

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

GRANDMONT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: February 6, 2021 **TIME:** 10AM **PLACE:** Zoom

February 2021 Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER: 10:07AM

Board Members In Attendance: Samantha Bonaparte, Larissa Richardson, Ottumn Kennedy, Cora Duncan-Foster, Ethel Smith, Robert Patterson, Krystal Thurmond, Sean Novak

Community Members/Committee Chairs: Sandra Rideaux-Miller, Yelena Ramutar (office of Councilman Tate), James Tate, Joyce Tatum, Diane Patterson, Jenise and Justin Collins, Lorenzo Blount, Mark McCrae, Janet, Kenyetta Yarbrough, Chelsea Salame, Tommie Obioha

Board Members Not Present: Charity Dean, Edward Smith, Josh Engle

II. CHANGES TO / ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

A. Cora moved to approve, Ethel Seconded

III. CHANGES TO / ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

A. Cora moved to approve, Ethel Seconded

IV. OFFICERS' REPORTS:

A. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Absent due to loss in family

B. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: No report

C. TREASURER'S REPORT: Has report of funds until Mid-January.

1. Month Ending December 31, 2020 Income: none other than savings interest in Savings 1.09
Final balance Savings: \$6406.53, Expenses: Website fees, Street Snow Service Payments #2 (\$1500) Total expenses was \$1654.00 leaving Checking account month end balance of \$1427.77

2. Mid Month Estimate (1/12/2021) for January Checking: \$2179.55, Savings \$4936.53 after transfers of pre paid dues from Savings for 2021 dues and some paypal and check deposits. Major expenses include last snow service payment and printing of Grandmonitor, Grandmonitor Ad manager fee, Webmaster fees.

D. MEMBERSHIP REPORT: \$246.46 PayPal, 2/3/2021

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V. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Standing):

A. ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR (Jomo King): No Report

B. BEAUTIFICATION (Larissa Richardson): March 9 is the first meeting of Beautification
-Schedule of committee meetings will be: April 13th, May 11th, June 8th, July 13th, August 10th,
September 14th.

1. Submitted an application for the city of Detroit's Alley Clean Up program for the alley walk through will happen in April

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

1. Diane has brought an impact letter for Bushnell Church [Bushnell GCA Impact Statement.docx](#) - new business
2. Sign on Southfield and Kendall was knocked down/planter needs replacement, some street lights have been knocked down - Improve Detroit requests
3. Sent out reminder about Trash receptacles on the berm vs. street for snow removal
4. Welcome packet ready for new neighbor
5. Samantha asked about Asbury Park/Grand River business smashed up - got in touch with owner - business owners meeting Police Commissioner for D1 has also owned property in the area

D. GRANDMONITOR (Sandi Miller): Will report out on committee discussion- in new business

1. Advertising Grandmonitor (Phil Foster): Will share out report and new language about advertising rates to be shared with businesses
 1. Prices have changed for advertisements to reflect new printing/publishing schedules and for "EVENT ADS" business may have. Rates will be posted in Grandmonitor and Online

E. GRDC (Jomo King/Charlotte Wright): no report submitted

F. RAMSAY PARK (Edward Smith): No report submitted

G. RIPPLING HOPE (Cora Duncan-Foster): The Rippling Hope Board met Thursday, February 4th.
Groups may be coming; it depends on Pandemic. Free Paint hours will be opening up soon.

H. SCHOLARSHIP (Cora Duncan-Foster): Now, the GCA Scholarship Total is \$1,055.35.

I. SAFETY/SECURITY (James Liddel- Grandmont Patrol, currently vacant):

1. No Report Submitted

J. SOCIAL PLANNING (Krystal Thurmond): Will discuss leadership training for board in New Business

K. STREET & BLOCK CAPTAINS (Yvonne Sanders & Ethel Smith): Eager to find out about Grandmonitor distribution

L. YOUTH AND EDUCATION (Carla White-Smith): Plans to meet monthly with her committee beginning February 20, 2021. Plans to purchase Hats and Gloves for Edison Elementary Hat & Glove

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Drive. Cora reminded us that we have done this for many years. Please contact Carla at carla15@hotmail.com for meeting links. Moved to approve her purchase to New Business. Youth and Education Budget inquiry- how much is it \$50 or \$500

M. SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

1. **WEBSITE (Mark McCrae): No report submitted**
2. **SOCIAL MEDIA (Samantha Bonaparte): No report**

VI. ACCEPTANCE OF ALL REPORTS

- A. **Ottumn moved to accept, Cora Seconded Motion carries!**

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- A. **Kitty Yarbrough from GRDC: sponsoring PPE events, Cutz Lounge has mask kits, for Spring the executive director Sherita is working to get grants for Beautification, let Diane and Larissa know ideas so we can be ready. Zoom neighborhood safety meeting coming up in the spring GRDC Crime Prevention/Community Safety - Rafael Washington is our new Sheriff and wants to be a member/guest speaker. Cora asked if we could have community events for the Grandmonitor from Kitty. Tommie asked about flower distribution - need to find out logistics.**
- B. **James Tate D1 Councilman and Yelena Ramautar: Still in the process of making sure that neighbors have information. Live district community meetings began in January.**
1. **February 11 - Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Forum (amending boundaries coming up on the agenda for Detroit City Council). There will be some changes made to these boundaries.**
 2. **February 23rd conversation for D1 Community Accountability Network - Virtual Town Hall Live about Gun owner safety and responsibility. DPD will be making a presentation for that event. 6:00-7:30pm**
 3. **February 24th - Grand River and Burt Road location will become Alternative For Girls 2nd site to educate community and get input Forum (flyers forthcoming)**
 4. **D1 monthly meeting Feb 27th (State Reps for area and director of Disability Affairs will be making appearances at this.)**
 5. **January 19 - Adult use Marijuana ordinance went into effect - received 115 applicants for licensing - April 1st begin licensing for Detroiters into this industry.**

