

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

---

**GRANDMONT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

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

**March 2021 AGENDA**

**I. CALL TO ORDER: Meeting Called to Order at 10:02AM**

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

**Community Members/Committee Chairs:** Charlotte Wright, Kathy Garrett, Mark McCrae, Chelsea Salame, Jenise and Justin Collins, Diane Patterson, Joyce Tatum, Eric , Aaron Hall, Sandi Rideaux-Miller

**Board Members Not Present: none**

**II. CHANGES TO / ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:**

A. Sean moves to approve minutes, Larissa seconds.

**III. OFFICERS' REPORTS:**

**A. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Thank you for condolences for the loss of my Grandmother. Charity will be leaving her job at the city in a week to start a new venture- Metro Detroit Black Business Alliance!

**B. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Save the date for mask distribution--end of the month! If you want to assist, please let Larissa know! Received cloth masks from Wayne county to distribute.

**C. TREASURER'S REPORT:**

1. Report with expenses/income until 1/31/2021

1. Expenses--Payments made to winter snow service, Grandmonitor Printing, Website Manager, Grandmont Ad Manager and State of Michigan LARA Reg Fee
2. Income--Prepaid dues transferred over from savings, Transferred Paypal balance of \$1,048.28, Many deposits of dues in checks and money orders (some for dues in future years and some for current year).
3. Final balance 1/31/2021: Checking-- \$2,734.55; Savings--\$5,087.43
4. Krystal asked for February ending Balances as of 2/25/2021 Checking-- \$3610.55 Savings--\$5207.43 (Expenses - Edison glove reimbursement, Leadership committee training reimbursement, payments to ad manager, website manager, printing of Grandmonitor. Income of dues.)

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

5. Krystal and Larissa would like to see prior months records for treasury (example: in March we should see February's information) Robert said he doesn't have the statement from the bank yet to be able to share that.

**D. MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** 236 Memberships for 2020, 113 memberships for 2021 so far and Paypal total as of 03/06/2021 is \$431.08

**IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Standing):**

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

**B. BEAUTIFICATION (Larissa Richardson):**

1. Committee will be meeting on Second Tuesdays of the month. The next meeting will be March 9th online via zoom. Will have a more detailed outline of beautification priorities for the year after March's meeting. Schedule of committee meetings will be: April 13th, May 11th, June 8th, July 13th, August 10th, September 14th.
2. Alley Program walkthrough of the alleys we want to receive services for with DPW on April 27th with Corey -- Diane asked about community involvement (Do residents that are at the lot line of an alley need to be involved?) Larissa said that this is an initial meeting, bring all questions!
3. Fundraising for beautification in the future!
4. Save the date Grandmont Community Association FREE Mask Distribution at Ramsey Park on **Saturday, March 27th 11am-2pm.**

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

1. Chronically vacant properties - list has been substantially eliminated as far as blight but there are still 10 properties
2. Foreclosure help - 26 houses on possible foreclosure list in Grandmont. We are sending out letters to give helpful information to homeowners. Confidential list but we are hoping that residents will take advantage of these programs and help! The lowest tax owed is \$1800, highest is \$54,000.
3. Working with someone in Grandmont No. 1 (AARP grant) to spearhead in each of the 5 neighborhoods for a butterfly garden! Chelsea Salame shared that they are leading a work group for the AARP Community Challenge grant on Mondays at 10 am - can email [csalame@umich.edu](mailto:csalame@umich.edu) for the link
4. Archdale there is a dumpster that needs to be moved - should not be in street but on driveway
5. Possibility of Hookah business opening up in area- Schoolcraft possibly

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

6. City of Detroit has put online the 2021 list of speed bumps - Larissa suggested adding to Grandmonitor [Residential Speed Hump Requests - Resident Form](#) **Speed Bumps information**

**D. GRANDMONITOR (Sandi Miller):** Picking up printed Grandmonitors on Monday 3/8, One new advertiser!

**1. Advertising Grandmonitor (Phil Foster): no report submitted**

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

**F. RAMSAY PARK (Edward Smith):**

1. Heard from U of M regarding the partnership for DP day - the events are being made virtual and keeping it smaller and will not be partnering with us for 2021. Hopefully in the future we will be able to partner with them.
2. We don't have to do the "adopt a park program" with the city any longer - but Ed has a contact with the city park department - they shoveled the sidewalk this winter, got more trash cans, grass cutting, mulching the leaves and cleaning up the park.
3. Cora asked about the service drive being cleaned and the park at the same time from the city?

