

Minutes
ST. PETERSBURG DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, March 10, 2021
ZOOM

Guests: Prior to the start of the business meeting, presentations by two groups were made:

- 1) Joe Zeoli, Managing Director of the City, reviewed the status and long-term plans for the City's portion of the Marina (which does not include the portion managed by the St. Petersburg Yacht Club). Current plans are to use a private operator to renovate, maintain and manage the Marina. After several competing bids were reviewed, Safe Harbor Development was selected. SHD will invest \$30 Million for marina renovations that would have cost the city approximately \$50 million. The lease will last 5 years. A referendum would need to be passed if a longer renewal period is desired. If not renewed, there is a cap on the termination fee so the city is not exposed to additional costs.
- 2) Roxanne Fixsen, DNA Board member, is also on the St. Petersburg Charter Review Commission, charged with reviewing the mandated 10-year review of the Charter and recommending changes to the document. The Stpete.org website has a link devoted to the effort, including several public meetings scheduled on 3/29 from 6-8, 4/19 11-1, and 5/22 10-12 via Zoom. Thus far, the group has decided to focus on "equity," broadly, as it affects life in the City. Roxanne welcomes suggestions/input from DNA Board members, who can attend one of the public meetings or e-mail her.

Call to order: President Karen Carmichael called the formal meeting to order at 7:26 PM.

Quorum: Present: Mark Ferrulo, Martha Shibley, Cameron Hill, John Waechter, Karen Carmichael, Scott Clark, Dan Harvey, Steve Phillips, Deborah Stewart, Roxanne Fixsen, and Jonathan Blackwood were in attendance. Bryan Casanas, Aide to Council Member Gina Driscoll, was also part of the Zoom group.

Agenda Approval: After motion and a second, the agenda was approved.

Treasurer's Report: John Waechter reported that our February 18, 2021 balance was \$ 17440.79 and that Board members had been sent detailed account status by e-mail. He also noted that March would see relatively large expenditures, since it is the month when annual dues for Chamber of Commerce and insurance premium due.

Approval of Minutes: After motion and a second, minutes of the February 10, 2021, meeting were approved.

President's Report: Karen made no formal President's Report.

Standing Committees:

- 1) **Planning and Development** Steve noted that he had reached out to Corey Malyszka, Director of Urban Planning, for information about the new construction on 3rd. Street and 2nd Ave. S, particularly to see how the previous variance on the block was being

- enforced No response to date. Karen stated that he city increased the number of notices being sent to the DNA and will forward to the board members as she receives.
- 2) **Social:** Deborah reported that she had personally distributed a large number of flyers, advertising our Neighborhood Wellness Walk, to be held March 27. Flyers were left with restaurants, condos, and several other businesses, as well as posted on various posting sites.. Karen has ordered hand sanitizer with the DNA logo to be given away at the walk.
 - 3) **Community Service:** Karen reported that our outreach on Gina Driscoll's FB fundraiser has resulted in the donation of several slow cookers/crockpots to the Saint Pete Free Clinic. Jonathan also suggested that the Wellness Walk might be combined with a clean-up project and will test the feasibility at the March 27 first-in-the-series of walks.
 - 4) **Membership and Communications/Marketing:** Scott Clark reported that we currently have 218 members, only 7 fewer than last year.

Community Meeting Reports:

- 1) **Central Avenue Council:** No report.
- 2) **EDGE District:** Dan Harvey noted that the EDGE district is actively working to influence new construction in the district, especially 900 Central and the Belle Point project and that they are actively following developments related to the Tropicana site.
- 3) **Chamber of Commerce:** Dan reported that the Chamber was involved heavily in transportation planning, including 175 and the BRT.
- 4) **Rowdies Council:** Mark noted that, with the Rowdies and Rays under the same ownership, the Rowdies Council was more or less inactive and not formally meeting.
- 5) **CONA:** No update.
- 6) **League of Women Voters:** Karen reported that the LWV was very closely following and trying to influence the Legislature's amendments to voting practices.

Unfinished Business; There was no unfinished business.

New Business: Options for topics at the April General Meeting were discussed, including Charter Revision. The Police Department had also requested additional meeting.

Next Board Meeting: The next meeting will be the April General Meeting, April 14, 2012.

Adjourn: There being no future business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Phillips, Secretary.