed on 6-16-25.

Scott Rehak said that Nichole's e-mail with suggested changes didn't get addressed. Shelby didn't get her suggested changes in either. Why couldn't they be added? It has been 2 months.

Scott said other Board members can go into other Board member e-mails thru Go Daddy. Kim said she will add them.

Scott said that there were 16 emails that were deleted and not read in the main e-mail box.

President: Tom Dertz

Sharon sent a letter to the attorney for a statement of billing. We told her she is no longer needed for the Hansen case as the State Prosecutor is handling.

He said that the July meeting will be virtual. Do a trial run in the day to work out the bugs.

Scott said that Go Daddy account for Parade, VP and Info are going to expire o 7-12-25. Need to hit renew and update the credit card.

Visitors:

Jack Voss: On the website there are 3 people with no phone numbers.

Can't we still meet in person for the Board meeting.

He sent an e-mail to the alderman for an Honorary Street name. Waiting on a response.

Tom Mantell: Make sure we have 20% for our By Law meeting. Need to feed the members.

Scott Rehak: Go Daddy cost is \$1300 renewal on 3 e-mails.

Motion to adjourn made by Matt and 2nd by Tom Dertz at 9:32 p.m. All agreed.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Perlinski, Secretary