

Dimond Improvement Association
Board meeting minutes, 1/14/16

Board members present at start of meeting: Zandile Christian, David Coleman, Fran Donohue, Craig Flanery, Julie Johnson, Marion Mills, Robert Raburn, Tom Rose, Jennifer Joey Smith, Daniel Swafford, JoAnn Tract-Rawson. **Arriving 7:05:** Victoria Wake

Guests: Holly Matson, Anne Purcell, Paul Cowley

Meeting was convened by Craig at 7:00 p.m.

1. December 10 Minutes.

ACTON: Minutes approved with two changes (Motion: Robert; Second: Daniel; yays, 10; abstention, 1)

2. Treasurer's Report. A written report was not presented but Julie reported that there was not much change in the bank accounts. Tax preparation is proceeding, including the issuance of 1099s.

3. WIP Reports.

Insurance. Daniel will ask Ruth Stroup for an estimate on Directors & Officers insurance.

Oaktoberfest. Kick-off meeting for 2016 is January 26 at 6:30 at Nama. One topic will be the possibility of holding a two-day event. Daniel noted that DB&PA has not received its proceeds check for the 2014 event.

Membership. Robert reported that the website sign-up is working again but is not accepting credit cards at this time.

Website. JoAnn reported that Jack Ha completed the CiviCRM update but did not program the automatic renewal notices. He also has not been paid and has not responded to JoAnn's attempts to contact him. JoAnn and Robert will get estimates from another vendor to complete the work. Daniel noted that he uses a Salesforce program that's free to non-profits.

Dimond Listserve. Joey now the monitors the listserve and handles queries and issues that come up. Kathleen Russell and Carol Lonergan continue to respond to requests to join the listserve.

Dimond Public Art. JoAnn reported that Querido Galdo has signed the contract and received his first payment. Utility box templates have been sent to him by North Star Visuals. Installation of art is expected in March.

Homeless & Panhandling. Tom and Zandile reported on recent incidents and communications with Talia Rubin, program analyst with the City's Department of Human Services, who works on homelesses and hunger issues. Zandile, Marion, David,

and Tom met with Talia on 12/14. They reviewed the City's *Homeless/Transient Issues Action Plan*, compiled by Hoang Banh, Neighborhood Services Coordinator. The plan includes, as strategies, to "encourage donating to organizations that assist homeless/transients" and "discourage giving to panhandlers"; and "clear [homeless] encampments on public property by contacting the Oakland Public Works Call Center." David and others followed up with calls, and two encampments were reportedly scheduled to be cleared.

4. Dimond Lights. Julie detailed the expenses she incurred on behalf of DIA for our support of the Dimond Lights event in December, including street closure permit, refreshments, and miscellaneous materials. The total came to \$502.08.

ACTION: Approve reimbursement to Julie of \$502.08 for Dimond Lights expenses. (Motion: Robert; Second: Joey; unanimously approved)

5. Nama meeting location. Board members heartily agreed that Nama has been very generous over the years to allow us to hold our meetings in its upstairs space free of charge, but it may not be possible for Nama to do so in the future. Zandile and Robert will explore how the arrangement might continue in a way satisfactory to Nama, including discussing with NCPC and Oaktoberfest, which also meet in the space. They will report at the February meeting.

6. Keep Dimond Clean. Zandile stated that the trash pick-up service provided by First Building Maintenance (FBM) five days a week has not been satisfactory over the last year or so. There was discussion of how best to proceed to assess and remedy the situation. Zandile, David, and Robert will talk further and likely arrange to meet with FBM. After that meeting, they will report back to the Board with their findings and recommendations.

7. Sequoia Elementary School Auction. Joey asked for volunteers to staff a DIA table at the upcoming auction the evening of February 6, 6:00-9:00 pm. Zandile, Victoria, and Marion volunteered. She also reported that the school was very appreciative that DIA is a sponsor of the fundraising event.

8. Dimond Mine After-school Art Program. Continuing a topic from the last meeting, Julie proposed that the DIA act as fiscal sponsor for Dimond Mine to receive and disburse the \$5,000 LEF Foundation grant it has been awarded for its free after-school art program. There was much discussion about whether and how DIA should assume this role, and its compatibility with our 501(c)3 status. Resolution was not reached, but Daniel, Robert, Julie, and Fran will talk further and meet with the Friends of Oakland Parks & Recreation to learn how they handle their fiscal sponsorships.

9. Neighborhood Steering Committee (NSC) & Head Royce. Holly Matson, Anne Purcell, and Paul Cowley, representatives from the NSC, spoke about their effort to appeal the recent approval by the City of Oakland's Planning Commission of changes to Head Royce School's Conditional Use Permit (CUP). The three areas of greatest concern are traffic on neighborhood streets, special events, and summer school sessions. The NSC

has 19 members representing about 350 homeowners. The committee would like a letter of support from the DIA and will contact Craig to make a formal request.

10. Board Retreat. Craig described the agenda for the January 24 retreat, which will include a business meeting, discussion of achievements and goals, and committee sessions. A potluck dinner will follow.

11. Laney College internship. There was insufficient time to address this item.

Adjournment.

ACTION: The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m. (Motion: JoAnn; Second: Tom; unanimous)

Next Board meeting: February 11, 2016

Minutes submitted by Victoria Wake