

## **Minutes from DDN Board meeting 10/05/2016**

**Present: George Dusenbury, Nikki Economou, Buddy Harrell, Kathie Gannon, Sara Sullivan, Judi Bodinger**

**Absent: Pete Pfeiffer, Lila Miller.**

### **Actions:**

Minutes from the previous Board meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's report:** Sara's written report is attached to the Minutes. Account balance after reimbursements is \$1086.74

**Communications:** Park issue increasing chatter on facebook. Have recruited a volunteer to help with Park related communications; primarily posting for facebook and website. She is interested in Parks and NOT the bigger Communications position. She lives outside of the downtown boundaries. All Parks posts go to the entire DDN lists. Please continue to look for a person to take on communications.

Geography boundaries discussion pursued. Should we extend membership to 1 mile from downtown? Downtown is a destination, we should reach out beyond. General agreement on an issue-by-issue basis, find leaders in close by neighborhoods for an issue. Parks has been one of those issues and challenge is how to find ways to add onto their interest; there is unrest around the development "destroying downtown". Important for us to stay on message. DDN are about downtown and we realize everyone has some level of interest in downtown so we should not be exclusive, but focused.

**Parks:** Next meeting Oct 17, 10 AM Artisan. City won't cooperate or collaborate and group is feeling desperate as time is running out. They want to go back to focus on the parking strips on either side of the Square. Will discuss at Committee and come back with a recommendation. Want to figure out costs. Housing Authority land has been appraised at \$5m.

The trees to come down soon at Clairmont Ave hotel site. Planning a wake or day of mourning for more tree canopy destroyed. No planning.

**Planning:** We followed up on suggestion to use Comp Plan as a vehicle for more city attention to need for downtown planning and downtown park space but to no avail. Small concession statement on Parks and totally blew off recommendation re: a Plan. Comm. Plan has not yet been voted on, don't have date for that yet but Buddy or Kathie should speak re: commissioners said they were supportive of downtown plan when asked for our vote and disappointed that city won't support any version of planning.

We do have an offer from someone to help us do a Plan for free, if it's the money (which it isn't). Park should be a part of that Plan.

Mention made of Cottage Courts as a missed opportunity for affordable housing and apartments are pretty expensive too and there should be some component of affordable housing in or near downtown.

**Seniors:** Lila planned to be here so no report. Safety is still their focus..

**Social:** Can we plan for early December?

**Future Meeting Topics:** Update on Transportation Plan, Crosswalks and Sidewalks; Recruit a Communications Chair; Master Plan; we should run a candidate for Fred's post.

Kathie Gannon, Secretary.