

**Dupont Circle Citizens Association
Board of Directors Meeting
October 27, 2022**

Present: (via videoconference/phone) **Susan Volman, Joe Caruso, Glenn Engelmann, Marcy Logan, Nick Manning, Tom Reiter, Justin Thornton, Lance Salonia,**

Not present Charlie Ellis, Rebecca Martin, Diane Quinn

Meeting was called to order at 7:04

Approval of Minutes

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

President's Report

Susan updated the group on the range of meetings that were attended which will be covered in detail later in the meeting. She also requested volunteers for the Little Goblins Parade and Joe committed to helping out on Saturday.

Treasurer's Report

Lance sent the Treasurer's report before the meeting. The money for the irrigation system is available when the process moves forward and there is funding remaining for membership meeting costs and gardening needs.

Social Activities, Campaigns, Fund-Raising Ideas

Happy Hours: Justin updated the Board on his conversations with the owner of the Commodore who would like to partner with DCCA for an upcoming Happy Hour using their indoor/outdoor location. The Board agreed to the idea of offering a mulled wine beverage as the specialty cocktail. Tuesday, November 15th was determined to be the best potential date to hold the happy hour. The purpose of the happy hour event is to provide a social event for neighbors, increase awareness of DCCA and bring in new members.

Action item: **Justin will continue the conversation with the Commodore on scheduling availability and report back on pricing options (door price vs. pay as you go). The event will be promoted through word of mouth of Board (friends/family notices) as well as eblast to members and non-members.**

Streatery Contest: Nick updated the Board on the Streatery Award panel and process. A survey will be distributed on Monday to DCCA members. The plan will be to collect responses and the panel will determine the award winner. The winner will be awarded a prize donated by Eaton Hotel (a weekend hotel stay) which DCCA will encourage be given to the winning restaurants staff member who has had a role in its streatery.

100th Anniversary Brochure: Nick and Susan are working on identifying a writer to compile and draft the history of DCCA for the brochure. Susan has made some contacts and will also move on Marcy's suggestion to reach out to Jane Ross to help or make a recommendation.

Shredding event: Susan has reached out to various shredding companies for pricing and logistics information. Susan will be reviewing their proposals and will also look into non-profit pricing options. The tentative plan is to hold the shred event in Q1 to align with tax season - a time people are organizing/disposing of paperwork.

January party: DCCA typically hosts a Resolutions Party for members in January. The board discussed assessing the success of the November happy hour and then determining whether a series of happy hours may be a replacement to the annual party. The hesitation in locking in the January members only party is mainly due to forward planning/financial commitment potential covid/flu cancellation concerns. There will also be further consideration of an early, DCCA hosted event having an impact on renewals/way of thanking members that will be worked into final decision.

ABRA

Signature Lounge: Glenn updated that Signature is up for license renewal and were invited to speak at the Board meeting but did not reply. There was a report of one noise incident but otherwise there have not been other complaints/issues shared by neighbors which means there are no grounds to object to a renewal. Glenn's recommendation was for no action at this time on the renewal application. DCCA will wait to hear how they work out the appeal with ABRA before determining final action.

JR's: JRs is applying to use their outdoor area as a sidewalk café with hours that extend longer than the ANC neighborhood guidelines. It was noted that nearby Duke's has been given an extension in the past. JRs is asking for an extension to midnight however the Board was not clear on whether that is the same as Duke's approved hours. Two board members were concerned about the change and wanted more information before decision making. It was determined that Susan/Joe/Glenn would look into details on the extended hours request, any previous settlement agreement, and find out what the ANC position is at the upcoming 11/9 meeting. If hours request is later than Duke's, the board will resume the discussion at the next Board meeting which is slated to take place before the response deadline. [UPDATE: the outdoor hours requested by JRs are the same as Duke's on weekdays, and one hour less on weekends.]

Rosemario D'Italia: Sidon Yohannes and Rosemeri (owner) and Eddie (owner's son/manager) joined the meeting to discuss their posting for the license renewal and a new application for an entertainment endorsement. It was noted that DCCA protested the original (and later withdrawn) entertainment endorsement. The hours applied for on the entertainment endorsement seeks Sunday – Thursday 10a -11p and Friday 10a - 2a and Saturday 10a - 3a. A recent soft launch of this live entertainment usage was conducted without notification to neighbors or license approval. After hearing the plans for the venue including hours, music, security and promotion, the Board discussed and determined the need to protest both applications.

MOTION: *Susan moves to protest the license renewal and the entertainment endorsement on the basis of peace order and quiet. Nick seconds the motion and all are in favor.*

Reports/discussion of meetings attended:

Public Safety Meeting update: Tom attended and shared his report on the meeting with the Board via email prior to the meeting.

Criminal Code Legislation: The Board discussed sharing information and generating a conversation around the legislation. Susan noted that she brought it up at the DC Federation of Civic Associations, and they also want someone to come in to discuss. Tom suggested it is likely too late for action with the Council likely to pass an amended version in the next few days for mayoral approval.

Zero Waste meeting: Susan attended and reported that there was a conversation about curbside composting and mentioned to the Board the idea that Dupont could be a good pilot neighborhood for such a program.

Coalition for Police out of Enforcement meeting: Susan reported for awareness that there is a bubbling conversation from a coalition of people who want to take the traffic enforcement away from police and turn it over to DPW. She will share this information with Tom. [UPDATE: The Police out of Traffic Enforcement Coalition consists of advocates from WABA, DSA, ACLU-DC, Sunrise-DC, DC Justice Lab, and Advancement Project.]

Upcoming Membership Meetings:

- **November 7 DCCA membership meeting:** This will be at the Chastleton. Tom lined up Amy Fisher, with the Migrant Solidarity Mutual Aid Network who will talk about the organization's work with the asylum seekers who were bused to DC.
- **December:** Keegan Theatre volunteered their space for the meeting. Susan lined up a speaker from City Wildlife and Dan Rauch from DOEE to discuss city wildlife, a topic previously suggested by Tom.
- **January:** No meeting due to holiday schedule
- **February:** Susan has confirmed people from the OAG zoning office – a new office under the AG that is dealing with zoning but is separate from the zoning office.
- **March:** TBD. Marcy mentioned water as a potential topic

Parks and Gardens: No word from the Department of General Services on our right of entry permit. Remaining 2022 garden funds will be used for mulch and other supplies.

Regulatory: 17th and U Street building: Susan emailed Ward 1 Councilmember Brienne Nadeau, and Fiona Clem, Chair of ANC1C, asking whether they had any updated information about whether DC plans to surplus this building. Clem said she would find out and get back to Susan with more information.

15th Street Bike lane change requests: Two ANCs have asked for changes. No formal mobility committee proposal has been shared. Susan is keeping an eye on it with care for community involvement and input.

Amendments to ANC procedures – Susan mentioned the issue for awareness that the amendments were posted and offered to send the link to anyone who needed it for review. The Board members discussed their differing views about the amendments. Tom will be submitting his own personal comments to the ANC and will share them with the DCCA Board for its consideration. The Board will need to decide via email whether to submit these comments before the ANC meeting on November 9th. There was also discussion about making our membership aware of these changes. [UPDATE: we included this notice in the October 28th eblast.]

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 pm

Next Board Meeting will collapse the November and December – Thursday December 8th at 7:00 p.m.