

**Dupont Circle Citizens Association
Board of Directors Meeting
March 23, 2023**

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

Not present: Charlie Ellis, Tom Reiter, Diane Quinn

Meeting was called to order at 7:04

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: *Nick moved to approve the February Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Susan, all in favor.*

President's Report

Susan said we had renewed our membership in the Federation of Civic Associations, and Lance noted that we have received the bill for the Federation of Community Associations and will renew that also. Susan asked other members of the board to step up and attend meetings with the Federations. Marcy volunteered to attend. Susan said she will notify others when the Federations are having meetings.

Susan noted that Pepco is having an open house March 25, and told the board that if anyone was interested in attending she would send the invitation.

Susan suggested that DCCA give Belmont House, the host of the April membership meeting, a contribution. Marcy suggested giving a \$100 contribution.

MOTION: *Rebecca moved to give Belmont \$100 for the meeting, Susan seconded. All in favor.*

Susan reported that she is trying to set up meetings to talk to the new ANC commissioners so she can introduce them to DCCA. She also said would look into realtor fundraising for the garden fence.

ABRA: On Rosemarino D'Italia, Glenn reported that the hearing that was supposed to be last Wednesday was postponed. A different lawyer (Andrew Klein) is representing Rosemarino, and he did not file pleadings in time for the hearing, and asked for a continuance. In spite of DCCA's objection, the continuance was granted. Glenn noted that this is the second time there has been a delay due to Rosemarino's actions. He said he expects the matter to be resolved in a few months, though.

Joe reported on Barcode. He said the only update is the status hearing was moved from this week to next week [the last week in March]. Susan said the mediation was after the last meeting. She said that DCCA is working with ANC 2C on the Barcode matter, along with the neighbors in

the Presidential, whose lawyer may draft any settlement agreement that results. Joe noted that Barcode has made a few of the changes they have been asked. However, the operator said that he could not comply with some other requests that have been made, such as having Barcode police the alley behind. Barcode is planning to provide updated security arrangements.

Susan reported on Vagabond. Susan said that apparently the operator was unaware there was a settlement agreement with Rebellion (former occupant in the space), limiting open hours. Kenlee had notified Susan about the hours in the settlement agreement, and Susan then contacted ABRA. When Vagabond's operator found out about the settlement agreement, the operator said it would comply. The ANC is protesting on peace, order and quiet, and DCCA does not have to do anything.

Susan reported on the West Dupont moratorium on liquor licenses. She said ANC 2B would be having a special meeting on March 30th, because the moratorium is set to expire in April. Lance noted that the Circulator bus is being cut, and that's another issue to discuss at the special meeting. Regarding the moratorium, Susan said the last time it expired, the ANC wanted to get rid of it entirely. DCCA argued at a special meeting to keep the moratorium on nightclubs only, and the ANC agreed. She said she thinks the current ANC wants to keep this limited moratorium in place, and that she didn't think there was a conflict between our position and that of the ANC. Susan said she will try to attend the meeting and if they want to keep the moratorium the same, she will say it's fine with DCCA. Marcy asked if the moratorium impacts the Dupont Underground, and Glenn said the Underground doesn't have a nightclub license, probably because of lack of ingress/egress. He also noted that the Underground is really part of the business district, not West Dupont.

Treasurer's Report

Lance sent the Treasurer's report before the meeting. He said the money from memberships in March should be \$130. He noted we have committed \$750 to WNDC Education Foundation and that due to our commitments (including salary owed to our executive director), he needs more funds after having transferred the last \$2,100 of approved funds today. He said it would be a good idea to authorize another \$2,100 withdrawal. No other big payments are coming up other than insurance in July.

Lance also raised the invoice for Daniel Volman, who is the person who wrote the text for the 100th anniversary brochure. He said he just wanted to make sure it's ok to pay the invoice given Daniel is Susan's brother, and he asked Nick if he could verify that Daniel provided what he was required to do under the contract. Nick said he did, his work was very good, and DCCA got full value. Lance asked if there were any objections to his paying the invoice. There were none, and Lance said in that case he would pay Daniel.

Social Activities, 100th Anniversary brochure, Other activities

Happy Hours: Justin reported that DCCA is confirmed for the happy hour at Certo! on March 29 from 5-7. Certo! will provide one free sparkling wine for each guest. There was a discussion of how to phrase this invitation in the e-blast to send to members.

Justin said he would make a reservation for board members to stay for dinner, and to let him know how many would join.

Susan told the board she would make name tags for all board members who are attending the happy hour and bring materials for attendees' nametags.

100th Anniversary Brochure: Susan said the work is almost finished. She's working on getting photos and figuring how to format. She will talk to Basecamp and the company that did the House Tour brochure about publishing.

Summertime meetups: Marcy suggested setting dates for summertime DCCA meetups now, and Susan said let's hold off to see what the interest is in summertime meetups.

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, and she has not talked to Ross yet about it.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rebecca reported on the work the nominating committee has been doing to secure commitments to fill the 4 open seats on the board. She said she has 2 confirmed nominees. Susan Valasovic from The Presidential Cooperative; and former DCCA President Robin Diener. She also said John Hassell is part of the 19th St community that's been involved in the Deckover. Susan said John would accept the nomination. Rebecca noted that leaves 1 remaining seat to fill.

Joe suggested coming up with a one-year plan to recruit and develop new board members. Susan said she is willing to stay on for another year and will help with that effort.

Rebecca said with Susan Volman staying on as president, we now have a slate. Susan Volman and Susan V. (from Presidential), Robin and John.

[Nick and Glenn left the meeting]

Upcoming member meetings: Rebecca suggested a new format for meetings, which had been suggested by Ed Hanlon. She suggested social visits first, and to start the meeting at 7 instead of 7:30. Would get people more engaged. Susan noted that would mean a 6:30 pm arrival time for people who have to set up the meeting. Getting the chairs set up etc.

Rebecca said to defer discussion of venues until the fall, and that she was just throwing out the idea of the new meeting time and format.

Susan said we need a program at the June meeting, unless we just want to do program updates. Marcy said she would like a meeting with all living past DCCA presidents present.

The board discussed the annual meeting coming up on May 1, with Councilmember Brooke Pinto as the speaker. While DCCA usually votes and presents the annual report at the May meeting, the board decided that those could be put off until the June meeting, if necessary.

Parks update: Rebecca said nothing new to report since the February meeting.

Regulatory: 1617 U St: Lance reported that nothing much will happen on this until May. Rebecca asked if there was anything we need to decide at this meeting, and Susan and Lance said no. Susan, Lance and Marcy will remain involved.

Temple: There was a lengthy discussion about the Masons' plans for developing the area around the temple, and DECCA and DCCA's response. Lance will testify at the hearing. Rebecca will not be able to attend. Susan will try to attend.

Susan wrapped up the meeting by saying she will work on delegating tasks.

Meeting adjourned 8:35.

Next Board Meeting will be – Thursday April 27th at 7:00 p.m.