

**PEPartnership, Inc. Board of Directors**  
**Minutes of Special Meeting on Monday, July 11, 2022 via Zoom**

**Present:** Robin Cherwinka, Kathy Schuett, Lois Roth, Gail Holmes, Michael Rolfsmeyer, Cheri Timpel  
Late arrival: Christi McKibben Special Guest: Tara Murray

**This special meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm** by President Robin for the purpose of approving the application for a new essentials' pantry submitted recently by Decatur, Illinois' Empowerment Opportunity Center.

**Introductions were exchanged** between Board members in attendance and the Center's Executive Director, Tara Murray. Tara explained that her community action agency alongside other community partners provide Macon County residents with opportunities that empower people facing financial instability to reach economic self-reliance and an improved quality of life. They coordinate early childhood, senior nutrition, energy and community services utilizing a combination of paid and volunteer staff.

Tara was familiar with PEPartnership, Inc. from her previous involvement with it in Buffalo, New York and thought its mission was a good compliment to services already provided. According to Tara, with their application's approval, they plan an August 1, 2022 soft opening.

**Cheri made a motion**, which was seconded by Michael, to approve the Empowerment Opportunity Center's application to join in our 501 (3) (c) mission. The vote that followed was unanimous.

The special meeting concluded at 4:45 pm.

**Next meetings:** July 25, 2022 at 4 pm.  
October 24, 2022 at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted Cheri T