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6. Cora Duncan-Foster - Asked about future meeting dates in March we could add to Grandmonitor - flyers are in process of being made and send along dates/times
7. Tommie Obioha asked about Mammoth development - pause in development after there were plans for a storage unit (Mr. Tate and the community not in favor of that). We need a plan to benefit that area and surrounding neighborhoods.
8. Diane Patterson thanked Yelena for meeting with her to look at the alleyways in Grandmont.
9. Robert Patterson asked about developments - Tate not aware of any major developments but developers have come to the city committee on these issues - so there is interest from private/small businesses.

C. Tommie Obioha joined from the Rosedale Park neighborhood!

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Follow up with Mr. Harrison Duke regarding proposal - move offline
- B. By-laws language
 1. Sean asked about the time limit in paragraph 2 "time suggested by the board"
 1. Robert feels strongly that there should be a time limit of 120 days - after Robert's clarification Sean understands.
 2. Lorenzo says that being proactive and amending them so there's accountability and flexibility
 3. finalized language for March to submit to Grandmonitor for April, May, June.
 4. Larissa shared her edits/suggestions. evaluate what communications look like based on type of emergency. Proposed that in this emergency of member terms until the next election cycle to accommodate terms. "by whatever means necessary and safe"
 5. Will send copy to Lorenzo for final review
 6. Krystal suggested we can give input and then send to Larissa by a deadline within the next week or so. 2/12
 7. Sean asked what is the designation of an emergency situation by what authority - Larissa suggested we add that as a comment.
 8. Krystal brought up the fact that we could have emergency situations not provided for by a government agency necessarily.
- C. Review of Community Impact Statement for Bushnell Church written by Diane Patterson
 1. Diane doesn't know when this will be needed. Maybe put heading/letterhead at the top and add Radio Patrol signatures, President signature, and Environmental/Property Task force signatures. Larissa will circle back with Charity about adding those professional touches.
- D. GCA Collective stance on issues of safety and well-being/escalation policy- Sean Novak - float an idea to think about and address in March. Neighborhood and board how we are handling COVID - does it help for people in our neighborhood for the board to take a collective stance to the community to take some actions/hold accountable and our expected conduct as a board - proposed proclamation
 1. Samantha asked Sean write something up as a proposal
 2. Krystal agreed with Sean and asked that it be discussed at training as well.
- E. GCA Leadership Training Workshop - Cora Duncan-Foster and Krystal Thurmond will host on Feb 13, 2021 at 10am

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1. Larissa said thank you for arranging! Larissa is happy to set up Zoom meeting and suggests RSVP so board members will be in attendance. Vote on request in New business.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Grandmonitor Changes Proposed

Committee met to discuss proposed changes going forward for the Grandmonitor. The committee is proposing the following changes:

- Grandmonitor be available monthly in digital format on the GCA website
- Grandmonitor be available bi-monthly in print (offer to print privately for residents without access to the internet)
- Creating and adopting a “lite” version of the Grandmonitor as an option as content dictates
- Make this a temporary change
 - Larissa reminded us that we need to be mindful of funds.
 - Krystal reminded us that we need to have a printed copy in advance of the annual meeting for bylaws language and elections
 - Samantha suggested that we can still have a lite version to be compliant with bylaws requirements around notifying the neighborhood
 - Bi-monthly for the advertisements - advertising pays for Grandmonitor 12 pgs cost \$340.
 - Diane agrees with the lite version - need information out there to get printed copies to people. Ethel and Diane are willing to be contacted for that request.
 - Samantha moves to vote on the recommended changes for the Grandmonitor. Sean seconded. “Print every other month=biweekly”
 - All in favor- no oppositions. Motion is approved.

B. We, the GCA Leadership Training Workshop Committee (Cora and Krystal), are requesting the board to approve a \$60.00 check for copies and folders. All receipts and unused money will be returned to the treasurer.

1. Krystal moved that the Leadership training should receive \$60 for funding. Ethel seconded. No discussion. All in favor. none opposed.

C. Discuss neighborhood branding (i.e. signage, merch for fundraising etc.)- will table for next month

D. Cora Duncan Foster is nominating Joyce Tatum for heading the Safety/Security Committee. Ms. Joyce Tatum is interested in filling the role of the Safety/Security committee. Resident for 6 years, President for Radio Patrol, worked for State of Michigan reps and other community leaders as a community liaison going to police/community meetings. Has worked to prevent utility shut offs in the community. Works for Quicken Loans. Patrols neighborhood on foot, by car and with his son. No vote needed. Welcome!

E. Vote on reimbursement for Youth and Education purchase

1. Krystal asked why we have to do this because her request is under her budget amount. Larissa said we should come up with standing rules for fund requests.
2. Krystal moved that we reimburse \$56 to Carla Smith, Chair of Youth and Education Committee, for Hats and Gloves for Edison School Drive once we see her receipts and Cora seconded. All in favor, no opposition. Motion is approved.

X. ADJOURNMENT: Samantha moved to extend the meeting past 12pm, Ethel 2nd. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 12:30pm.

NEXT MEETING: March 6, 2021 @ Zoom, 10 AM