



## Dupont Circle Citizens Association Board of Directors Meeting March 26, 2020

**Present:** (via Zoom videoconference) Glenn Engelmann, Susan Volman, Karol Stanley, Marcy Logan, Kerry Kemp, Lance Salonia, Phil Carney, Gabrielle Williams, Barry Karas  
**Absent:** Jen Kane, Charlie Ellis

*Meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm*

### Approval of Minutes

Marcy moved to approve the February 27, 2020, minutes. Lance seconded, all in favor.

### President's Report

- Masonic Temple: DCCA's attorney Doug Melcher is working on submission of the Findings of Fact Conclusions of Law. Working with him to determine what will be covered. We may need to pass off another piece of the submission to another party to keep our argument streamlined and persuasive to the Mayor's Agent (we will focus on question of whether subdivision is proper).
- Ward 2 Candidates Forum sponsored by DCCA/Logan Circle Community Association (LCCA) on March 5, 2020, at the Foundry United Methodist Church: There was a large crowd, and the event was successful, but it was not a DCCA member-generating event. We posted a recording of the event on Youtube for members and community to view.
  - Because the large crowd size required moving from fellowship hall to the Sanctuary, the cost of the event increased. The overall cost was just under \$1900 for the facility (which we are splitting with LCCA).
    - DCCA/LCCA will make a donation to Foundry in the names of Ward 2 Candidate Forum moderators Kojo Nnamdi and Tom Sherwood in appreciation for their time. The money will be earmarked for Foundry's ID Ministry grant that DCCA funded.
  - Audience questions were collected and those that were not asked by the moderator were documented and Pam from LCCA made the independent decision to send all of the questions, unedited to the candidates for response.
    - DCCA will display all responses after the submission deadline. Erica will work on a spreadsheet to lay out responses.
- DCCA attorney Doug Melcher's rate has increased to (\$200/hour), but he will continue to work with us on budget as needed. This rate change will not go into effect until July and will not impact the work he is currently doing on the Masonic Temple matter.

### Treasurer's Report

- New budget reflects the decision to reduce regulatory and not to include the 17<sup>th</sup> Street woonerf study until we know how/when it will spend.
- Funds are down due to stock market losses but we do have a balanced investment.
- After covering outstanding payments we will have \$9,000 in the operating account and need to be conservative in the days ahead to avoid another withdrawal from market.

## **Committee Reports and Business**

### **1. ABRA: Trio/Fox and Hounds**

- Fox and Hounds wants to install 1-2 (likely 1) gaming machine(s) in the bar area of their establishment.
- Jason from Dragon Ascent presented on his company, a distributor and operator of gaming and machines. Owner from Trio did not join the call; the owner has been unreachable despite multiple attempts.
- Dragon Ascent has worked with AG Racine's office to approve this video game for use in DC. It has gone through government process, approved by the AG, and was approved by ABRA in the Fall. There has been one installed at Penn Social (in Penn quarter) since February
- Regs were established with Mayor's office and there is info on ABRA's website/FAQ on regulations. No more than 3 games can be places at one location. Applications are also pending at Big Hunt, Lucky Bar.

License is for Trio and Fox and Hounds. Lawyer for gaming company said he would give a side letter assuring us it's F&H-only with a two-game limit vs three-game limit. Option to ask for side letter or protest. Board decided a side letter would be adequate.

***ACTION ITEM:*** Glenn will request a side letter from the lawyer assuring DCCA that it's to be installed in Fox and Hounds only (not Trio) with a two-game limit (vs. three).

### **2. ABRA: The Fireplace**

- Working on settlement agreement. Seems to be close.

### **3. ABRA: Annabelle**

- Old Nora's taking out herb garden putting in a sidewalk café. Questions about their public space permit. They amended placard hours are within guidelines. At last ANC meeting Howard Bard and his immediate neighbors did not have an objection.

Board had a lot of questions about how the expansion will be set up.

***ACTION ITEM:*** Glenn will check to see if they applied for public permit.

### **4. ABRA: Mayfair**

- Mayfair is going into the Dirty Martini space – it's in the area of club central and hours are consistent with the other area clubs. Board determines there is no reason to take action.

## **Board Nominations**

1. Marcy identified a person interested in being on DCCA's Board of Directors: Tim Norman, a community-minded DC native who is a local elementary teacher of drama.
2. Marcy also spoke with another neighbor who is interested but wants to know more: Tom Rieter.
3. We are still holding on the possibility of asking Ward 2 challenger Daniel Hernandez as a potential to fill Gabby's mid-term departure.

Normally we would present the Board of Directors slate in May, but Glenn suggested putting a slate together by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in April and add an eblast where we also ask for nominees.

***ACTION ITEM:***

*Glenn will follow up and talk with Tim and Tom.*

*Glenn will draft some language to scout for nominations.*

*Erica will send a members-only eblast and include it in an eblast.*

*Marcy will give Glenn Tom and Tim contact info and work toward 4/15/20 deadline to determine nominees.*

**Residential Property Tax Postponement**

- Lance drafted a letter asking city to consider property tax relief program. mentioned that there was no property tax relief for residential homeowners in emergency bill.

***ACTION ITEM:*** *Susan will put it on stationery with Glenn's signature and Glenn will get it out to the Council tomorrow.*

**Programming**

1. Mem Meetings: DC Council Chair Phil Mendelson was scheduled for May. Glenn suggests doing a video meeting for members.
2. Comedy night: Will be rescheduled for when we can safely do in person. If comedian has a link to a clip we can use it to promote him as a future event.
3. Pride Parade: They are trying to determine whether to cancel or postpone. Phil will update when decision is made.
4. House Tour: No decision yet – but there is a need to consider contingency plans for the House Tour.

***ACTION ITEM:***

*If we move forward with Mendelson video meeting, we need to pull a list of issues.*

*Erica will find out zoom log in capacity with current plan.*

**Other Business:**

1. **17<sup>th</sup> Street Woonerf Study:** Lance recently wrote to Anna Chamberlin at DDOT's Planning and Sustainability Division with copy of the RFP and will try to reach out to her. Was trying to get it done ahead of a protected bike lane decision but everything is probably in delay overall. Will follow up next week or week after.
2. **ANC Opening:** Susan hears that Daniel Hernandez and another former ANC candidate each took petitions along with a third person but there is some question on how they are collecting signatures during the social distancing period.
3. **Grant to help during COVID-19 Pandemic:** Marcy and Glenn suggested the possibility of giving a grant to some organization working in Dupont in light of public health situation. Susan will reach out to Charlie's Place.

***ACTION ITEM:*** *GLENN will send Erica a list of charities to include in the Eblast*

Meeting Adjourned 8:54 p.m