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Minutes of the PLA OPEN Meeting
January 11, 2023

The Board of Trustees met at the law offices of Patrick Andersen. Present were Jon Kramer (President), Tony Barberio, Heidi Fletcher, Sean Patrick, Tom Leach, and Tom Brennan

An OPEN meeting was conducted virtually with Members using Google Meets and began at 7:30 pm by Jon Kramer. Approximately 15 Members attended. The purpose of the OPEN meeting was for the Board of Trustees to vote on recommending the 2024-25 Annual Budget. The intent was for this proposed budget to be presented on Google Meets; technical concerns negated this option.

The recommended budget aggregated to approximately \$773,000 resulting in 5.5% dues increase (\$58 increase with sales tax applied). The Board approved this budget 5 to 1.

Member Dan Pagano asked clarification questions regarding this budget recommendation as well as the status of the sales tax applicability on the dues. Tony responded to the clarification questions and advised Members that the sales tax matter was still open, and that the Association had hired a consultant to pursue a resolution from the state on it. Tony further advised that dues for the 2023-24 year had not been paid to the state and would be returned to members should the state determine that sales tax is not applicable.

A Member subsequently suggested that an outside audit be conducted to ensure that all financial accounts are correct. The Board replied that it believes that an audit would be more expensive than the current *Independent Accountants Review* and was unlikely to provide greater assurance that the financial accounts are stated correctly. The Board advised that this suggestion could be made to all Members at the Annual Meeting in March 2024. The Board advised that the recommended budget would be sent to all Members shortly.

The Board also advised members on a recommendation likely to be made at the upcoming Annual Meeting to modify the bylaws regarding the definition of Membership eligibility.

The open portion of the meeting was approximately 30 minutes in duration. Following the recommendation vote, the Board conducted a work session. The work session was adjourned at approximately 9:35pm by Jon Kramer

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Brennan
Secretary – Pines Lake Association