

**Dupont Circle Citizens Association
Board of Directors Meeting
November 30, 2023**

Present: (via videoconference/phone) Susan Volman, Joe Caruso, Lance Salonia, Susan Valaskovic, Rebecca Martin, Marcy Logan, Ed Hanlon, John Hassell, Diane Quinn, Patty Zweibel

Not present: Justin Thornton

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

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

President's Report

Susan reported on the outreach events (Little Goblins event on 10/28, and Mitchell Park on 10/29). She said they were good events and that she, Rebecca and Susan Valaskovic (at the Little Goblins event) and she alone (at the Mitchell Park event) had the opportunity to meet with several neighbors.

Susan also extended kudos to Marcy for the fence repair at Freedom Garden. Rebecca agreed and said it looks wonderful. Joe asked what happened to the temporary fence, and Rebecca said it will be used at the T Street Park.

Susan said she was interviewed for an hour by a Georgetown graduate student who is writing his dissertation on how elected policymakers draw on information from businesses, non-profits, and advocates to design housing policy. The dissertation won't mention DCCA or specific cases by name.

Treasurer's Report

Lance circulated the financial report before the meeting. He went over income and expenses. He complimented the Program committee on new memberships, and said that the recent member meetings have generated a number of new memberships which is unusual this time of year. He also reported that DCCA's 2022 tax return was filed by the deadline.

Parks and Garden

Lance finished the Treasurer's Report by noting he received an invoice from Phil Jones shortly before the meeting, asking DCCA to pay for irrigation maintenance on the T St park. Rebecca said there are still funds in the budget to cover this and the price is reasonable. Rebecca said the

Parks and Gardens committee would build this cost into the budget request for next year. Lance asked if we want to commit to long-term maintenance of the system. Rebecca said the choice is do we want to maintain it or let it go—she said we accepted responsibility for it, and the city won't pay for it. Susan Valasovic asked about a plaque in the garden. Rebecca said there is a sign in the garden that says the garden is maintained by DCCA. Susan asked about our request to formally adopt the park. Rebecca said we submitted the application but no formal response yet. Diane suggested following up with the head of Parks and Recreation to ask about it.

Action item: Parks and Garden committee to follow up with city re: application to adopt the T St Park.

1617 U St presentation by Ed

Ed described the city's proposal to upzone the property and provided a status update. Ed went over the procedural history of the matter to date, and told the board that the hearing is now a contested hearing and will be held on January 8. Ed also described other parties who have applied for party status at the hearing, and their concerns with the project. Ed said he thinks the hearing should be delayed again. Ed said he had agreed to represent DCCA in this particular matter, in a manner consistent with the resolution opposing the upzoning passed at the November membership meeting.

The board discussed the level of communication that would be appropriate going forward between Ed and the Board or the Regulatory Committee.

Action item: The consensus was that Ed would keep the Board informed of what he's doing in the matter, and for more granular matters (e.g., letters or legal filings he's drafting) communicate with the Regulatory Committee and give them a chance to ask questions and make suggestions before he sends the letter/files the motion, time permitting.

December 4 ANC Mobility Committee

This meeting conflicts with DCCA's membership meeting. The Committee has invited DDOT, and there are several items on the agenda that are of interest to DCCA. However, Susan reported that she had contacted Jeff Rueckgauer (Mobility Committee Chair) and learned that the purpose was to follow up and discuss potential plans and with DDOT, not to make recommendations about specific Notices of Intent.

ABCA

Susan said we received the ABCA board order on Rosemarino, which was protested by DCCA, the ANC, and a group of neighbors. The protesting parties had discussed appealing the order, with the neighbors group taking the lead, and they decided not to appeal. She said the order doesn't give the protestants everything we wanted, but it did place a number of restrictions on the establishment and included some good language about taverns becoming de facto night clubs.

Program and Membership

Sue and Susan are working on the holiday party, and they are trying to set it up to be held at the O St Mansion.

Action item: Susan and Marcy will work on the holiday card to send to members, and also will look into sending the 100th anniversary brochure to members who don't have it.

Rebecca said there is a strong need for a clean-up crew of volunteers to stay after meetings. She said it's too much to expect people to arrive early and set up, and to stay late and clean up. The December meeting is more complicated than typical meetings because the speakers have asked for attendees to bring nutritious canned foods to the event to provide to people in need. There was additional discussion of logistics and speaker ideas for member meetings.

Upcoming membership meetings:

December: Monday, December 4th

January: Holiday party TDB

Meeting adjourned 8:47 p.m.

*Next Board Meeting will be – **Thursday December 28th at 7:00 p.m. (subject to cancellation)***