

**Dupont Circle Citizens Association
Board of Directors Meeting
February 22, 2024**

Present: (via videoconference/phone) Susan Volman (“Susan”), Joe Caruso, Rebecca Martin, Ed Hanlon, John Hassell, Lance Salonia, Sue Valaskovic (“Sue”)

Not present: Patty Zweibel, Marcy Logan, Diane Quinn, Justin Thornton

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: *John moved to approve the January minutes, Sue seconded, all in favor.*

President’s Report

Susan reported that while there initially were over 375 people present at the February member meeting for the Belmont House tour, we were not able to send around a sign-in sheet until the Deckover discussion. There were around 50 members there (including 4 new members who signed up at the meeting), and 20 non-members/former members. She asked the board whether and how much to give as an honorarium to the Belmont House, which provided staff who did a significant amount of work at the meeting and cleanup afterwards. The board discussed.

MOTION: *John moved to give the Belmont House an honorarium of \$200, Rebecca seconded, all in favor.*

The board discussed how best to solicit new members to join DCCA, especially at member meetings such as the February meeting at the Belmont House, which had a number of people from the neighborhood who were not members. There was a discussion that more board members need to attend member meetings.

Susan said the next thing to discuss was whether DCCA should keep its memberships in two associations, and who wants to volunteer to be a delegate to them. The associations are the DCFCA and the Federation of Community Associations (formerly the Federation of Citizens Associations). The board discussed the activities of each association and whether to stay involved, as well as the cost (\$50/year for DCFCA, and \$100 a year for the Federation of Community Associations). Susan said she was willing to remain as a delegate to DCFCA, and Sue said she would be willing to be a delegate.

MOTION: *Susan moved to renew DCCA’s membership with DCFCA, Rebecca seconded, all in favor.*

Susan said the next item was whether to continue to distribute the 100th anniversary brochure, which includes an acknowledgement of DCCA’s support in the 1920’s for racist exclusionary policies. Ed had suggested pulling the brochure, because he said that the wording in this acknowledgement was not supported by evidence. Susan disagreed, and the board discussed.

MOTION: Susan moved to continue to distribute the brochure as is, including mailing it to members who do not receive it at member meetings and providing it to speakers who appear at member meetings; Rebecca seconded. Motion carried 6-1.

Susan said the next item was whether to purchase a projector, because we can't always count on the ANC one at the Resource Center being available, and someone has to retrieve it and return it each time we use it. She's done some research, is willing to do more, and has narrowed it down to projectors between \$500 and \$800. Lance said often board members don't want to keep equipment owned by DCCA in their homes, and Susan pointed out that she and other DCCA officers or ex-board members maintain DCCA equipment in their homes. There was no decision.

Action item: Susan will continue to research projector purchase.

Treasurer's Report

Lance circulated the financial report before the meeting. He went through income, assets and expenses. He said due to various expenses and committed checks the checking account needed funds.

MOTION: Susan moved to move \$4,200 to the checking account, Rebecca seconded, all in favor.

Budget

There were no questions on the budget finalized at the January meeting, or on the historical spending report that Susan had circulated earlier in February.

Grants

There was a discussion of Spooky Action's request for \$2,000 for assistive devices for audience members. Given DCCA's annual budget of \$5,000 for grants to other organizations, the board discussed Ed's idea of keeping all grants going forward to \$750/grant, in order to distribute money to as many organizations as feasible.

MOTION: Rebecca moved to grant Spooky Action \$750 for purchase of some of the items of their assistive device wish list, and to encourage them to check back with DCCA in September to see if we have additional grant funds available; Susan seconded; all in favor.

Nominating Committee

John Hassell reported on his poll of the board members and the officer positions that need to be replaced, along with the board members whose terms are coming up. He said the president, treasurer and secretary positions are open this year, as none of the current holders of these positions are running for re-election. He also discussed his ideas for finding additional board members and new members and how he is implementing, including reaching out to his ANC for contacts.

The board discussed their ideas for a potential slate, the people in the neighborhood some board members have spoken with who have expressed interest in the positions, and ideas for how to

solicit more people in the neighborhood to consider joining DCCA and become board members. The board also discussed various procedural issues, including the bylaws requirement for board members to be members of DCCA in good standing for one year, and waivers of this requirement; and the staggered terms for board members and how to move current board members into officer positions. John said he could use more help on the nominating committee, and Susan said she would assist given she is not running for re-election.

Action items:

- 1) Susan, Rebecca, and John will be the nominating committee. John is the chair.*
- 2) Board members' duties will include serving on committees and helping at member meetings when possible.*

Given the length of the meeting, Susan tabled the rest of the agenda items until the next board meeting.

Rebecca moved to adjourn and John seconded. Meeting adjourned at 830.

*Next Board Meeting will be – **Thursday March 28 at 7:00 p.m.***