

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

GRANDMONT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: February 5, 2022 TIME: 10AM PLACE: Zoom
February 2022 MINUTES

- I. CALL TO ORDER: 10:04 am**
- II. Board Members Present: Edward Smith, Ethel Smith, Cora Duncan-Foster, Robert Patterson, Josh Engle, Larissa Richardson, Samantha Bonaparte, Diane Patterson, Krystal Thurmond, Joyce Tatum**
- Board Members Absent: none**
- Committee Chairs / Community Members Present: Jenise Collins and Justin, Janet Adams, James Liddell, Charlotte Wright, Representative Stephanie Young, Carla White-Smith, Yolanda Burnett, Ishmail Terry, Debra McIntosh Parnell, P. Wilz, Harrison Duke**
- III. CHANGES TO / ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: Cora moved to accept the minutes, Joyce seconded. Approved by common consent.**
- IV. OFFICERS' REPORTS:**
- A. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Happy BHM and Early Happy Valentine's Day! During this winter, try to connect with neighbors about snow removal service. Community meeting for DTE follow up on Zoom on February 17 at 6pm. GRDC is still searching for Executive Director, any candidates reach out to Kathy Garrett. Charlotte Wright will be stepping down from the GRDC board and we will be sharing someone to replace her spot for Grandmont. Asphalt Plant will be appealing the denial for the plant hearing on 2/13 at 10 am, can also email your concerns to the city. Rep. Stephanie Young shared that there will also be a strategy meeting
- B. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**
1. I attended the second GRDC NAC (Neighborhood Advisory Council) Senior Mixed Use Housing which is the IHOP Development. Each of us completed a survey. We were asked our age range, number of years we lived in Grandmont Rosedale Development Corp., and had to pick five top priorities from fourteen. The five I selected were: accessibility (wheelchair); fitness (recreation); food & Nutrition; and safety/security. Most of the council selected the same ones as I did. The other priorities were just as important. We were asked words that describe the GRDC Community. My answer was: the GRDC Community work together for the betterment of our five communities. I mentioned we support each other's events like the art fair, movie night, Reading in Ramsay Park, and Funday. There were many suggestions of a name for this building. There will be a GRDC Senior Mixed Use Development Virtual Public Meeting on Wednesday, February 23rd, 5:30pm-7:30pm.
 2. It is important that you attend Stephanie A. Young's Community Conversation to discuss the New State House Districts, on Zoom, Monday, February 14th @ 10:00am. The topic will be housing and homelessness. She will address rental and mortgage evictions and foreclosures, affordable housing, and homelessness prevention.
- C. TREASURER'S REPORT:**
1. **Income side 12-31-2021** \$5547.71–Checking end of month \$7078.51– Savings end of month
 2. Expense side 12-31-2021 After payments to Grandmonitor printing, bank fee, GM advertising chair and one snow service payment Checking – \$3547.51, Savings – \$7078.51
 3. Income side for 11-30-2021 Savings–\$6927.33, Checking – \$6262.77
 4. Expense side 11-30-2021 Savings–\$6927.33, Checking – \$5518.71
- D. MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** PayPal total \$763.71; Memberships paid for 2021: 223 and 2022: 93 Will be transferring PayPal account to checking soon
- V. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Standing):**

