

**Dupont Circle Citizens Association
Board of Directors Meeting
January 26, 2023**

Present: (via videoconference/phone) Susan Volman, Joe Caruso, Charlie Ellis, Glenn Engelmann, Rebecca Martin, Marcy Logan, Nick Manning, Tom Reiter, Lance Salonia, Justin Thornton, Patty Zweibel

Not present: Diane Quinn

Meeting was called to order at 7:05

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: *Tom moved to approve the December Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Rebecca, all in favor.*

President's Report

Susan noted that Barcode representatives would be joining the meeting at 730pm, to make a presentation concerning their application to enlarge their indoor and outdoor space. She then updated the group on the upcoming public presentation on January 30 by ANC 2B concerning the Connecticut Avenue Deckover. She noted the Deckover plan, and its impact on 19th Street, would be discussed at DCCA's February 6 member meeting. Susan also raised that we should decide whether to participate in the Pride parade this year. She polled the board members, and there was general agreement that DCCA should participate. She noted that if we use a pedicab rather than a motorized vehicle, the insurance requirement might be waived. Susan also noted that she plans to leave the Mobility Committee for ANC2B this year, and encouraged board members who might be interested to submit an application.

Parks and Gardens: There was also a short discussion of the fence to be repaired at the T Street park and the tree to be removed, and whether to hold a fundraising event specifically to finance the repair. Currently there is an estimate of \$4,500 for the repair, which Susan said she believed was a bit high. The consensus was to get estimates now and to wait for the tree to be removed before doing the work.

[At this point, Marcy and Joe joined the meeting.]

Barcode: The attorney for Barcode, Manalle Mahmoud, and the Barcode manager, Ashleigh Spiller, (the representatives) joined the meeting. The representatives explained that Barcode has submitted an application to expand its interior space from 149 people to 361 people, and its outdoor space from 40 people to 62 people. They said this was primarily so that Barcode could accommodate more private events. Susan noted that DCCA members in the Presidential co-op at 16th St NW and L St NW have made complaints and expressed concerns about Barcode in its current size, to which the representatives responded that Barcode has not been cited for overcapacity since 2019, and has never received an adverse action. There was a discussion between the board and the representatives of possible mitigation measures to alleviate noise, and

the representatives seemed amendable. Joe asked the representatives to define “private events” and whether that included promoters. Ashleigh , said they do have some promoters that work with Barcode but that this would not increase as a result of the expansion. Rather Barcode is trying to attract businesses to hold private events, not college parties. Members of the Board also questioned the representatives regarding what security measures they intend to take. Ashleigh offered to provide a security plan, and the board said that would be helpful. After the representatives left, the Board discussed.

MOTION: *Susan moved to file a protest, and Nick seconded. All in favor.*

ABRA: Glenn reported that Fireplace is close to a resolution and a settlement agreement. He then reported on Signature Lounge, and said that the court appears ready to scale back some of the restrictions in the ABRA order. Regarding Rosemarino D’Italia, there is a possible settlement agreement being discussed.

Treasurer’s Report

Lance sent the Treasurer’s report before the meeting. He noted that we received quite a bit of membership fees in January, and that investments were healthy. He also said he needs the invoice for the WNDK Foundation grant that had been approved in January. Justin agreed to join the Finance committee, along with Lance and possibly Joe, who had previously volunteered (and had left the meeting by this time).

Social Activities, Campaigns, Fund-Raising Ideas

Happy Hours: Justin reported on his conversations with local establishments, including the Sonesta Hotel and the Commodore. There was a discussion of the best date to have an event, and also of how it would be funded or whether it would be a fundraiser. Justin urged the board to commit to a date, and he said the details could be worked out after that. The 14th or 15th of March were raised as possible dates.

ACTION ITEM: **Joe, Justin, Nick will continue to work on the Happy Hour plan.**

100th Anniversary Brochure: Nick reported on the 100th Anniversary brochure. He said Dan is doing well, and it’s coming together. Susan noted that we still need to decide on photos to include and a publisher.

Shredding event: Susan said Diane has not yet gotten back to her on whether we can use St. Luke’s parking lot for the event.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Susan said we need to put together a nominating committee for this year’s officer and board member election. There was a discussion of which board members and officers were up for election (all officers and 2 board members), and that at least 4 board members who are not running for election may serve on the committee. Joe, Rebecca, Diane and Justin are not up for election, and in addition Susan does not plan to run for re-election so the board agreed she could

likely serve on the nominating committee as well. There was a further discussion of the need to recruit new board members. Rebecca and Justin volunteered to work on the nominations. Nick offered help, based on what he did last year as the nominations committee lead.

UPCOMING MEMBER MEETINGS

The board discussed topics for upcoming member meetings. Marcy suggested we find someone to talk about native plants, and Charlie suggested someone to discuss climate change and its impact on the city and agreed to look for possible speakers. Susan noted that we had last had MPD a year ago and should probably invite them again. Since this is a popular meeting, the Board decided to invite them.

Meeting adjourned.

*Next Board Meeting will be – **Thursday February 23rd at 7:00 p.m.***