

**Dupont Circle Citizens Association
Board of Directors Meeting
August 25, 2022**

Present: (via videoconference/phone) Susan Volman, Charlie Ellis, Marcy Logan, Rebecca Martin, Nick Manning, Lance Salonia, Patty Zweibel

Not Present: Joe Caruso, Diane Quinn, Tom Reiter, Justin Thornton

Meeting was called to order at 7:05

Approval of Minutes

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

President's Report

Susan asked for volunteers to be at DCCA's table at the Dupont Circle Main Streets August 27 pop-up. Rebecca, Charlie, Marcy, and Susan will join in shifts.

Susan reported that she and Nick are working on the 100th Anniversary booklet of DCCA history. They are also interested in updating DCCA's website so it is more descriptive about DCCA and its activities.

Susan asked for ideas for the E-Blast that goes out each week. She and Erica have been putting together the E-Blast, and she asked the board how best to get their input for articles/items of interest to include. Nick suggested a weekly reminder email to the board, asking them to submit anything they think would be interesting. Susan agreed and said she would ask Erica to do that.

Action item: Susan to coordinate with Erica on E-Blast reminder emails.

Susan reported that the hearing she had previously mentioned in September was on vehicle safety, and therefore not something we should contribute to, but there will be DC Council Transportation Committee hearings on October 27 and 28 that we should prepare for.

Treasurer's Report

Lance sent the Treasurer's report before the meeting. He briefed the board on income and summarized the past month's expenses, most of which (\$521) was to the accounting firm for what appears to be preparatory work for our annual filing. There was also a \$200 retainer paid to the accounting firm. He noted the spending account was very low—approximately \$600. The board discussed when the next payment is due for irrigation expenses in the T St. park, and Rebecca said that the payment could come due in September. Because it's unclear when the payment will be due and there are more expenses coming up, Susan suggested moving more money from the investment account to the spending account.

***MOTION:** Susan moved to authorize a transfer of \$5,100 from the investment account to the spending account. Marcy seconded, all in favor.*

***Action item:** Susan will contact the accounting firm for information on their services, billing, and what they will need from us in order to prepare our annual filing.*

Social Activities, Campaigns, Fund-Raising Ideas

Happy Hours. Nick said that Justin is interested in talking to restaurants in Dupont Circle to gauge interest on hosting a DCCA happy hour event. Rebecca agreed this would be a good way to try to get more visibility for DCCA, particularly among younger or newer residents who are not familiar with DCCA. All agreed this would be good to do, but that we would need to think about how to get the word out about the event. Marcy suggested Dawson's Market as a venue.

***Action item:** Justin to talk to restaurants in the neighborhood.*

Streatery contest: The board discussed whether and how to do a streatery contest, particularly given the current state of flux of streatery regulation in the city and the fact that DDOT is going to issue new guidelines that may make many current streateries unfeasible or perhaps even illegal. Nick suggested a design contest, rather than a contest for best existing streatery. Susan suggested a contest for best existing streatery with the caveat that it's unclear whether future regulations will allow them. Nick agreed to draft a proposal for the streatery contest.

***Action item:** Nick to draft streatery/streatery design contest proposal.*

Phillips event: Susan suggested an in-person social event at the Phillips during its current Lou Stovall show. Stovall is a local artist who had workshop in Dupont. The board agreed.

***Action item:** Susan to reach out to Phillips to discuss event.*

House Tour Book: Marcy described her idea to use prior DCCA House Tour booklets, photos and copy to create a 100th anniversary book. The board discussed at length and debated different formats, from self-published to coffee table/hard copy professional quality. The board also discussed how to determine potential buyers and the target audience. Cost was a big concern, and the board discussed how to finance the book—whether to invest DCCA funds, or sell advertising in the book to local businesses. The board leaned slightly toward selling ads, rather than investing funds, for this publication and/or for the 100th Anniversary DCCA history booklet.

Action items:

- **Marcy and Charlie will look at the material we have on file, to determine feasibility of creating a book, and will put together a proposal for Base Camp or other publisher who can advise on costs.**
- **Susan will gather electronic files of prior house tour photos and brochures.**
- **Lance will contact local writer/Dupont Circle historian Paul Williams, and ask him to speak with Marcy and Charlie.**

October 3 DCCA membership meeting: For several reasons, it is not possible for DCCA to have a 100th anniversary party at the Belmont House. As a result, the board discussed having a meeting with a social component at another venue. One possibility is the Chastleton, and another is the Heurich House. Charlie and Susan, respectively, are contacts with the venues. Re: program, Susan said that Tom is contacting Gerard Brown to give a presentation about rat abatement. Another possibility, instead of a rat program, is a program on pedestrian safety. Susan noted that a member of DCCA is also a member of the DC Pedestrian Advisory Council, who may be able to speak.

Action items: Tom will reach out to Gerard Brown to ask him to speak. If he can't, Susan will speak with Kathy Davin, the Ward 2 representative to the DC Pedestrian Advisory Council and ask for a speaker.

ABRA

Susan said that she, Kenlee, and Glenn have worked with the ANC Commissioners who are responsible for the pending liquor licenses at Baby Shank, Exiles, and Momo. The ANC seems to be doing a good job negotiating Settlement Agreements (with help from us), so there has been no need for DCCA to protest these licenses ourselves. The new SAs include the now-standard no-promoters clause.

Momo: Momo, a new establishment on 17th in the space formerly occupied by Chaos and then Pansara, had raised concern given its application for late hours, live outdoor music, and 50 occupants in the summer garden (the lower level outside space). However, Susan said that ANC 2B has discussed the application with the owners and that the occupancy of the summer garden will be 21, not 50, and there will be no outdoor entertainment. Susan said that the SA should be acceptable to DCCA, although the Commissioner for ANC2B04 is new at this.

Parks and Gardens Updates: Rebecca reported that the Department of General Services has asked for and received additional information from our vendor, and that she expects the irrigation permit to be approved by fall, in time for plantings next year. She said in the meantime, the plants are being maintained by volunteers. Marcy said the T St park continues to have a rat problem, and that it still has not received covered garbage cans from the city.

Transportation: Lance asked the board to approve that Tom draft a letter to DDOT asking for public meetings on the proposed protected bike lanes for Q and R Street lanes and for the public stakeholder process to be followed. Susan had previously discussed this with Tom and agreed that it was better for him to draft a letter (as had been proposed by Rebecca at the July meeting) because of Susan's dual role on the Mobility Committee.

Action item: Tom to draft letter described above.

Regulatory: Susan said that a separate group (Grassroots Planning/Empower DC) is already looking into the legality of the surplus of the Police and Fire station lots at 17th and U Sts NW. DCCA's position is that the property should remain in the hands of the city and that the zoning should remain the same.

***Action item:* Susan and Lance will follow up with the Grassroots Planning organization to find out about the legal action they are taking, and the timetable.**

Nick moved to adjourn the meeting, and Charlie seconded. All in favor.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:49 pm