

**Dimond Improvement Association  
Board meeting minutes, 2/11/16**

**Board members present:** Zandile Christian, Fran Donohue, Craig Flanery, Julie Johnson, Marion Mills, Jennifer Joey Smith, Daniel Swafford, JoAnn Tract-Rawson, Victoria Wake  
**Absent:** David Coleman, Robert Raburn, Tom Rose **Guests:** J.W. Chew, Jeffrey Maxwell

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

**1. January 14 Minutes.**

ACTON: Minutes approved (Motion: Daniel; Second: Fran; yays, 8; abstention, 1)

**2. Treasurer's Report.** Julie passed out a report on the DIA's accounts as of January 24.

**3. WIP Reports.**

*Insurance.* Daniel has asked Ruth Stroup at Farmers Insurance for an estimate on Directors & Officers insurance, but has not received a response.

*Oaktoberfest.* Daniel reported that the committee is continuing its exploration of expanding the event to two days. Committee members are talking with key businesses to assess their support and identify any concerns and how they might be addressed. Daniel will report at the next Board meeting and the Board will weigh in on the decision as part of its approval process for the event contract.

*Membership.* At least three new members were gained at the Sequoia Elementary School auction earlier in the month. Joey and other committee members will develop talking points for board members' use in recruiting.

*City Council updates.* Adam announced that council office hours will be held at Hive the first Saturday of every month from 10am to noon. He also reported that Annie's office is hoping to act as informal mediator between Head-Royce School and the Neighborhood Steering Committee to help resolve issues related to the school's recently amended conditional use permit.

*Website.* JoAnn and Robert have spoken with potential contractors experienced in Drupal about working on the website. The likely costs appear to be about \$600+ for assessment and some thousands to do the work. There was discussion of possibly moving to Salesforce's free program for non-profits, which Daniel uses with the three other non-profits he runs. The topic will be placed on the March agenda and Craig will speak to JoAnn and Robert in the meantime.

*NCPC 22X.* JoAnn attended the February meeting and reported that the group's 2016 priority objectives include having the community police officer present in the Dimond more, leash law enforcement, traffic safety at Dimond Ave. and MacArthur Blvd., and increasing evening police patrols.

*Dimond Public Art.* JoAnn reported that the utility box art is expected to be installed in time for the art walk on March 13.

*Keep Dimond Clean.* Zandile reported that First Building Maintenance is doing a better job on its trash pick-up days and is making an effort to meet the expectations of the DIA.

**4. Fiscal Sponsorship Policy.** A draft standard contract, based on the contract used by Friends of Oakland Parks & Recreation, was circulated to the Board by Julie prior to the meeting and discussed at length at the meeting. Also discussed were the particulars of entering into a fiscal sponsor contract with Dimond Mine for its after school arts program.

ACTION. Approved the contract form to serve as a model for contracts with specific entities, following some typographical clean-up and the preparation of a check request form to be incorporated. (Motion: Julie; Second: Daniel; unanimous)

ACTION. Approved the DIA's acting as fiscal sponsor for Dimond Mine for its after school arts program, initially entailing receipt and disbursement of grant funds from the LEF Foundation. (Motion: JoAnn; Second: Daniel; unanimous)

**5. Dimond Art Walk.** Julie reported on the development of the first in a series of art events Dimond Mine and the DIA's Dimond Public Art committee are working on. It will take place on March 13.

ACTION. Approved allocating \$50 to be a sponsor of the art walk. (Motion: Victoria; Second: Joey; unanimous)

**6. Dimond Public Art funding.** Following up on a goal articulated at the January Board retreat, the merits of establishing an ongoing source of funding for public art projects were further discussed.

ACTION. Approved designating 15 percent of the DIA's proceeds from Oaktobertfest each year to the Dimond Public Art budget for art projects in the Dimond. (Motion: JoAnn; Second: Marion; unanimous)

**7. New restaurant in Dimond.** J. W. Chew (chef) and Jeffrey Maxwell (accountant) spoke about their new restaurant venture planned for the vacant space next to McDonald's. TheVegHub will be a vegan sit-down and take-out restaurant that will also offer after-school and evening classes aimed at teaching youth (and their parents) about healthy cooking and eating. The Board offered its welcome and support. Joey will write a letter to the owner of the building stating the DIA's enthusiasm and support for the new business.

**8. Board Retreat follow-up.** Elements and roles at the April 6 General Meeting were discussed. Zandile and Marion will determine the recognition for the Volunteer of the Year award, which will be given to the Keep Dimond Clean volunteers as a whole. Julie and Marion will work out the acknowledgement gifts for three recently retired board members. Victoria will run the Board election at the meeting.

**Adjournment.** ACTION: The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m. (Motion: Julie; Second: Zandile; unanimous)

**Next Board meeting:** March 10, 2016

*Minutes submitted by Victoria Wake*