

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

GRANDMONT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: October 3, 2020 **TIME:** 10AM **PLACE:** Zoom

2020 AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER: 10:09AM

Board Members In Attendance: Larissa Richardson, Krystal Thurmond, Samantha, Charity Dean, Ottumn Kennedy, Ed Smith, Josh Engle, Robert Patterson

Community Members/Committee Chairs: Janet, Cora Duncan-Foster, Yvonne Sanders, Ethel Smith, Doug Johnston, Sandra Rideaux, Jenise Collins, Diane Patterson, Jacquetta Hinton, James Liddel, Charlotte Wright, Dayna Phillips

Board Members Not Present: Jomo King, Sean Novak

II. CHANGES TO / ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

- A. Movie Night - Ramsay
- B. Larissa moved, Ed seconded the minutes being accepted

III. OFFICERS' REPORTS:

A. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Email from Land Bank launching neighborhood lot program, community orgs can be endorsers Office Hours for the program every Tuesday, but board members will be getting information to hopefully attend on our behalf
- Kudos to Larissa for getting the Grandmonitor going again and we have interest in the position!
- many items in old business to discuss today

B. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Grandmonitor online going live this weekend! - can opt into a print option
- 4-5 folks interested in the position for Grandmonitor Editor!
- Elections - 5 candidates on website! will be posted on social soon
- Elections will need support and volunteers, the time is 12-6 on November 3, Folks can pay their dues on site, sharing information about the community committees and board, email forthcoming to help to volunteer.
- Janet said she didn't think that November 3 was a good day. Krystal said that people will already be out and about and nearby.

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- Giving an option to vote early for our community members on Sunday 11/1 and Monday 11/2 before November 3! from 3-7
- Ed Smith said he would like to help he is limited because he is running for re-election
- Cora mentioned that maybe we should have a cut off for candidates. Krystal said that we usually have write in slots.

C. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ending August 31, 2020-- Checking: \$3,055.34; Savings: \$6,470.99

Income: \$1,117.23 transferred from Paypal; Interest 1.28

Savings subtotal: 7,589.50

Obligations/board reserves - future dues: \$420 for 2021; \$240 - 2022; \$30- 2023 = \$690 future dues

Scholarship obligations = \$2,055.30

\$4,844.15 unobligated Savings subtotal

Expenses - Grandmonitor editor \$150

- \$5 fee bank

-Website fee (may, june, july, august) \$200

-beautification - \$165.56

-scholarship \$61.84 = checking balance - \$2,472.94

As of Sept. 28 -- Savings: \$6,462.27; Checking: \$3,810.17

D. MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

- \$119.40 subtraction for hosting the website 9/28/2020 Dreamhost.com
- 197 memberships for 2020
- \$585.83 in Paypal
- Larissa asked if we should do another round of emails, yes and will add to the Grandmonitor
- Ed asked for a list of his block - Charlotte will send it out again to the board so we can reach out to folks by Sunday

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Standing):

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):

■ **Diane's report: 8 vacant properties**

- 2 homes on Southfield
- 14000 block Archdale progressing
- 14000 block Archdale - owner has paid fines but has not done anything to rehab property, no maintenance or grass cutting
- 13000 block Archdale
- 14000 block Longacre - vacant but the new owner is doing maintenance to sell

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- 13000 block Longacre - Justin Neal property - windows are being put in but boards are put over, Landbank involved
- 14000 block Rutland vacant - anonymous complaint letter, work to repair is sporadic there.
- 14000 block Asbury Park - occupied property but owner left in March to Africa then came back and found that the dumpster was put in the driveway and his belongings were thrown out - security report--police report was made
- 14000 block Asbury Park possibility of squatters, can't figure out the property manager or owner
 - Charlotte made a remark that property values going up!
 - Environmental - Alley between archdale and longacre cleaned up! City is asking in return for continued alley maintenance
 - Southfield neighbor asked who is responsible for cutting the grass, it is city maintenance and taken care of

D. GRANDMONITOR (Vacant):

- Posted to seek candidate - 4 or 5 people interested
- Please opt in neighbors who need a printed version! Opt in for them if you know a neighbor doesn't have access to email/internet
- Sending out hopefully today and it will be 6 pages or so if printed
- Sign up sheet at elections to collect contact information from folks who come to vote!
- Krystal said that we should make the position more of a committee so people feel supported - that's part of their responsibility to convene a committee to support and help them! We can only pay for 1 editor.
- Diane wanted to make sure environmental/critical numbers and meeting times were in there.

