

Dimond Improvement Association  
Board Meeting Minutes, 6/9/11  
Approved 7/14/11

Board members present: Stan Dodson, Fran Donohue, Chris Harper, Julie Johnson, Ashley Rogers, Tom Rose, Kathleen Russell, Daniel Swafford, Karen Marie Schroeder, Victoria Wake

Absent: Abdo Alawdi, Tim Chapman, Robert Raburn, Rejoyce Stovall/Moss, Tito Tayco

Others present: Bruce Stoffmacher, D4 Liaison (partial)

Chairperson: Kathleen Russell

Notes by agenda topic:

Prior meeting minutes: May 11, 2011, meeting minutes (prepared by Kathleen Russell) were approved with a correction to the spelling of Abdo's last name (Chris motioned; Julie seconded; unanimous approval).

Announcements:

Kathleen asked the minutes to reflect that the 6/1 general meeting (on transportation) was very good; Karen Marie counted at least 45 people in attendance; Kathleen said the sign-in sheet showed 18 non-members; she will turn over the sign-in sheet to the Membership Committee for follow-up.

Kathleen relayed a request from a board member that all committee meetings be announced in advance to the full board. It was agreed that everyone would try to do this, with the understanding that some meetings are spur-of-the-moment and just can't be announced ahead of time. It was further agreed that the Google calendar function on the DIA website would be used for this purpose, followed up by an e-mail to the board directing them to check the calendar. Kathleen will ask Tim to give all board members access.

Kathleen reminded the board that it intended to hold a mid-year follow-up to the January retreat. Sunday, July 31, from 5pm to 8pm, was selected as a good date and time. Kathleen (and other interested board members) will move forward on an agenda the mini-retreat.

Treasurer's Report: Not given. Victoria recalled that at the January retreat there was the suggestion to develop a simple, standard format for a monthly Treasurer's Report that could be submitted for each meeting whether or not the Treasurer was in attendance. She volunteered to do a first draft format that Tito and the board could comment on, with the aim of having a format determined in time for the July board meeting.

Committee Reports: See attached (updated by Kathleen).

Membership Materials: The board agreed to create a Materials Committee separate from the Membership & Correspondence Committee. Fran, Stan, and Robert will be on the committee. The first tasks: Revise the tri-fold brochure, replacing the sign-up form with a rundown on opportunities (and contact websites) for community involvement (lifted from an older, one-panel piece Stan did) and a return envelope with application form incorporated. The idea of producing

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a DIA button was tabled for now, with a number of board members expressing doubt in its value and usage.

Oaktoberfest\*: Daniel reported that there is \$5,000 in the account. The board approved making a short-term loan of \$1,200 to Oaktoberfest (Karen Marie motioned; Chris seconded; unanimous approval). Daniel also requested that anyone with Kaiser coverage contact Kaiser to encourage it to sponsor the event. He also needs someone to contact Bank of America to request sponsorship.

Dimond Park Picnic & Open House, July 24:

Karen Marie announced the schedule: The event will run from 11:00am to 3:30pm, with Circus Bella at noon and Women's Will at 1:30pm performing Much Ado About Nothing. As in the past, there will be free swims, arts & crafts, and a small number of organizational tables. Likely tables include DIA, Dimond Recreation Center (DRC), Glenview Neighborhood Association (GNA), Councilmember Schaaf, Mayor Quan, Dimond Merchants, Friends of the Dimond Library, and Friends of Sausal Creek. DIA, DRC, and GNA are the official sponsors. Karen Marie will involve both DRC and GNA in the planning. All publicity will emphasize that food will not be provided this year and attendees will be encouraged to bring a picnic lunch. Publicity will include three e-mail blasts (with Pat Raburn's help) and A-frame signs. Volunteers are needed to help staff the DIA table.

Public Safety:

Ashley reported on a well-attended community meeting held in the Oakmore neighborhood the previous evening. Security concerns are running high given recent criminal activity. The police report that recent graffiti in Dimond Park was gang-generated but other graffiti in the area is not. Discussion included private patrols, security cameras, and Neighborhood Watch. The board agreed that it's best if reporting and extended discussion on criminal activity happen on the NCPC 22X listserv rather than the DimondNews listserv.

Farmer's Market:

Ashley has been exploring ideas for a community market that would perhaps occur once a month. Rather than focus on produce, the market might encompass other goods and activities. A Dimond Market Committee was established with initial members being Ashley and Karen Marie.

Blockbuster:

Stan reported that a hazardous-materials clean-up assessment will be paid for by the insurance company of the dry cleaners that formerly operated on the site. As soon as the current owner of the site signs the assessment agreement, the work can proceed. The insurance will pay for up to \$250,000 of assessment and clean-up costs.

New Business

- T-shirts: Ashley reported that the Tepper's T-shirts are nearly gone and proposed that another batch be produced to sell at the picnic and Oaktoberfest. A quantity of about 75 was discussed, but the board will vote by e-mail when Ashley has more information on cost.
- Dimond restaurant walk: Daniel reported that Ron Scrivani of the Montclair Lions Club is organizing a fundraiser for Fruitvale Presbyterian Church. The idea would be to sell approximately 300 tickets to a "taste of Dimond" walk and recruit about 16 restaurants

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to offer small portions of their menu fare. More discussion is needed to determine DIA's role, if any, in the event.

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- Agenda items requested for next board meeting: Web site progress; Treasurer's Report; 501(c)3 status; attendance requirement for board membership.

Next Board meeting: Thursday, July 14, 2011, at NAMA; Victoria Wake, Chair; Tito Tayco (or Karen Marie Schroeder), Notetaker.

Minutes submitted by Victoria Wake, July 10, 2011

\*Oakterfest was substituted for the agenda item re: Big Band Dance & Fashion Show.