

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

GRANDMONT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: June 5, 2021 **TIME:** 10AM **PLACE:** Zoom

June 2021 AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER: 10:07am

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

Community Members/Committee Chairs: Kathy Garrett, Diane Patterson, Aaron Hall, Sandi Miller, Rebekah Cynthia-Victoria Long, Kitty Yarborough, Yvonne Sanders

Board Members Not Present: none

II. CHANGES TO / ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

A. Ethel moved to accept April and May minutes, Sean seconds. Motion Passes.

III. OFFICERS' REPORTS:

A. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Invite a neighbor to be at the Annual meeting!

B. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Get involved with committees and volunteer with them for events! Friendly reminder about elections at Annual Meeting - let us know so we can share their bio and be prepared for the June meeting and ballot. Please make sure you are current on your membership dues.

C. TREASURER'S REPORT: Will share report of expenses and income for date ending 4/30/2021

1. Savings balance: \$5,629.99; Checking balance \$,3967.88

1. Donations and dues were income (\$835), Expenses included PayPal withdrawal, bank fees, website manager staff, advertising manager staff (\$105)

2. Would also like to increase the dues to GRDC from the GCA board to at least \$300 for this year. this is to make up for last year skipping the donation due to COVID-19

3. Krystal clarified if we would always be a month behind in these reports. Is there a way we can have more up to date information?

4. May 29, 2021, ending balances: Savings: \$5,629.99, Checking \$4,196.17

D. MEMBERSHIP REPORT: As of 06/02/2021-- Current Memberships for 2021: 158 members paid, Paypal Total: \$123.08 on May 21 - Transfer from PayPal to Checking Account. One neighbor paid recently for this year and back to 2018

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IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Standing):

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

B. BEAUTIFICATION (Larissa Richardson): Motor City Makeover May 1 (30 volunteers) at Ramsey Park to clean up and plant flowers. A really successful event! Upcoming events - Flower day of action in the neighborhood in the planters and Chaney Library. In July planning a cooperative event with the Garden Bug business. Beautification meeting is Tuesday, June 8 at 6pm via zoom!

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

1. Purchase Offer - Pending sale for the GRDC Renovated house on Archdale.
2. DLBA (Detroit Land Bank Authority) working on renovation of another house on Archdale near Schoolcraft.
3. Beautification Grant through VPTF & TCF Bank - Possible use to purchase 2 Vacant Lots at Woodmont & Archdale, both near Gr.River for future neighborhood signage/ beautification. Lot cutting and flowers, supply purchases will also be a considered use of the grant. (Possibly could purchase the land with grant funds. Aaron Hall said that there's someone who he knows that wants to purchase it but they haven't been able to.)
4. Woodmont Vacant Lot cutting by the Land Bank is not on schedule. Last year we paid to have a portion of the fence removed to allow for commercial cutters to mow per LB request. This year there are still concerns with their cutting schedule. Resolution should be next week.
5. Email sent 5-27-21 to D1 Inspector Veasy regarding 5 houses of concern in Grandmont. 2 are vacant and not being maintained by the owners. Inspector Veasy visited all 5 properties and issued violations. Owners will have time to comply, but tickets will be issued if corrections are not made.
6. Possible Squatter on Asbury Park being investigated. Used Improve Detroit to report this concern.
7. The owner of a vacant house in the 14400 block of Abington was contacted about a possible Nuisance Abatement Posting by the City. He is trying to sell the house if he can, rather than continue to rent it - as he is not in compliance with the City rental ordinance and isn't taking care of the backyard.
8. As of now, we are grateful that volunteers are cutting the lots on Southfield Service Drive.

D. GRANDMONITOR (Sandi Miller): Has a new position at work so really needs articles to come in on deadline because time is limited. Please communicate with Sandi if you will be late. The

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earlier the better! Sandi will be meeting with her committee to train them on the 19th of June at 10am on Zoom.

