

Pasadena Village
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 19, 2025, 4 PM
Zoom

Attendees: Dick Myers, Katie Brandon, Barbara Madden, Betty Ann Jansson, Dan Guerrero, Doug Colliflower, Jo Yeargin, Lorrie Gray, Michelle Chiu, Nolan Arcos, Paula Rao, Phillip Hoge, Rick Holliday, Ron Stoffers, Sally Asmundson, Sam Gopinathan, Shad Cruz, Wayne April

Absent: Bridget Brewster, Sue Kujawa

Note Taker: Michelle Chiu, Wayne April (thank you Wayne, for your notes covering the first part of the meeting)

- Secretary's Report (Bridget absent) - Minutes approved without comment (Rick moved, Wayne seconded).
- Finance Report (Doug reported) - [housekeeping action], names removed and added to bank account, old executive officers removed, new ones added (Rick moved, Doug seconded)
 - Removed - Claire Gorfinkel, Sue Kujawa, Betty Ann Jansson
 - Added - Dan Guerrero, Bridget Brewster
- Executive Director's Report
 - Eaton Fire Relief & Recovery, implementing plan right now.
 - Program expenses to date on the \$254,900 approved by the Board:
 - Activities including Phoenix rising lunch, Altadena reconnect, LGBTQ dinner, etc. bringing people together
 - An Intern will be onboarded in the coming weeks and will be working through December
 - An independent contractor will be working part-time through November.
 - Transportation support
 - Healing concert series
 - Collective healing
 - \$250 gift cards given out at events (Senior Summit, LGBTQ)
 - Monthly IT Café

- Fraud prevention
- Collaboration with mental health partners

Anticipating at least 3 years of recovery process when people might still need mental and physical help, connection, technology, and transportation support. Funds will be used to make a difference.

o Van Purchase

The Board remains divided regarding the van purchase decision. Opposition members cite concerns about acquisition costs, ongoing operational expenses, and a shift toward staff-driven initiatives rather than member-driven needs. Additionally, there are concerns that the organization is prioritizing broader community needs over the specific needs of village residents. Discussion arose concerning the appropriate use of fire relief grants, with some stakeholders questioning whether partial or full return of funds to donors might be warranted. There appears to be underlying concern about balancing core member services with expanded community outreach programs. However, it was emphasized that the grants were awarded precisely because of the organization's outstanding community service during the fire emergency. The organization's exemplary response not only resulted in increased grant funding but also led to significant membership growth. Given these divergent perspectives, the committee must obtain more comprehensive financial data and establish clear decision-making authority protocols before proceeding.

According to the existing draft fire relief fund policy, the Finance Committee holds oversight responsibility for Relief Fund Policy implementation and fund distribution decisions. The Executive Director serves as the designated record-keeper for all Relief Fund financial transactions. It was suggested that the Finance Committee make a recommendation to the Board about the van purchase.

In response to concerns raised regarding the proposed van purchase, the Finance Committee is requested to present additional supporting documentation. This should include estimated usage projections, detailed financial projections covering both acquisition and operational costs, and clarified service parameters defining the target beneficiary population, whether services will serve Villagers exclusively or include broader community members.

Meeting adjourned at around 5:45 PM.