E. GRDC (Jomo King/Charlotte Wright):

- Charlotte reported that GRDC was awarded COVID response grant, Kresge projects grant
- beautification projects that are still underway in neighborhoods
- help with property tax exemption for residents 38 people
- neighborhood safety meeting held july 23rd
- economic development NW Detroit Farmers market Curbside and delivery and the last day will be october 8
- Housing development - 2 homes that have been renovated 16877 Stahlen and 14477 Archdale

F. RAMSAY PARK (Edward Smith):

- Movie night went well on September 12

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- Is the number for Park Police a year round number or seasonal? Diane said that it is April-October probably
- Krystal asked if we got our lawnmower from Jerry Webb - Ed doesn't know anything about it other than the first year we had it he used it to mow Ramsay Park and he stored it for about a year and a half-
- Lawnmower in question was purchased for community use (Ramsay Park and vacant lots) and was purchased with grant money obtained through GRDC's VACANT PROPERTY TASK FORCE. Therefore, Larissa is willing to store the lawnmower so that the community can have access if that was the intended purpose for the lawnmower- conversation being moved offline and there will be a sign out sheet for the lawnmower.

G. RIPPLING HOPE (Cora Duncan-Foster): Not active at the moment

H. SCHOLARSHIP (Cora Duncan-Foster): \$2,055.35 is the amount of Scholarship fund, \$300 donation from Mark McCrae because Josh Engle did work for him and Josh would not accept payment so that money was given to the fund (David Regan helped with the work in question.)

- resident concern/problem - being harassed by next door neighbor, has reached out to police department but wants to get ideas about what she can do, willing to speak offline about it

I. SAFETY/SECURITY (James Liddel):

- Charity reported that: on Wednesday of this week (9/30) there was a man who was speeding on Grandmont, neighbor asked him to stop, man came out of car and began to shoot - police were called and investigating
 1. speed humps can't be everywhere but we know Longacre will get them near the park (2021) speeding issues overall something that needs to be addressed
- James reported that we are going to have a Zoom meeting for the Grandmont Radio Patrol from now on, and had some challenges for patrolling due to the fact that most of the patrollers are seniors - reach out to Cora or Mark McCrae for more information

J. SOCIAL PLANNING (Krystal Thurmond):

- Need committee reports for the November 3rd election to update community - send to Krystal!
- Trying to do 2 hour time slots - Ed, Diane, and Cora volunteered to pass out community information
- Tent/tables and chairs - money is in the budget for snacks and hot beverages for the day

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K. STREET & BLOCK CAPTAINS (Yvonne Sanders & Ethel Smith):

- no report due to technical difficulties/time

L. YOUTH AND EDUCATION (Carla White-Smith):

- No report

M. SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

1. **WEBSITE (Mark McCrae): No report**
2. **SOCIAL MEDIA (Samantha Bonaparte): Zoom cost for meetings, please like our page!**

V. ACCEPTANCE OF ALL REPORTS

- A. Larissa moved, Krystal 2nd to accept all reports

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- A. Sandra Rideaux introduced herself - interested in Grandmonitor Editor, She and her husband live on Rutland, software/ technology trainer, excited that we are moving online! Lived in the community for 25 years!

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Snow Removal

- 2 new vendors being considered, current vendor is resident of GRDC community
 1. got some proposals back that were higher than what we are currently paying
 2. continuing with All Seasons 1500 paid 3 times December 1, Jan 1/2021 and Feb 1/2021
 3. we can make the payments necessary for this year
- When we are able to have annual meeting, bring it up with community to see how much they value it as a benefit

B. Dues for Apartments on Southfield increase?

- Southfield apts are paying 10 dollars, homes have had increases, proposal from Ed to taking it to general body in April to vote on increasing it to \$15
- Ed moved to bring it to the community for the southfield and longacre apartments to have a dues increase from 10 to 15
- Taking this approved motion to the general public in April

C. Opened up discussion of revision of Bylaws for changes last meeting

- Lorenzo Blount is technically in charge of Bylaw committee, who will convene a committee?
- Robert will reach out to Lorenzo before the next meeting hopefully have language drafted for emergency situations, Reach out to Robert or Lorenzo to

D. Halloween Event

- Meeting extended past 12pm by Josh and Larissa
- Trying to decide if it is safe to have a Halloween Trunk or Treat - decided on no
- signal boost other local events!

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- CDC gives alternatives to Trick or Treating - will put in Grandmonitor
- E. Grandmonitor
 - Electronic Copy Debut!
 - Selection Process for new editor
 1. trying to prioritize an editor who lives in Grandmont
 2. writing samples and interviews - committee under that person to help editor
 3. selection process hopefully wrapped up by end of 2020 and control fully given over to new editor!

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Cost of Zoom for meetings \$14.99 possibly add into the budget --move to old business for next month
- B. Josh asked when we could get back into GRDC -- not this year.
- C. seek information if we can do a community GRDC account for Zoom
- D. Facebook (closed session vs. open session)

IX. ADJOURNMENT: Ottumn and Josh moved to adjourn 12:19

NEXT MEETING: November 7, 2020 @ Zoom, 10 AM