

**Dimond Improvement Association
Board meeting minutes, 12/10/15**

Board members present at start of meeting: Zandile Christian, David Coleman, Craig Flanery, Marion Mills, Tom Rose, Jennifer Joey Smith, JoAnn Tract-Rawson. **Arriving 7:15:** Victoria Wake. **Arriving 7:25:** Julie Johnson, Daniel Swafford. **Arriving 7:35:** Robert Raburn. **Absent:** Fran Donohue

Guests: Brük Dunbar, Ray Robinson, Adam Simons

Meeting was convened by Craig at 7:05 p.m.

1. November 12 Minutes.

ACTON: Minutes approved without changes (Motion: Marion; Second: Joey; 4 yays, 3 abstentions)

1a. October 8 Minutes.

ACTON: Minutes approved without changes (Motion: Joey; Second: Zandile)

2. Treasurer's Report. Julie presented a written report showing balances in all accounts. An extension on the federal tax return moves the filing deadline to March 15, 2016. Board members with signature authority for the Wells Fargo Oaktobefest account will be Fran, Julie, Zandile, and JoAnn. For the Bank of America account, it will be Joey, Zandile, and Julie. Names of former board members will be removed. An action item will be placed on the January agenda to reimburse Julie approximately \$500 for expenses related to the Dimond Lights event. Marion and Zandile volunteered to assist Julie with filing, data entry, and other needs.

3. WIP Reports.

Dimond Listserve. Craig has asked Chris Harper if he will continue to serve as monitor of the listserve and is awaiting his reply.

NCPC 22X. JoAnn attended the October steering committee meeting. David will attend the January meeting. (The rescheduled December NCPC meeting conflicted with the DIA Board meeting, so no one attended from the board.)

Dimond Public Art. JoAnn reported on the status of the utility box project. The contract has been sent to Querido Galdo, the artist, for signature and the first payment was made to North Star Visuals, the company prepping the boxes. The project may be completed by the end of February. Julie and JoAnn will be retrieving the photo murals in the Blockbuster Video property before demolition in the spring. The murals will be safely stored and possibly re-hung elsewhere in the Dimond.

Homeless. David reported on recent problems with aggressive homeless individuals, including a threat with knives. Hoang Banh, Neighborhood Services Coordinator, has drafted a homeless action plan. Talia Rubin of the City's Department of Human Services met with Marion, Tom, David, and Zandile to discuss the plan.

Thanksgiving at Two-Star Market. Robert reported that the event was the best ever, with great decorations, possibly the largest number of people served, and everything running like clockwork.

Keep Dimond Clean (KDC). Information on the KDC program has been posted on the list of eligible community service activities on the City's website, meaning that individuals working off community service hours can do so by participating in the Dimond's Wednesday litter pick-ups.

4. District 4 Update. Adam reported on various matters of interest to the Dimond that Councilwoman Campbell-Washington is working on. The RFP went out on the Champion Firehouse property. A speed survey will be conducted on 35th Avenue/Redwood Road as part of the exploration of a "road diet" project for the street. Disability advocates are raising visibility for needed improvements in Dimond Park that they hope will be included in the City's "parks priorities" funding program. Adam will let DIA know of city council committee meetings concerning funding priorities so interested DIA members can attend.

5. Keep Dimond Clean. Julie reported that \$2,332 remains in the KDC account and requested that DIA contribute \$3,000 at this time and ask DB&PA to do the same. The annual KDC budget is \$12,000. For at least the past three years, nearly 50 percent of the funding has come from Keep Dimond Clean Fundraisers, with the balance from a combination of Dimond Night Out proceeds and contributions from DIA and DB&PA. There was interest expressed in scheduling a power-washing, either through First Building Maintenance or independently. David will check into equipment rental for the latter. It was confirmed that Zandile is the go-to person for all KDC matters.

ACTION: Contribute \$3,000 to Keep Dimond Clean budget. (Motion: Robert; Second: Zandile; unanimously approved)

6. Sequoia Elementary School Funding Request. Joey proposed that the DIA be a sponsor of the upcoming school auction, which benefits school enrichment programs. The auction will be held early next year and, as a sponsor, DIA can likely have an information table.

ACTION: Contribute \$250 to become a sponsor of the Sequoia Elementary School auction. (Motion: Joey; Second: Marion; unanimous)

7. Dimond Banners.

Ray Robinson, owner of Majlik, introduced himself and his business, which has been in the Dimond for about a year. From his experience, he sees the potential to fill more small, vacant commercial spaces in the Dimond if would-be occupants had the benefit of local guidance and assistance in working with property owners. He suggested that this might be something the DIA could offer. He also is interested in seeing new street banners, perhaps more frequently changed out, as a way to bring more attention and business to the area. He would like to offer his company's design services for a very small fee to get a project going. Daniel suggested that DB&PA should be approached as well for funding.

Julie and the DPA committee will work with Ray on a plan and some possible designs to bring back to a future meeting.

8. Board Retreat.

There was insufficient time to discuss this topic, so Craig and Joey will work on developing the agenda.

9. Dimond Mine After-school Art Program.

(Note: The original #9 agenda item, Redevelopment in the Dimond, was postponed in favor of hearing from Dimond Mine co-owner Brük Dunbar.) Brük described the free after-school art program Dimond Mine has developed. She and co-owner Shoshanna recently applied for a \$5,000 grant from the LEF Foundation to help cover program costs. They were successful but need to have the grant funds received and disbursed by a non-profit, and are asking if the DIA would serve as their fiscal agent. Since this topic was not on the meeting agenda, it was agreed to include it on next month's agenda as a possible action item.

Adjournment.

ACTION: The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m. (Motion: Joey; Second: JoAnn; unanimous)

Next Board meeting: January 14, 2016

Minutes submitted by Victoria Wake