**G. RIPPLING HOPE (Cora Duncan-Foster):**

1. The Rippling Hope Board Meeting was held on Thursday, February 4th. Carl Zerwick, Executive Director, mentioned that hopefully the Rippling Hope Free Home Repair will resume this summer. Five groups have registered to service the Detroit Community this summer depending on the Covid-19 Restriction. The groups include: Illinois (2), Michigan (1), Kentucky (1) and Indiana (1). Last year, only three of the 17 residents who submitted an application, received the free home repair. The cause was because of the lack of volunteers during Covid.
2. Cora will be phoning those residents that were not serviced to ask if they would like their 2019 application considered this year.
3. Free paint distribution on first Tuesdays of the month and Saturdays- free cat litter and free dog food - Cora will share information via Grandmont Information Network!

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

Committee will meet soon to discuss plans for scholarship

**I. SAFETY/SECURITY (Joyce Tatum):** Sheriff Washington joined the meeting--explained that he would be in the community - welcome to share concerns. Shared information about a program for 18-25 year olds [www.sheriffconnect.com](http://www.sheriffconnect.com) with paid positions! Police explorers program needs donations - \$42 outfits one young person for the program!

**J. SOCIAL PLANNING (Krystal Thurmond):**

1. Sat. June 26 - Annual Business Meeting!

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

2. Krystal is collecting donations for the Police Explorer Program- can drop off with her.
3. Decide on Movie Night Dates in Ramsay Park- Kathy Garrett explained that it is a free program, no residency requirement needed - asking vendors from Farmer's market to come! Bring chairs, blankets, etc! Renee and Chris Wagner are the owners of 313 Movie Night. Hoping to be first in line with their scheduling- Don't start the movie until it is dark! Free will donation can be collected.
4. If we do this in May - Make sure to advertise the Annual Meeting then!

**K. STREET & BLOCK CAPTAINS (Yvonne Sanders & Ethel Smith):** Flyer to recruit Street and Block Captains - Meeting soon for street and block Captains!

**L. YOUTH AND EDUCATION (Carla White-Smith):** Will share report on March 20 meeting 11am-2pm, purchased gloves and hats for Edison Elementary, Planning on holding reading event in Ramsay Park in July or August

**M. SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

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

**V. ACCEPTANCE OF ALL REPORTS**

**A. Sean moves to accept. Larissa seconded!**

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**A. Aaron Hall sharing D1 information: March 8 6pm - conversation on the adult use cannabis Ordinance and zoning. March 24- 6pm Grand River Streetscape meeting. Monthly meeting March 27 at 10am -- Citizen redistricting commission and many more topics to be shared.**  
[hallaar@detroitmi.gov](mailto:hallaar@detroitmi.gov)

**B. Sean is inviting everyone to the Grandmont Social Hour tomorrow from 4-5 on Zoom! Open to anyone--not limited to Grandmont residents!**

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. GCA'S LEADERSHIP TRAINING WORKSHOP**

1. Kris and Cora, the Leadership Training Workshop Committee, are requesting if we can have an additional half hour after the board meeting to complete the training. The topics below were not presented.
  1. GCA By-Laws
  2. Conflict of Interest Policy
  3. Information Form
  4. Treasurer Report
  5. Check Disbursement Form

**All attendees, please bring your GCA Leadership Workshop Folders**

**B. By-laws language**

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

- C. **GCA Collective stance on issues of safety and well-being- Sean Novak**
- D. **neighborhood branding (signage, merchandise to fundraise)**

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Cora moved to get \$50 for candy donations, Krystal 2nds! Motion is approved.
  - 1. GRDC gets the check.
- B. Movie Night Date Selection - offline
- C. Cora made a motion to change the April meeting due to Easter holiday on April 4. and Ethel seconded - We approved moved April meeting to April 10th
- D. Larissa will seek a logo for Grandmont and hopefully get some merchandising to fundraise!
- E. Sean moved to move the July 3rd meeting to July 10th. Larissa seconded.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT: meeting adjourned 11:31am by Cora and Ottumn seconded!**

**NEXT MEETING: April 10, 2021 @ Zoom, 10 AM**