1. Advertising Grandmonitor (Phil Foster): no report

- E. GRDC (Jomo King/Charlotte Wright): no report**
- F. RAMSAY PARK (Edward Smith):** no report but thank you for the cards and well wishes! Thanks to Larissa
- G. RIPPLING HOPE (Cora Duncan-Foster):** Rev. Carl E. Zerweck, Executive Rippling Hope Director, and eighteen volunteers from Middletown Christian Church, Middletown, Kentucky, will be servicing Helen Lyons, Joyce McDaniel and Anthony Roberson on Monday, June 7th. Rev. Carl E. Zerweck chose from my applications, residents that never received home repair. On Sunday, June 6th, the residents who were chosen and I will be donating dinner for the volunteers. Carl asked us to converse about our beautiful Detroit Community. Another important aspect of their work is connecting diverse cultural communities through conversations and relationships built through meaningful service opportunities.
- H. SCHOLARSHIP (Cora Duncan-Foster):** Now, the GCA Scholarship Total is \$1,055.35. Cameron Jennings, our Spelling Bee Champion, was honored by Councilmember James Tate on his Youth spotlight, May 22nd Monthly Virtual Meeting. Cameron received a certificate signed by Detroit City Council.
- I. SAFETY/SECURITY (Joyce Tatum):** Increase of patrols 103 hours of patrol time last month! She and her son will provide courtesy cuts if needed for long grass on lawns.
- J. SOCIAL PLANNING (Krystal Thurmond):** Volunteers needed to help with Annual Meeting. We have a registration table taken care of but all other roles, especially caller and walkers needed! 6 cards for Sunshine Club. Need to have agenda items turned in, committee chairs need to send in their annual reports. Let Krystal know if there are other special guests who need an invite. Will need advertising. Larissa is securing tables, chairs and masks. Tables and chairs coming from GRDC.
- Volunteer meeting on Thursday, June 10th at 7pm.**
1. Dinners are \$7 and \$10 for guests
 2. Do we need to have an election? Yes per the by-laws
 3. By-laws voting: and increase of dues for apartments and Operation in Emergency
 4. Do we need a port-a-john? yes if it is in the budget (Ed, Josh and Samantha feel we definitely need one)
 5. Robert asked if we could survey how people feel about the snow removal? Charity said we should include that with committee sign ups, ask about surveys that ask about snow removal, preference for Grandmonitor, etc.
 6. Charity will look into raffle items. Ask Phil about the advertising partners. Josh will also look into raffle items! Krystal does have a general letter if someone needs it!

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- K. **STREET & BLOCK CAPTAINS (Yvonne Sanders & Ethel Smith): They are hoping to have a meeting in July!**
- L. **YOUTH AND EDUCATION (Carla White-Smith):** Next event: June 5, 2021 Reading in Ramsay Park. Volunteers are needed. 11am-1pm
- M. **SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**
 - 1. **WEBSITE (Mark McCrae): no report**
 - 2. **SOCIAL MEDIA (Samantha Bonaparte): Facebook likes/follows are growing! We have over 100!**
- V. **ACCEPTANCE OF ALL REPORTS**
 - A. **Krystal moved to accept the reports. Ethel seconds. No objections. Motion carries!**
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT: Kathy Garrett from GRDC** said thank you for the engagement at the Movie in the Park. Next one is Friday, June 25, at Minock Park! Saturday, June 19, Juneteenth celebrations, Spring Block Party from Evergreen to Warwick (businesses, food trucks, family activities, African Dance, Chat about Soul Food with Detroit Vegan Soul West). Farmer's Market started this Thursday and will continue until October at North Rosedale Park Community House from 4-8pm
 - A. **Committee- Welcome committee will be added/revitalized and Sean is the chair!**
 - B. **Robert shared about Michigan Independent Redistricting Commission - Meetings happening across the state, Detroit's is coming up Thursday, June 10 at Fellowship Hall at Outer Drive (one happened in Dearborn this past week)**
- VII. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. Art Club for Youth nearby?
- VIII. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. **Sean is going to revive the Welcoming Committee to welcome and inform new neighbors- will have a report/ideas next month**
 - B. Decide on location/method of next month's meeting: Via zoom or in person in Ramsey Park.
 - 1. Robert moved, we have our meeting in Ramsey park in July! Motion approved.
- IX. **ADJOURNMENT: Ethel moved to adjourn. Larissa seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:21am.**

NEXT MEETING: July 10, 2021 at 10AM