

Grandmont Community Association
Grandmont: Detroit's Home of Good Neighbors
P.O. Box 27790, Detroit, Michigan 48227

GRANDMONT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
DATE: April 2, 2022 TIME: 10AM PLACE: Zoom
April 2022 Minutes

I. **CALL TO ORDER: 10:11am**

II. **Board Members Present: Edward Smith, Ethel Smith, Robert Patterson, Josh Engle, Larissa Richardson, Samantha Bonaparte, Diane Patterson, Krystal Thurmond,**

Board Members Absent: Cora Duncan-Foster, Joyce Tatum

Committee Chairs / Community Members Present: Carly Adams, Kevin Harris on behalf of Wayne Country Clerk Cathy Garrett, Debra McIntosh-Parnell, Alex Van Hoth, Sharon Shaw, Aaron Hall, Jenise Collins, Yolanda Burnett, Paula Duren

III. **CHANGES TO / ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: Ethel Moved to approve March Minutes, Josh Seconded**

IV. **OFFICERS' REPORTS:**

A. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

1. Asphalt Plant fight continues, monthly strategy meetings (April 5) and the hearing date is May 17
2. So many resources to get help with this issue. Wayne County will not be foreclosing on property taxes from 2017-2019.
3. Save the Dates for Community Events - Elections are coming up with the Annual Meeting - if you are interested or know a neighbor who might be connect with Larissa Krystal or Cora
4. Submitting Budgets will be discussed in the Treasurer's report - thank you for those of you who submitted your budget requests!

B. **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: no report**

C. **TREASURER'S REPORT: Budget Update**

1. **End of Month (Feb.28) Began with Savings: \$5809.71, Checking \$2611.03 (Income of member dues, advertising revenue, board reserve transfers from checking to savings and savings interest) Checking Final: \$3336.11 Savings Final: \$5900.60**
2. **February Expenses: \$130.84 for Holiday Luncheon paid, service fee for bank of \$5, \$50 to Advertising Manager, after those expenses Checking is at \$3100.27**
3. **March 30, 2022- Checking: \$3921.27; Savings \$6,190.60**
4. **Grandmonitor Budget: Broke down ad revenue and stipend for ad manager and printing cost. Outlining shortfall and how much will need to be covered by dues in order to - continue with print edition of the Grandmonitor... Suggestions to either increase ad rates, more aggressive dues collection strategies (7-8 dues per street)**
5. **Social Planning Budget proposal (Annual Meeting, Garden Tour, Holiday Luncheon): Recommendations approved for \$1300 for Annual Meeting, \$320 for Garden Tour, Seeking revised number for Holiday Luncheon**
6. **Youth And Education \$775 for 5 events (reading in the park, youth expo, family fun day, hat and glove drive, backpack supply) approve part of budget request for \$260 for underlined events**
7. **Beautification - refreshing planters, spring cleaning \$1200**
8. **Robert shared that we should emphasize the Youth and Education events, spend towards those rather than the appreciation luncheon or beautification (recommends keeping beautification at \$250 for now)**
9. **Diane shared that we need to have a focus on the street and block captains and better coordination and participation, Larissa shared that we need to respect and acknowledge the people who do show up. Diane shared we need to have something other than a drive by for appreciation.**

D. **MEMBERSHIP REPORT: no report**

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V. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Standing):

A. ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR (Jomo King): no report

B. BEAUTIFICATION (Larissa Richardson):

1. April 9 - Detroit Partnership Day Ramsey Park (10am - 2pm)
2. May 7 - Motor City Makeover Date (Time TBD, but after GCA Board Meeting)
3. April 12 at 6pm next beautification meeting via Zoom
4. June 4- Flower Day - pick up the flowers and redistribute throughout the
5. Southfield Service Drive Cleanup - City of Detroit hosting event April 22 Time TBD (Earth Day)

C. ENVIRONMENTAL/VACANT PROPERTY TASK FORCE (Harrison Duke III & Diane Patterson):

1. VPTF Updates-Meeting on March 15 (\$920 for Rose Sale - split amongst the 5 neighborhoods) 22 possible foreclosures, Ombudsman for environmental issues Mr. Simpson, working to purchase lot on Archdale from the Land Bank,
2. Environmental Updates - Our community has not had a complete bulk pickup by Waste Management for over 3 weeks. Harrison has made many calls to try to solve the problem, awaiting a response from a supervisor. Cora is assisting on this issue. Woodmont particularly has a problem with bulk sitting on the curb for weeks.

