

**PENN NATIONAL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
November 18, 2024
Mont Alto Fire Hall**

The PNCA General meeting was called to order at 7pm by President Mark Orndorff. There were 75 people in attendance representing 51 households. Mark opened the meeting by introducing each of the PNCA Officers and Directors.

SPEAKERS

The first speaker of the evening was Nathan Hawbaker, Mont Alto Volunteer Fire Department Fire Police Captain. Mark prefaced Nathan's introduction by discussing the important support that the PNCA receives from the Mont Alto Fire Department by allowing us to use their facilities at reduced fees. Nathan, in turn, thanked the PNCA members for their continued support at the Fire Department's fundraising events. He listed various volunteer opportunities, including the monthly Bingo evenings and summer carnival at the Fire Department as well as the Waynesboro Summer Jubilee, where they staff a food trailer. Nathan went on to say that Penn National community members are welcome to become Associate Members of the Fire Department at a fee of \$10 to join and \$2 per year after that. Associate Members do not go on emergency calls, but are allowed to handle cash at the fundraising events.

Nathan then turned to upcoming expenditures, for which the Fire Department is trying to obtain grants:

- Replacing the 2 fire trucks currently in service - \$1.5 million.
- Alternatively, refurbishing the fire trucks - \$400,000 to \$500,000, however this could take a truck out of service for a year
- Replacing 16 self-contained breathing apparatuses - \$7000 each
- Purchasing a pickup truck and utility body to carry equipment for the Fire Police - \$60,000 without equipment

Nathan closed by announcing that their paid EMS department recently added the South Mountain area to their jurisdiction, which makes residents of South

Mountain eligible to become Associate Members of the Mont Alto Fire Department.

Mark Orndorff then introduced the next group of speakers from WellSpan Health, which once again will be a Premier Sponsor for the holiday party: Drs. Arshad Safi and Sukrut Nanavaty, and Thomas Shupp, Operations Manager.

Dr. Safi of the Interventional Cardiology department spoke about heart disease, which is the top cause of death in the US. He noted that some of the risk factors for heart disease are within our control: blood pressure, cholesterol levels, obesity, diabetes and activity level.

Dr. Nanavaty of the Non-Invasive Cardiology department discussed COVID and cardiovascular issues. He mentioned that there have been many studies worldwide on the effect of COVID on the heart and lungs. One recent study suggested that COVID should be considered as one of the risk factors for future heart disease, particularly if a COVID infection requires oxygen or care in the ICU.

Dr. Nanavaty announced that WellSpan Health Chambersburg now has a coronary CT scanner, which uses less radiation and produces images within a couple of seconds. The scanner can be used to diagnose blocked arteries without actually going inside the heart.

Thomas Shupp thanked the PNCA for allowing WellSpan Health to speak at our meeting and for the community support of WellSpan.

REPORTS

Treasurer

Mark Orndorff projected the most recent budget report for the audience to examine since Treasurer Steve Mitchell was unable to attend the meeting. Mark noted that all of the PNCA-subsidized activities (holiday party, Battle of the Neighborhoods, picnic) are within the budgeted amounts. Funding-wise, the PNCA is in a very healthy position.

Events Committee

Sue Stempien, co-chair of the Events Committee, announced upcoming events:

- Trivia Night – January 7 6-8pm at the Fire Station Hall
- Chocolate event - February 12 at the Fire Station Hall
- Wine tastings – April 16, June 25, August 20, October 22

Additionally, the committee is looking into other events:

- Paint & Sip with Charles Art & Soul; \$40 to \$50 per person
- Combination event in Shippensburg with a fashion exhibit and an art gallery; \$5 fee for the fashion exhibit, no fee for the art gallery; possibly in April or May. Could also be combined with dinner at Arooga's.
- Music Night at the Trellis; possibly June 13
- East Broad Street Railroad, possibly with Jazz train; September
- Coffee tasting with Denim Coffee – not until 2026

Membership

Gale Crist opened with the following numbers:

- 1249 owned properties within Penn National
- 53 owned properties without homes built
- 1196 households
- 619 PNCA member households (approximately 52%)

Gale indicated that the Welcome Committee is proactive in letting new residents know about the PNCA and that membership fees are sufficient to support the organization. Next year, an online payment option will be offered for membership renewal. Checks will still be accepted if paying by mail. More information will be provided ahead of the renewal season.