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- A. ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR (Jomo King):** no report
- B. BEAUTIFICATION (Larissa Richardson):** no report
- C. ENVIRONMENTAL/VACANT PROPERTY TASK FORCE (Harrison Duke III & Diane Patterson):**
1. No report from Harrison Duke for Environmental
 2. Diane shared that she got an email from District 7 Wayne County Commissioner about free spaying and neutering. Karla (Williamson) and Kya (Richardson) are doing a Fire Safety meeting 2/17 at 5:30 via zoom for City Council District 1 the same night as the DTE zoom meeting. Need to register with Carla.
 3. VPTF: Rose sale sold out! Crime alert for vacant houses in neighborhood breaking and entering but not major damage. (Rutland and Longacre) Two homes on Archdale that are investment properties that have had problems. Home on Rutland St. with a mess in the backyard visible due to the removal of a burned out portable trailer at Edison School. Worked with Councilman Tate to get that done.
 4. 16401 Grand River concerns about the blocking of the alley. Diane has reached out to Councilman Tate and also to Inspector Veseay.
- D. GRANDMONITOR (Sandi Miller):** Larissa reported on behalf of Sandi that we will be doing a shorter version due to paper shortage. Deadline for articles 2/12!
1. **Advertising Grandmonitor (Phil Foster):** Ad income for December 2021 and January 2022: \$445; Debts collectable: \$195
- E. GRDC (Jomo King/Kevin Johnson/vacancy):** Still looking for Executive Director, Will need another representative for Grandmont on the board.
- F. RAMSAY PARK (Edward Smith):** Thanks to Robert and Diane for the information about the burned out portable trailer. Challenging to get that done but we did! Detroit Partnership day has been established as April 9, 2022. VistaCorps and U of M have contacted Ed about volunteers. He has requested 15-20 volunteers. Want to do a clean up of Ramsay Park on April 9th to coincide with DP day! Disappointed about the city not getting the sidewalks shoveled by the park.
- G. RIPPLING HOPE (Cora Duncan-Foster):** Cora is the new secretary for the Rippling Hope Board for 2022 year. 12-16 Boston College Students will service free home repair between March 6-11, 2022. Asks those receiving services to provide a meal for those volunteers. Also anticipating groups of volunteers from other colleges in Illinois and Kansas. Motown Mission sends volunteers twice a week to help. Carl Zerweck is partnering with local and state representatives who will be renting space at the center. He is also planning meetings with community chairs and block captains to seek ways to service those who were not serviced two years ago. Free paint, cat litter and dog food available Distribution is the first Tuesday of each month from Noon-2:00 pm. The second day is the first Saturday of each month from 10:00 am-Noon. March 5 cleanup date at the center!
- H. SCHOLARSHIP (Cora Duncan-Foster):** The Scholarship Committee will be having a meeting soon. The Scholarship Committee appreciates all donations! Now, the GCA Scholarship Total is \$1,505.35. At this time the scholarship will be strictly from private donations from residents and friends. Donations are always accepted. Please mail to Grandmont Community Association Attention: Scholarship, P.O. Box 27790, Detroit, MI 48227.
- I. SAFETY/SECURITY (Joyce Tatum):** Chief James White was the guest at their quarterly meeting. Plans to invest in cameras to help investigate freeway shootings. Citizens Academy starting soon and you can contact the officers Mike Jaafar- 313-477-3434 or Chf Robert Dunlap 313-220-6070. Call NPO if people are parking on their lawns. Shot Spotter expanding, call 911 if you are hearing shots fired. Keith Williams from Sheriff Washington's office is who to call 313-957-8962 if you are suspicious of marijuana grow houses. Organized Crime - Gang Unit- Lt. Wheatley-313-596-8876. Please reach to him if you have any issues with gangs or any questions Contact Joyce with any concerns, she's also helping shovel snow in vacant properties or anyone else who needs it. Diane asked for new commanders, etc. for 8th precinct leaders for our knowledge. Commander Brian Harris for 8th Precinct.
- J. SOCIAL PLANNING (Krystal Thurmond):**
1. Sunshine Club: 7 assorted cards have gone out since 01/08/2022
 2. Should an article be submitted to the Grandmonitor to share the updated time/date/location of the Annual Business Meeting

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3. Purchasing items for the Grandmont Holiday Luncheon The items that have been purchased totaled \$205.84. Because of taking advantage of the 60-90% discounts, \$845.68 was saved ! Because Meijer gave me a gift card for \$75 for accidentally selling items that were put aside for me, I've chosen to donate that amount to the GCA treasury, thus reducing the amount I am requesting to \$130.84. An accounting is given below.

