

Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council (SDCC)

May 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Tracy Granneman (President, Rosedale), Molly Rater (Secretary, Kingsbury Square), Yvette Kell (Treasurer, Washington Heights), Jim Holzer (Rosedale), Jeff Stokes (Grace Methodist), Linda Cross (Rosedale), John Wright (Parkview Agents), AnnaMarie Bliss (at large)

Not Present: Carl Merritt (Cote Brillante), Tim Woodcock (Rosedale), Mike Stephens (Parkview), Kim Freter (St Roch), JoAnna Schooler (Washington University), Kathryn Bulard (Busey Bank)

Visitors: Ald. Shameem Clark-Hubbard, Grady Vaughan (Security chair), Stephanie Lewis (Washington Heights), Marvin Nodiff (Zoning and housing chair), Andy Cross (beautification), Sheree Hickman (NIS)

Executive Director: Michael Reid

Meeting was called to Order at 7:05 in person

Introductions

March and April Meeting Minutes were approved

Public Comment:

Molly Rater is recruiting potential new members for the Delmar DivINe Community collaborative board (CCB) that she is on. CCB is an advisory board that acts a liaison between the Delmar DivINe and communities and organizations they are involved with. There is an open house on Tuesday May 23rd.

AnnaMarie wanted to remind us all of an upcoming event that Tim Woodcock has presented called the “Big Draw”. It is an annual event that is held throughout the month of October. More details to come.

Executive Director Report May 2023:

1. Attended SDCC Committee meetings.
2. Attended: West End Neighbors (WEN), Sherman Park-Academy and Fountain Park Neighborhood to discuss The City of St. Louis Notice Of Fund Availability
3. Grant updates:

Regional Arts Commission (\$14,000)

May 8th (Reviewer Ratings Due) May 15th-26th (Reviewers meet) May 30th (Staff finalizes ratings) May 31st (Ratings are shared with applicants) June 1st (Rating Appeal) June 8th (Commission votes on Grant awards) June 8 – June 9 (Grant Award and

Notifications) July 17th (Direct Deposit made) - need to know what reports will need to be submitted quarterly or annually to show how we utilized the money.

St. Louis Notice Of Funding Available (\$25,000-30,000)

May 15th Grant is due. SDCC doesn't qualify for grant because of our demographics. We are applying for grant as members of SLACO to serve as consultants. - to cover staffing and intern to mentor other ward neighborhood associations. can fund operational costs as well - SLACO is writing this grant on our behalf. This money would not be in our budget, this will be pass through funding through SLACO.

2023 Community Development Block Grants Funding Request for Proposals (Applications will be available on July 26, 2023)

4. Attended St. Louis Association Community Organization meetings (2)
5. Hired Ideal Designs and Solutions to develop website. They can complete the job for \$317.00 - to just give the front page a facelift on the website

Aldermanic Report:

Shameem reported that the Board of Alderman has been back in session for the last two weeks. She is serving as a floor leader and on the HUD/public safety/personnel committees.

She provided hard copies of the traffic study that she and Heather Navarro sponsored. The speed humps have been introduced to the street committee. Residents are invited to these meetings. Tracy pointed out that we had no standing street safety committee so not sure how things would progress.

Security cameras will be put in Lucier Park

Next Ward 10 meeting would be at the Urban League

Emergency Cease and Desist Rulings have been submitted for Blue Nightclub due to recent shooting and security concerns. A hearing with the owners will be next. NIS Sheree Hickman explained the process to the group. Stephanie Lewis asked about security at the BP at Delmar and Goodfellow. Sheree reported that most of the problems revolve around drug selling and they have already been served several cease and desist orders. The owners have generally been cooperative. Sheree reported that the gas station is in a tough area to control because of its place at a major intersection and proximity to a bus stop. There is no security guard but the cashiers are armed. Group wondered why they had not been forced to have an armed security guard.

Marv Nodiff asked about short term rental progress and Shameem said that this was not her committee but there was a working group for this issue.

Anna Marie Bliss wanted to know how we could get information about building permits beforehand and not after they had already been issued. Shameem responded that she would be getting a legislative assistant that should be able to help her with this in the future.

Committee Reports: Reports (Historic, Community Development, Zoning and Housing, Beautification, Community Engagement and Security) were submitted in separate reports via Google Docs

In person Committee Updates:

Beautification: Andy Cross reported about recent events like Blitz day and the upcoming recycling fair and garden tour.

Security: Grady Vaughan reported on progress being made at the Metrolink Stations including cameras, turnstiles, and fencing around stations to cut back on crime. Our neighboring stations would be done in the second phase with plans to complete in late 2024. Tracy Granneman encouraged the security committee to meet in person again and not by Zoom.

Historical district: Anna Marie Bliss reported that many of her motions in permit hearings have been denied because there was no community support. She encouraged us all to attend as many as we could.

Financial Report: Yvette proposed a plan for the Reserve account and the operating accounts:

Currently, both the Reserve Account (1020) and the Operational Savings Account (1025) are in our overall Restricted Accounts (1040). There seems to be no significant reason both of these two accounts exist. We also have a number of account lines that are duplicated with different numbers. Ultimately, we will need to sit and go through Quickbooks and “clean up” the books by deactivating lines no longer needed (i.e. Brick Campaign, Master Plan), and merging any account lines intended for the same revenue/expense.

Recommendation:

1. Combine these accounts into one Operational Savings Account (current 1025) to maximize interest.
2. Ensure the Operational Savings Account has a minimum balance of \$40,000, providing the SDCC with a six month expense cushion (utilizing FY 22 expense totals).
3. Maintain a balance of \$12,000 in the current Operating Account (1030) to provide for two months of expenses (utilizing FY22 expense totals).
4. Place the McPherson Community Garden (1033), Block Unit 1035 Community Garden (1034) and Dog Park Fund (4130) is their own asset line. These accounts would not be considered part of SDCC total operational assets but would be considered a liability.

- a. All expenses incurred for all three of these accounts should be accounted for in their own account and not in the overall SDCC operating budget.
5. Find/create MOUs for all institutional members, the McPherson Community Garden, Block Unit 1035 Community Garden, and the Dog Park Fund to ensure future funding and accounting practices for all entities.

Motion to approve the financial plan was presented by Yvette Kell and seconded by Anna Marie Bliss. The motion carried.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Stokes and seconded by Linda Cross

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm

Minutes submitted by board secretary Molly Rater 5/10/2023