Publications

Eileen Grady noted that she has been the newsletter publisher for one year and thanked everyone for their support. She appreciates the help of a proofreading

team. Recently, the newsletter has expanded from a 16-page publication to a 20-page publication to allow for more community contributions. Eileen invited groups to submit articles about their activities. There are 192 paper copies of the newsletter mailed on a monthly basis.

Eileen introduced Carole Mathieu, who has taken over the advertising side of the newsletter. Carole noted that the newsletter currently has 33 advertisers and there are 2 or 3 more in the pipeline. Newsletter ads have been producing good results for the businesses and have also made the newsletter profitable. The newsletter has the capacity for additional advertisers if any businesses are interested. Mark Orndorff suggested that residents who have received good services from a business to encourage the business to start advertising in the newsletter.

Government Liaison

Rob Ackerman provided the following updates:

- Congressional Terrace is open to through traffic. The work and restoration on the sink hole sewer project has been completed and final road paving is expected next year
- Speed limit and 'No outlet' signs have been posted on Hot Springs Court

Rob indicated that Guilford Township can seek payment from HOAs for road repairs, signs, etc. in their respective neighborhoods. He is aware of these HOAs in Penn National: Farmstead, Ninth View, Homestead Cottages, Old Course Road and Range Runner. If there are any others, please let him know.

White Rock Liaison

Carolyn Best highlighted some of the items in her White Rock Liaison report. There is some progress on Leg Up Farm – a new President/CEO, a new sign – but no date for its opening. There will also be a coffee shop in the Manor House. Patti Nitterhouse is interviewing companies to run this new community space.

Welcome Committee

Carolyn Lamson asked residents to let her or Pam Curro know about new residents who have not already been welcomed by the committee. She stated that there is no record to flag a new resident when a home is built upon land that was not recently purchased.

Other Business

Carolyn Best reminded the audience about the annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning. There is no fee to participate. Donations will be accepted to support OSI. Peter Fleury will be helping again however more volunteers are needed for registration, support at the finish line, and someone to wear the turkey suit she has borrowed for the occasion.

Tony Tirella spoke about the holiday party scheduled for December 11. There are about one hundred people signed up for the event so far. The evening will include a buffet dinner, 2 cash bars, a photo booth and a DJ playing music that has been requested via the event registration forms.

Michele Rapp introduced a new Walk-Run-Jog club that she is forming. The kickoff will be in January 2025 with meetings twice monthly: the second Sunday of the month at 8:45am and the fourth Tuesday at 4:15pm. The goal of the club is to promote good health and meet neighbors. Additional information about the club and route maps will be posted in the December 2024 PNCA Newsletter.

Bernie Goldberg provided information about the PNCA Men's Luncheons which are monthly September through May. The Men's Luncheons also sponsors and runs several trips. There is an upcoming trip to the WWII Museum in Gettysburg and the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg. Volunteers to assist with the luncheons are welcome.

Beth Pryor followed with news about the Ladies' Luncheons, noting that Tracy Hosko will be in charge of the luncheons beginning in the new year.

Mark Orndorff announced that Jon Curro will be taking over the Adopt-A-Highway program. Jon is looking for volunteers to help out with this effort.

Pam Curro mentioned that the PNCA website (*pnca.info*) calendar contains information about many of the PNCA events and has lots of great information and links for Penn National residents.

There being no further business, Tom Cahill motioned to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Rob Ackerman and the meeting was adjourned at 8:22pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Saundy Fielhauer
Secretary PNCA