

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Purchase Community, Inc. held via Zoom teleconference on December 2, 2025.

Minutes: President Shannon Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:02pm. Jeremy Lang moved to approve the minutes from the board meeting held November 13, 2024, and Farzie Khan seconded. All were in favor; the motion carried.

President's Report: Shannon Anderson thanked all of those who took time to attend the meeting and shared her gratitude for the full-time employees and all their hard work. She then shared the eligibility criteria for voting and that in 2024, 3930 individual members comprising 1979 households voted. In 2025 there are 4293 individual members comprising 2219 households voting which is an increase of 382 members and 256 households attributed to the removal of members who have moved. This year, however, the largest influx increases came from local residential development on Westchester Park Drive off Westchester Avenue.

Executive Director's Report: Jim thanked all participants in the call for attending and noted that the House has made significant progress since COVID years - camp, after school, and preschool enrollment are all up. He furthered on by thanking those who participated in the capital fund drive including those that came on Giving Tuesday. Finally, he shared thanks to the full-time staff – Tom Havard, Frank Dellaripa, Kat Berkowitz, Danny DeJesus-Wilson as well as Jessica Levinson-Andruk and Maggi DeJesus-Wilson from the preschool program. Jim also wished to acknowledge Donna Murray, director of the Purchase Free Library, Nicole Savino of the Institute of Dance, Adam Guttermann the principal of Purchase School, the Harrison Central School District, the Purchase Volunteer Fire Department, and the Harrison Police Department; Jim thanked them for their support and is grateful for the good relationships they have with the PCH. He also thanked the community for their support in contributing to the Annual Fund and participating in the programs at the Community House. Jim closed by wishing everyone a happy and healthy holiday season.

Award Presentation: Before Frank Dellaripa announced the winner of this year's Yubas Award, Jim noted that the award is named in memory of Jonathan Yubas, who was a long-time PCH board member and Little League volunteer whose children were participants at the PCH. After he passed away the PCH created this award and Jim acknowledged Jonathan's daughter Melissa's presence on the Zoom teleconference, adding that it meant a lot that Melissa was participating on the Zoom. Jim shared that the playground previously referred to as the "sand playground" was recently renovated in large part thanks to a very generous donation from the DeJesus-Wilson family, which was renamed in dedication to Jonathon Yubas. Frank then shared that the Jonathan Yubas award for Volunteer of the Year is awarded in memory of his devoted volunteer service and participation at the Purchase Community House and that the recipient of this award has displayed extraordinary volunteerism, selfless dedication and exceptional leadership qualities. The award winner began volunteering last fall, committing to our school sessions on a weekly basis from day one, this University team member immersed herself as a leader, eager to take on new responsibilities, and consistently demonstrated a level of maturity far beyond her years. When the school year ended, she continued to work through the summer for Purchase Day Camp and what truly sets this team member, part is her gentle and caring personality, which has made her a favorite among our youngest participants. The House has benefited greatly because she is part of it. The award was presented to Taylor Flynn for exemplifying all its qualities.

Frank then announced to announce the winner of this year's Hitchcock Award, given in memory of William Hitchcock's 20 years of dedicated service. The award is given based on a sense of fair play, dedication to team spirit, demonstrated maturity, and strong leadership. The recipient of this award has displayed exemplary behavior, a sense of fair play, dedication to team spirit and outstanding leadership qualities. When it was time to decide who was most deserving of the William Hitchcock Award, an individual immediately came to mind. The recipient of this award has been an active participant in our after-school program since the spring of 2022.

as a first grader, and in addition to exemplary behavior, this recipient demonstrates respect for peers and staff. They have a positive attitude and are willing to mentor our younger ones. This year's winner, after a unanimous vote by staff, is Eamon Vargas, who was on the Zoom teleconference.

Board Member Retirements & Awards: Shannon Anderson shared that there are no board members retiring this year. Jim went on to share board member milestone anniversaries and thanked them for their service.

- *5 years*
 - Jessica Levinson-Andruk
 - Eleanor Mytych
- *10 years*
 - Andrew Benerofe
- *15 years*
 - Justine Gaeta

Verification of Quorum Count & Nominating Committee: Jim announced that in addition to the residents present on Zoom, the office has received 119 proxies, including one abstention, so there was a quorum count of 123 votes.

Jennifer Ginter reviewed the role of the Nominating Committee in recommending and interviewing the candidates for the Board and thanked the other Nominating Committee members – Jeremy Lang and Carolyn Saxon for their efforts. All 14 of our directors are returning this year, and the board has determined it appropriate to add a few more directors this year, and thus recruited two new additional members, bringing the total slate to 16 directors. Jennifer made a motion to approve the slate of directors; Spencer Weinkle seconded the motion. All in favor – the motion carried.

Jennifer Ginter presented the Nominating Committee's proposed Executive and Finance Committees specifically:

2025-2026 Board of Directors of the Purchase Community, Inc.

Shannon Anderson – President	Eleanor Mytych	Andrew Benerofe
Justine Gaeta – Vice President	Sam Schusterhoff	Matthew Jossen
Chuck Atanasio – Treasurer	Jeremy Lang	Jessica Levinson-Andruk
Jennifer Ginter – Secretary	Farzie Khan	Chelsea Freemon
Scott Sherman – Finance Chair	Spencer Weinkle	Marie Zeek

The Executive and Finance Committees will take action at the times in the intervals between scheduled Board meetings when timely decision-making is necessary. Shannon cast the quorum vote that included 118 proxy votes. All in favor; the motion carried.

There being no additional old business or new business, Matthew Jossen made the motion to adjourn the meeting, and Spencer Weinkle seconded the motion. All in favor; the motion carried. Shannon adjourned the meeting at 7:22pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Ginter, Secretary

Board Members Present: Shannon Anderson, Jennifer Ginter, Jeremy Lang, Matthew Jossen, Chelsea Freemon, Marie Zeek, Farzie Khan, Spencer Weinkle, Scott Sherman, Andrew Benerofe, Eleanor Mytych, and Sam Shusterhoff.

Also participating: Jim Kelly, Frank Dellaripa.