K. STREET & BLOCK CAPTAINS (Jibreel Tatum): Planning a meeting soon for street and block captains.

L. YOUTH AND EDUCATION (Jenise Collins):

1. Edison Elementary School Update: Students have just returned back to in-person learning and will receive the hat and glove donations. The PTA meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The Y&E committee will have representation in attendance. Edison Elementary is also looking for volunteers to help with traffic at pick-up and drop-off at the school. If there is anyone that is interested in assisting, please let Jenise know.
2. The Y&E Committee is looking for submissions to highlight youth and youth organizations that are doing outstanding things in our community in The Grandmonitor. If you would like to submit information about outstanding youth or youth organizations, please forward that information to gcayouthandeducation@gmail.com.
3. Dr. DeLean Tolbert Smith "Dr.Dele", a Professor at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, who grew up in North Rosedale Park and is a current resident of Rosedale Park, is hosting Inventing History, a six-week course that introduces 6th grade students and their families to African American STEM history.
4. The next meeting will take place on Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 10am via Zoom. All are welcome to attend. Please reach out for Zoom link information.
5. Can Jenise ask the Principal of Edison for events at the school so we can advertise in Grandmonitor and can support? Krystal asked

M. SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

1. **WEBSITE (vacant):** Have advertised for a new webmaster in Grandmonitor and on Facebook. Met with a vendor for a potential website developer...Still working on it. Josh suggested something like SquareSpace to help with website design - easy and less costly according to him.
2. **SOCIAL MEDIA (Samantha Bonaparte):** no report

VI. ACCEPTANCE OF ALL REPORTS: Cora moved to accept all reports. Krystal seconded. Accepted by common consent.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT:

A. Rep. Stephanie Young stephanieyoung@house.mi.gov 517.373.3815

1. Monthly hosting of her Community Conversation to discuss the New State House Districts, on Zoom, Monday, February 14th @ 10:00am. The topic will be housing and homelessness. She will address rental and mortgage evictions and foreclosures, affordable housing, and homelessness prevention.
2. Introducing legislation to expand what 16 year olds can do due to labor shortage. Helping folks get their unemployment benefits. Can contact her office with any problems or delay in benefits . Proposed legislation that to help provide data on assisted living facilities and rehabilitation centers surrounding COVID deaths, but not support from both parties. It turns out that there was not an undercount of COVID deaths at nursing homes, but lawmakers are seeking more accurate accounting and reporting as well as more information asked for.
3. Rep. Young shared about the changes in the maps after redistricting and expressed her disappointment that Grandmont will no longer be a part of her district.
4. Josh Engel asked follow up questions about the COVID deaths.

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5. Robert Patterson asked about Chaney Library and what Rep. Young could do to help us. Gridlock between DPSCD and the City of Detroit for the Library system. Library system is understaffed right now. We have a surplus in the budget so this is a priority for Rep. Young.

B. 16401 Grand River owned by the same owner as Quite Nice - someone asked what it will be - staying engaged with the owners. No specific plans but they are updating the building.

C. **Ishmail Terry** allfouronedetroit@gmail.com 313.378.8474 teamterry2022@gmail.com

1. He serves on (ZAG) Zoning Advisory Group so he is quite familiar with the asphalt plant situation. Concerns about the environmental impacts due to residents with asthma, bronchitis, etc. They say that there will be silos that will capture pollutants. They pledged 5-10% giving to the community or giving for Motor City Makeover. Hopeful that many people will come to these meetings to get involved.

2. He is also running for state house district 16 due to the redistricting. He has done a lot to develop in the city, 26 years of experience. Legislative Policy Director when Stephanie came to Lansing. Born and Raised in Detroit.

3. Ed Smith asked if the redistricting was final - yes.

D. Josh Engle shared that he's having a hard time dealing with the City of Detroit. Also wanted to report that the numbers for COVID are down. Larissa shared that Tanisha the D1 Business Liaison might be helpful to him.

E. Welcoming Debra and Janet on to the meeting

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

A. GCA fundraising - GCA paraphernalia update-pause for now

B. Dues envelope update- Larissa, Robert and Charlotte will connect about this.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Reimbursement for Krystal of \$130.84

1. Cora moved to reimburse Krystal \$130.84 for 2022 Holiday Luncheon expenses. Diane seconded. All in favor, none opposed.

B. Zoom or in person meeting in March?

1. Joyce moved to have the GCA meeting via zoom. Krystal seconded. All in favor, none opposed.

X. ADJOURNMENT: 11:53am

NEXT MEETING: March 5, 2022 at 10AM