March 12, 2026
Dimond Improvement Association
Board of Directors Meeting

Members Present: David Gross, Judy Klinge , Zandile Christian, Chris Harper, Maria Rincon, Marjorie Jones, Rolfe Kasling

Members Absent: Victoria Wake, May Seto-Wasem, Jaime Watson

Guests: Rebecca Dean, City Council District 4 Office

1. Approval of Agenda
Was approved by acclamation

2. Approval of Minutes.
No minutes were approved, since there was no quorum at the February meeting.

3. Chair's Report

Dave is going to take responsibility for Membership from the CEVO committee and form an *ad hoc* committee to compile a basic membership list and implement a plan to track membership rolls and recruit new members going forward

4. **District 4 Update**

Guest: Rebecca Dean

Traffic study: OakDOT claims to be unaware of a traffic study; they don't do this for private entities. Rebecca will go back to Dollinger about it and City to clarify.

Bus shelters: Do we know why Dollinger put the removed shelter at the Macarthur / Fruitvale stop behind the fence on its property? Related issue is that City has been removing dilapidated bus stop shelters throughout Oakland. Clear Cannel had upkeep responsibility, but the contract expired and City didn't budget for the upkeep.

2114 MacArthur update: Met with Ochenstein developers; brought up standing water and general neglect at the property. . He says still working on toxic remediation and awaiting clearance from Dept of Toxic Substances Control. Then need to go back to City for further construction permitting. They do not have a contractor or builder. Once they do, construction will take about a year.

Interim Police Chief: search has begun. Public Forums will be held on what City is looking for/ what search process looks like.

City Charter Reform: Mayor has presented a few different structures to City Council. They pick, then it goes on ballot for citizen approval.

Dumping & Encampments: Caltrans will cleanup dumping right on edge of hwy; she met with Homeless Dept. re state of things. There are no shelter beds for the person who set a fire and became offensively belligerent. If it happens again, this will go to top of list.

John: Lyman & Fruitvale – the sign re pedestrians has been knocked down again. Where are we on the flashing light? Rebecca: they are still bringing up the one CM has bookmarked at MacArthur & Dimond each time they meet with Dept. of Transportation

5. Preliminary Budget for FYE 2027

- Marge provides an overview of each committee's expected budget for next year, for each of their primary activities.
- Oaktoberfest expected to receive about $26K in near future; additional $33K later (this money goes in general fund; Oaktoberfest account is separate.
- Anticipated beginning cash at end of year: about $95K
- For the past 2 years, each committee has come in way under budget.
- How to Calculate Reserve: (Currently $50K) Marjorie suggests taking the bare minimum we must spend to keep the lights on and contractors paid, then add 10%. it doesn't go in a separate account; it's merely a line on the balance sheet.
    - Back of envelope calculation: salary & contracts represent $18K; additional 10% round ups to $25K for Reserves
    - Chris MOVES that we keep a reserve fund of $25K; Judy seconds; unanimous approval.
- David requests $5K for Membership for recruitment and member appreciation.
- David MOVES we approve the budget as presented; Maria seconds; unanimous approval.

6. Board Recruitment

Maria's and Rolfe's possible candidates are a no-go, though Maria's may be interested in coming to a few meetings. Chris reminds us we can install new board members at any point during the year.

Rolfe reminds us we need much higher visibility, which will make recruitment easier.

7. Community grants

Zandile presents latest applications and rankings; asks us to approve CEVO's choices. John MOVES that we fund Proposals 1-9 & 11. Marge seconds; unanimously approved.

8. Good of the Order / New Business

Rolph has a question re Fruitvale Gas station, where there is a super bright signage that affects the people living on School Street. What to do?

Discussion: DIA shouldn't be the police. Determine who the owners are, talk to them informally; create a petition by residents and copy to Rebecca Dean and Friends of Sausal Creek.

9. Committees

Beautification - Ellipse sculpture has been installed at the Dimond Gateway. There will be a celebration on Saturday 3/21 from 11-12.

Economic & Business Development

We've received 9 applications for the storefront enhancement program. Mail Box, etc. is the most viable.

Adjourned at 9:01pm
Minutes prepared by Judith Klinger & David Gross