

Dimond Improvement Association

Board of Directors Meeting - March 10, 2022

Board Members Present:, Victoria Wake, Ryan Romaneski, Chris Harper, Alex Park, Erica Perez, David Gross, Jay Ashford, JoAnn Tracht-Rawson, Bret Peterson, Tomasz Finc, Julie Johnson, Kevin Whittinghill

Board Members Absent: Marjorie Jones, Zandile Christian, Lindsey Berking

Guests Present: Renia Webb, Councilmember Thao's office

The meeting was convened at 7:00 p.m.

1. Agenda approval.

ACTION: Approve the meeting agenda as presented. (Motion: Tomasz Seconded Chris; in favor, unanimous)

2. Minutes approval.

ACTION: Approve minutes from February DIA board meeting. (Holding off on approving until Lindsey makes corrections, will approve in the April meeting.)

3. Chair's report. Ryan asks that Board Members schedule a Check-In with Ryan if they haven't already done so. The April 14th Board Meeting will be in person, at the Library. Following Board elections, in May the board will reconstitute Committees and hold Board Officer elections - if board members want to switch up committees, please let Ryan know.

4. For the good of the order. Bret shares he's been keeping up with the housing element process that's going on in Oakland as part of the General Plan. He also reached out to Thao's office. Thao is focused on enhancing an infrastructure improvement district which, to enhance a sustainable revenue stream for affordable housing in Oakland, as well as an affordable housing overlay that is being discussed. This will be important when SB35 sunsets as it's a way to streamline affordable housing projects. They're also

thinking about adding 600 new units of transitional housing for the homeless population. He also solicited advice for areas in D4 that should be rezoned, so the board should strongly consider providing that. He also said they're particularly interested in housing that reduces car use and enhances public safety. Going forward, Bret would like us to have a discussion about ways the Board can encourage housing developments along the MacArthur transit corridor and decrease car use, with a plan to submit our wishes to the city.

5. District 4 report. Renia reports that they're doing some transitions in the Councilmember's office. Renia will be taking over for Matt Napoli from here on out. Renia reinforces that the office is looking for feedback and input on the housing element so that Councilmember Thao can fight for what the Board wants in the Dimond. Renia wants to thank us for participating in the Local Heros event as well. Renia also reports that Councilmember Thao has met with DOT a few times about the issue surrounding Botts' Dots installation, which DOT has been pushing back on. Renia suggests that now would be a good time to continue pushing for those in the areas the DIA wants as opposed to the "traffic calming" installations that DOT is proposing, which don't work as well to deter sideshows. Renia also shares that the EIR for Howard Terminal has been passed, so it will now move to the next phase of the process. Ryan adds that the Board has been trying to get graffiti abatement funds released as there are two projects ready to go as soon as the funds are available. Renia updates that Councilmember Thao is going to work on reallocating the funds so they can be released from the Councilmember's office. So that should be resolved soon. Victoria asks if there's a place where the Local Hero awards that have been listed that's publicly available. Renia will send that to Ryan.

6. ACTION: Bombera Letter of Support. Victoria raises that Bombera's liquor license is coming up for renewal. Daniel is aware that there is a neighbor that may be working to prevent it from being renewed. He suggests that the DIA can write a letter of support. Alex suggests tabling the motion and get a statement from the neighbor who is complaining. Kevin will email and get her statement.

ACTION: The board agrees to send a letter of support for Bombera's liquor license renewal after reviewing information from the complainant and the DIA votes in support. (Motion: Victoria, Seconded Alex; in favor, unanimous).

7. ACTION: Planning and Budgeting. Ryan shares the working version of the four different budget scenarios for 2022 for review and approval. Victoria asks to clarify if the budget with committee cuts that was submitted puts us "in the black." Ryan says yes. Erica asks if there's a process for if any of the committees want to spend outside their budget. Is there a process to petition for those? Ryan says yes, any extra budget needs to be approved by the board, and one way to do that is to tap into unspent funds from other committees.

ACTION: Approve budget proposal #2, drawing up to \$18,255 from our discretionary reserves. (Motion: Victoria Seconded JoAnn; in favor, unanimous).

8. ACTION: Dimond Shine Planning. Victoria shares that Saturday, March 26 from 9-1pm will be our first annual Dimond Shine Day. Victoria, Ryan, Alex, David and Lindsey are all leading it. The event committee has a goal to get 100 volunteers. There's some publicity underway already, some direct mail postcards, email blasts, paid social, A-frames, and a few other things. The committee will be assigning all of you to activities as it gets closer. The 6 activities are litter pickup, light pole painting, planter painting, mosaic cleanup, tree well weeding, and some other special projects. There are arrangements for other big things to be done like powerwashing, steam cleaning of the whole area, fire hydrant painting, and fixing the city-owned garbage cans.

Ryan urges board members to invite their friends and neighbors to the event. The committee has crafted two emails for you to send, one for individuals and one for groups, so all you have to do is pick one and send it.

Ryan says volunteers don't come cheap, so the Board will need to approve the use of surplus funds from other committee budgets for this year.

There's enough excess in the unused BACT funds, unused beautification funds, unused volunteer development funds, and the reallocation of community grant funds that can be tapped, and this would all pay for the balance of the marketing and advertising.

Action: Approve the \$6,100 budget for Dimond Shine Day marketing, reallocating funds from the Beautification, M&O, and CCI committee budgets. (Motion: JoAnn, Seconded Jay; in favor, unanimous).

9. Report: Board Recruitment. Chris provides an update on progress for Board Recruitment for FY22-23. There are three board members stepping down at the end of the year and one board member (Sara) stepped down early in her term. To continue to grow our board, the aim is to add five new board members, bringing board participation to 17. A larger board allows us to further distribute leadership on committees and events, which will help make this work more sustainable for all of us. The Recruitment and Elections committee is responsible for marketing and screening, but the Board is responsible for recruitment. This committee is asking every board member to identify at least one individual to speak with about board membership.

Chris asks that as the Dimond Shine Committee is recruiting volunteers, please look for people who might be interested in Board Membership.

Victoria asks who the four board members are that are leaving. Ryan informs us that it's JoAnn, Sara, Marjorie, and Tomasz.

10. Discussion: April General Meeting. As Ryan plans for our April general meeting, he will also start planning our Volunteer of the Year Awards and FY22-23 Board Elections. Jay has volunteered to serve on the Volunteer of the Year committee.

Jay shares that the Board may attempt to do a membership-only social meeting for the April General Meeting. The initial thought is to have a family friendly Dimond Slice pizza night in Dimond Park. There could be very light

programming with board elections and Volunteer of the Year Awards. Ryan suggests that programming could be light and could even post a link to vote so that the Board wouldn't need to hold an election in the park. Ryan suggests the Flavor Brigade ice cream cart would be fun as well. Victoria encouraged the planners to include more than Dimond Slice, given that Cybelle's hosts our security camera and Little Caesar's gives a generous donation to KDC every year. Ryan added that Carbona could be a fourth.

11. WIP Reports. *(from written reports)*

No updates in the WIP Reports for March.

Adjournment at 8:50

Minutes written by Lindsey Berking. Minutes approved 4/14.