

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING OF THE
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
December 15, 2025**

President Tinaglia called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Tinaglia; Trustees Bertucci, Dunnington, Gilbert, LaBedz, Manganaro, Schwingbeck and Zyck

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee Santa Maria

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Village Manager Randy Recklaus; Deputy Village Manager Diana Mikula

OTHERS PRESENT: Sue Thomson

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Interview of Sue Thomson to the Performing Arts Metropolis Board of Directors as President, term ending September 16, 2027.

Mayor Tinaglia introduced Sue Thomson and noted that she is already on the Board of Directors for the Performing Arts Metropolis. He is convinced that Sue is ultra-qualified for this position.

Trustee Bertucci mentioned he has known Sue for over 20 years and knows she is absolutely qualified and she will do a great job.

Trustee Dunnington believes Sue is dedicated to the Metropolis and to the community but noted that there have been issues with transparency with the Metropolis over the last few years. Therefore, Trustee Dunnington is wondering how Sue intends to improve those issues and if it is possible to make the Metropolis Board Meetings open to the public and/or make the minutes available to the public. Sue responded that they are a 501(c)(3) so are not held to the FOIA or Open Meetings Act rules. However, the Metropolis Board's goal has been to work on transparency and communications. They will soon launch their first impact report and they plan to do a series of newsletters. In addition, they started working with Candid, formerly GuideStar, several months ago. The Metropolis Board started out at the bronze level and are now almost at the platinum level – the highest transparency rating. Additionally, Sue mentioned that if someone really wants to go to a meeting, they can request to come to a meeting from their website. Sue said that the Board can also make their minutes available. They want to share more openly going forward.

Trustee LaBedz mentioned how involved Sue already is with her music ministry and her arts background. She thinks Sue is a perfect fit and is a wonderful public face who will encourage the rest of the Metropolis Board to interact more with Marquee members and other donors. Sue has first-hand experience with spending some time with a donor and witnessing how that time impacted their donation level in a positive way. Mayor Tinaglia pointed out that relationships matter.

Trustee Schwingbeck stated that he is a Marquee member and has gotten to know many of the Metropolis Board members over the years. He noted that this particular Metropolis Board has been reaching out to Marquee members and community leaders to ask questions and get ideas, more than they ever have in the past. Trustee Schwingbeck appreciates that effort.

Sue said that the Metropolis Board learned that many people have not been thanked in the past so she thanked the Village Board members on behalf of the Metropolis Board.

Community member, Keith Moens, wished Sue the best. He noted that though 501(c)(3) organizations don't require it, he thinks the Metropolis Board should open their meetings up to the public. Sue said she is also open to meeting with people outside of Board meetings.

Another community member asked Sue what the plans are to expand on advertising. Sue said it is something they are looking at and they are working with a PR firm in order to increase their outreach.

Trustees thanked Sue Thomson for his willingness to serve on the Performing Arts Metropolis Board of Directors as President.

Trustee Bertucci moved, seconded by Trustee Schwingbeck to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Sue Thomson to the Performing Arts Metropolis Board of Directors as President, term ending September 16, 2027.

The following voice vote was recorded:

8 Ayes

0 Nays

The motion passed.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS - none

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

– Kendall Schaefer lives on South Douglas next to Prairie Park and has concerns about Full Circle's property and the tents that are on the property. She wants to know why that location was picked and is very upset about it. She led a group who tried to stop Full Circle from developing at that location, but did not succeed. She said someone came to her house and yelled at her because she spoke at a Board meeting. She will go to the press and will picket against Full Circle at that location. She wants the Village Board to listen to the facts. She also has issues with her high property taxes.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Trustee Bertucci moved, seconded by Trustee Zyck to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.