D. GRANDMONITOR (Sandi Miller):

1. Larissa shared on behalf of Sandi - John our printer has had costs increase 18%, Recommend that we do an 8 page print on the Grandmonitor every other month (900 copies) \$1300 cost; 12 page online edition on the other months.

2. Advertising Grandmonitor (Phil Foster): no report

E. GRDC (Jomo King/Kevin Johnson): still looking for Executive Director, seeking to replace a member on the board since Charlotte stepped down, have suggested 2 people. Mixed use development still happening, Farmer's Market coming back

F. RAMSAY PARK (Edward Smith): April 9 Clean Up 10am-2pm. Please bring gloves, tools, and leaf bags! Seeking Volunteers! The University of Michigan will not be helping us this year with volunteers sadly. City came this week to clean the berm of the park.

G. RIPPLING HOPE (Cora Duncan-Foster):

1. There will be a Rippling Hope Meeting for all neighborhoods that have been involved with this organization for the last eleven years. The meeting will be held next Saturday, April 9th at the Rippling Hope Building from 9:30am-11:00am. At this time, this year's process and procedures will be discussed. All applications from the past two years are being removed from the system. The Rippling Hope Home Repair Program will start fresh in 2022-23 with limited capacity based on a reduced number of volunteers. Please remember that their work year runs from June 1, 2022-May 31, 2023. A college group from the Cleveland Area has confirmed to arrive here May 17-21st with 15 volunteers. HumanitarianXp, a Mormon service group will come to Detroit for 5 weeks this summer with each week being a different group. There should be 16 youth and adults each week. This should generate \$24,000 in 5 weeks. This will require Rippling Hope to have groups housed at 2 sites which includes Northwestern Christian Church and the Rippling Hope Building. Groups basically come in on Saturday evening and leave the following Saturday morning with the next group arriving that evening. This group coming would also allow volunteers to serve many more people.

H. SCHOLARSHIP (Cora Duncan-Foster):

1. I received a \$200 check scholarship donation in memory of Mark McCrae from Mr. Frank T. Peterson. Now, the scholarship total is \$1,705.35. A thank you has been written and will be sent to Mr. Peterson. Rayana Reno, a Grandmont graduating senior, received the scholarship application. Jasmine, her mother, emailed that her daughter is working on completing her application. I will tell Rayana and Jasmine that they can volunteer at the Ramsay Park Cleanup next week. The scholarship committee will meet soon to discuss logistics.
2. Donations are always accepted. Please mail to Grandmont Community Association Attention: Scholarship, P.O. Box 27790, Detroit, MI 48227

