

**Dupont Circle Citizens Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Aug 26, 2021**

Present: (via videoconference/phone) Susan Volman, Marcy Logan, , Nick Manning, Rebecca Martin, Lance Salonia, Joe Caruso, Diane Quinn, Glenn Engelmann, Tom Reiter (partial time), Charlie Ellis

Not Present: Britt Bepler, Nick Manning

Meeting was called to order at 7:05

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Susan moved to approve the July 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Rebecca, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report

- Susan distributed the treasurer's report prior to the meeting. Lance reports there were very few expenditures, except garden supplies and monthly bills, so no significant change in balance.

President's Report

- Susan reached out to BID to for a conversation about Connecticut Avenue Development. Joe will be in town to join, Tom will be out of town for most of September.

ABRA Report

- *Signature Lounge:* There were negotiations in good faith – the ANC and DCCA accepted a proposal from the operator's attorney and the operator then declined the agreement. The ANC has since asked for the license to be refused whereas the DCCA protest has a list of conditions including no promoters. So far, no decision has been made by ABRA.
- *Fireplace:* Waiting on the operator's lawyer to respond with comments to the agreement. DCCA will continue to push. If it progresses to a hearing DCCA may need to consider hiring a lawyer with other involved parties contributing to the cost.
- *Duffy's:* Duffy's has opened. Prior to opening a settlement agreement was quickly negotiated with owner (no promoters and full menu available as late as 10:00 to be sure it operates as a tavern and not a nightclub). DCCA submitted it but ANC delayed approval and the ANC has not been responsive.
- *Butter Me Up:* DCCA liaison Kenlee Ray is taking the lead on this. DCCA protested on peace order and quiet based on the outdoor hours in a residential neighborhood. Protest letters have been submitted and the protestors intend to get together after the roll call to discuss. At the ANC meeting, they decided that any settlement agreement will need to go to the full ANC for approval after being negotiated by the parties. The Board discussed and will monitor how the talks go and get involved as needed. DCCA is concerned with outside hours, primarily, but would also go along with reduced inside hours if the more immediate neighbors want that.

Transportation Committee

- **17th Street NOI:** Discussion to write a letter to express concern about the future development.
- **17th Street letter:** The Board discussed final revisions to the draft of the 17th Street Bike Lane letter.

ACTION ITEM: Susan will edit and submit the revised 17th Street letter.

- **Parklet:** City has a program to do a parklet but cannot fund – question of whether DCCA might want to apply for use of the public space and design and upkeep. The Board determined it's too early to know the layout of the street with the Bike Lane and Streateries still in development.

Regulatory Committee

- **Masonic Temple development:** Board Members reported a number of issues about recent work being down at the site
 - Multiple board members shared environmental concerns, reported on significant shaking of their own homes and homes of neighbors and DCCA members.
 - A former DCCA board member (Barry Karas) sent a request for DCCA to provide financial support for a legal effort to address concerns about environmental infractions that may be happening on the Masonic Temple residential development site. A discussion was had about what legal action or support if any DCCA would want to be involved in.
 - Concerns were expressed about environmental and geophysical regulations and guidelines not being followed at the site and the impact that could have on the neighborhood.

MOTION: Rebecca made a motion to move forward with looking into the temple project to ensure all geophysical and environmental regulations are being followed and for DCCA to commit resources, as deemed necessary, to explore the issue. Diane seconded the motion, all in favor.

ACTION ITEM: Diane will draft a letter to send to DCRA and copy Joe Florio, Brian Romanowski and Brooke Pinto to make them aware that we have heard from members about the construction causing severe shaking of their homes and letting them know it is intolerable and well beyond what is typical. The request will be for attention and investigation into the issue.

ACTION ITEM: Diane will connect Lance with an attorney who can offer some guidance on the issue. Susan, Diane, Lance, and Glenn will do a call with him. Glenn will reach out to Doug Melcher to determine if he has expertise on these issues.

- **Input on Historic Preservation Plan -** Historic Preservation Plan link has been circulated. Board members will review and discuss the plan at the next meeting and determine whether they want to submit any comment(s).

Programming –

- October – Mendelson –

***ACTION ITEM:** Charlie will follow up with Mendelson's office*

Committee and Task Assignments:

- **HT Committee needs to meet:** Joe, Britt and Susan will meet in the future.

***ACTION ITEM:** Susan will send the HT guidebook to that team. Erica will find out if there is an updated planner from 2018.*

Other Business

- **100th Anniversary:** A brochure was produced for the 75th and maybe we should do something like that again – address our history – have a gala, have a house tour,

Next meeting: September 23

Meeting ends at 8:47