

Dimond Improvement Association
Board meeting minutes, 8/13/15

Board members present: David Coleman, Fran Donohue, Craig Flanery, Julie Johnson, Marion Mills, Robert Raburn, Tom Rose, Joey Smith, Daniel Swafford, JoAnn Tract-Rawson, Victoria Wake. **Absent:** Zandile Christian, Chris Harper

Guests: Stan Dodson (Trailhead), Adam Simons (Council District 4 Chief of Staff), Karen-Marie Schroeder, Camile and Rishi Dasai

July 9 Minutes. Minutes were approved (Motion: Daniel; Second: Craig)

Treasurer's Report. Julie presented a report showing balances in all accounts. She continues to work on confirming account information, and dedicated funds within some accounts, to create a complete financial picture. Daniel noted that the Citibank accounts will be closed, with funds moved to Bank of America and Wells Fargo accounts. **ACTION:** The Board voted unanimously to allocated funds for this year's tax preparation (Motion: Julie; Second: Fran)

Trailhead. Stan updated the Board on progress with the "Trailhead" film. The premiere has been scheduled for the evening of October 7 at the Chabot Space & Science Center, and will be sponsored by Subaru and AT&T. Stan will convey a limited number of tickets for the VIP showing (first showing) to Chris Harper for distribution to Board members. The film will show multiple times throughout the evening.

WIP Reports.

Council Office. Adam reported that the provisional buyer of the Champion Firehouse has requested an extension of his deadline to secure financing to September 2016; it's possible that a new RFP for the property may have to be issued. The Head Royce School expansion is of concern to nearby neighbors, with traffic being one of the big issues; discussion and meetings are taking place. Of interest nearby: In the Laurel, a new furniture store has opened and a brew pub will be coming in soon, and the community is weighing in on prospective business developments at High Street & MacArthur Blvd., including possible drive-through MacDonal'd's and Starbucks. Several Lincoln Square businesses are closing due to newly raised rents.

Oaktobefest. Daniel reported that sponsorships are coming in stronger than last year at this time. He expects that vendor locations will sell out again, with 10-20% more breweries participating. He's hoping to count on DIA board members and other seasoned volunteers to again take on critical roles the day of the event, both ensuring a smooth operation and reducing costs.

Beautify Lincoln. Marion reported that the effort to get more trees planted along Lincoln has come to a stop, at least for the time being, because no property owners were interested and the Sierra Club volunteer who was going to dig the holes and arrange for the tree stock has retired.

Dimond Library. Karen-Marie reported on a successful, enjoyable 100th anniversary celebration. She also related that Sarah Hodgson, librarian, is planning a blood drive on October 10 and would like the DIA to be a co-sponsor. **ACTION:** The Board approved unanimously to be a co-sponsor with the understanding that no funds were being requested (Motion: Daniel; Second: JoAnn).

Farmer's Market. Robert and other interested Board members will meet with Keith Wall of Pacific Coast Farmers Markets on Monday, August 17, to walk the Dimond looking at possible locations for a farmer's market. Among the sites on Robert's prospective list are Bienati Way, upper Dimond Avenue, Champion Street, and Giant Burger. Joey reiterated the interest of Sequoia School in having a farmer's market. She will provide the principal's contact information to Robert so that the school can be one of the sites toured. Tom raised concern about competition with Farmer Joe's; Joey pointed out there is research that shows that local markets can actually see an increase in business due to nearby farmer's markets. An idea of combining a farmer's market with a CSA (produce box pick-up/delivery service) was also raised. In any case, the effort at this point is exploratory and no commitment by the Board has been made to support, sponsor, or contract for a farmer's market.

Dimond Canyon Trail Markers. Stan updated the Board on this project, which he originally presented at the May 2015 Board meeting. He has received approval from the City's Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee and the markers are in production. Funding needs total about \$3,000, of which about \$1,450 has been raised. ACTION: After Stan's departure, the Board unanimously approved contributing \$500 to the project (Motion: Daniel; Second: Victoria)

District 4 Priorities. Robert led a brief discussion about determining a set of priorities to present to Councilmember Campbell-Washington along with requests for specific support or actions to advance those priorities. Board members were encouraged to communicate via e-mail with Robert (copying all members) with three recommended priorities before the September Board meeting.

Laney Intern. Craig reported that the recruiting process will get underway in the near future and that the president and vice president of Laney are very pleased with the project.

Dimond Printers. Joey introduced the new owners of the property, Camile and Rishi Dasai, who explained phase 1 screening for environmental contaminants. The screening will ideally happen during escrow and be conducted at no cost by the EPA. (In between Board meetings, the DIA Board agreed to submit the application on behalf of the owners to the EPA, which requires a non-profit to apply.) The new owners should get the key on October 1 and will begin work on what they see as a food hall/market place with a number of vendors.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned.

Next Board meeting: September 10, 2015

Minutes submitted by Victoria Wake