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- I. SAFETY/SECURITY (Joyce Tatum):** remind folks about scout crew at the 8th precinct
April 4. Please report any abandoned cars by April 2, at 4pm. Invited to the bowling event for DPD neighborhood liaison Saturday, May 21 1-5pm
 - J. SOCIAL PLANNING (Krystal Thurmond):**
 - 1. 9 Cards sent out for Sunshine Committee
 - 2. Garden Tour Date: Saturday, July 30, 12-4pm Tickets will be sold at Annual Meeting, Board Meetings and day of event. Grandmont No. 1 and Rosedale Park gardens will also be participating.
 - 3. Annual Meeting Saturday, July 9, 12-4pm with Same set up as last year and the addition of the Reading Event. Seeking volunteers beginning next month.
 - 4. **Re: the Budget requests** - what amounts have been allocated for the Annual Mtg., the Garden Tour and the Holiday luncheon? Also, has the SPC budget & the Memorials/Recognition budget been increased or remained the same? - some of that was addressed earlier, Memorials/recognition has not changed
 - K. STREET & BLOCK CAPTAINS (Jibreel Tatum):** no report
 - L. YOUTH AND EDUCATION (Jenise Collins):**
 - 1. A proposed Y&E budget was sent to the Board Treasurer (Robert) and President (Larissa) for review.
 - 2. Still accepting submissions for The Grandmonitor for the *Youth Spotlight*.
 - 3. Dr. DeLean Tolbert from STEM Intervention was a featured speaker at the Detroit D1 virtual meeting hosted by Councilman James Tate. She gave a very wonderful presentation and updates to her program.
 - 4. **Edison Elementary School: PTA Update:** March was Reading month. Books were donated on behalf of the Y&E committee. We are still waiting on a copy of the Parking and After School dismissal plan, so it can be included in The Grandmonitor, to inform residents. *The school is looking for volunteers to help with dismissal.*
 - 5. **Youth & Education Events/Annual Meeting Collaboration:** Reading in Ramsay Park/Youth Expo/Family Fun Day activities, will take place during the Annual Meeting on July 9th at Ramsay Park. Aaron Hall from Councilman James Tate's office, has students who can volunteer but need to be done by 11:30am. University of Detroit Mercy is interested in being a partner.
 - 6. Upcoming events: April is poetry month, Hat and Glove Drive in November, Backpack/supply drive in August TBD
 - 7. The next meeting will take place on April 9, 2022 at 10am via Zoom. Please reach out for zoom link info.
 - M. SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**
 - 1. **WEBSITE (vacant):**
 - 2. **SOCIAL MEDIA (Samantha Bonaparte):** no report
- VI. ACCEPTANCE OF ALL REPORTS:** Ethel moved to accept all reports, Krystal seconds.
- VII. PUBLIC COMMENT:**
- A. Ed Smith reminded us of cleanup next Saturday
 - B. Debra McIntosh-Parnell asked about the volunteers from Aaron Hall's connection
 - C. Kevin Harris on behalf of Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett- he is the representative in the field Kharris1@waynecounty.com and 313-974-5137, birth, marriage, death certificates and permits help
 - D. Aaron Hall shared about trash pickup rules, Dossin Elementary event Men Reading with students 37 volunteers, requested more information about trees being cut down - dead trees, black impala speeding through neighborhood and the DPD will be giving that area special attention and providing signs
- VIII. OLD BUSINESS:**

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- A. **Decision made on minimum and maximum page size of Grandmonitor (tabled discussion from last month)**

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Robert has a problem with Garden Tour proceeds going to Scholarship, however that is what the event has historically gone to. Diane thinks the board should have more of a say as to where the money goes. We don't have other fundraising events. Larissa said that the Scholarship committee chair is not on - this discussion should be tabled so committees that are relevant to the conversation can have those discussions (Scholarship and Beautification/Garden Club). The scholarship will be given out this year to at least one student in the community!**
- B. **Community interest in reforestation/tree planting in the community (under beautification)**
- C. **Reminder that they are still accepting donations of candy for the Easter Egg Event at North Rosedale Park - Contact Jocelyn Moss, GRDC Operations who is coordinating all donations.**
- D. **Zoom or in person meeting on May 7 - Diane moves to have the May 7 is at Ramsay Park (zoom available) Ethel seconded. Adopted**
- E. **Chaney Library should reopen in Mid May! Community Garden meeting April 19 at 10am- meet and greet at the lot on Archdale/Grand River behind the White Castle. Boy Scouts could volunteer**

X. ADJOURNMENT: Diane moved to adjourn, Krystal seconded at 11:57am

NEXT MEETING: May 7, 2022 at 10AM at Ramsay Park (zoom option)