

## BOARD MINUTES MAY 8, 2008

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BY ADMIN | MAY 8, 2008 | BOARD MEETING MINUTES | NO COMMENTS

Members present: Tim Baker, Peter Belmont, Richard Freeburg, John Harte, Mike Johnson, Marilyn Olsen, Sydni Ann Shollenberger, Marie Stirling

Members absent: Allan Brockway, Tim Clemmons, Gene Ormond, Joe Pugliano

The Downtown Neighborhood Association (DNA) Board of Directors held a Board meeting on Thursday, May 8, 2008, at the Florencia, 100 Beach Drive, St. Petersburg. President Marilyn Olsen called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Sydni Shollenberger, Secretary, read the minutes from March 13, 2008. No changes were noted and the minutes were approved as presented.

Sydni Shollenberger also presented the treasurer's report for Allan Brockway, which he had also posted on the DNA website. The checking balance as of April 30, 2008, was \$3,156.98;

John Harte reported on a meeting held with City of St. Petersburg staffer Linda Seufert to explore details on the process of adopting a park, partnering with others in the process, and the commitment expected from those who adopt a park. General discussion ensued on prospective partnerships, ways to engage volunteers, and fundraising associated with an adopt-a-park project.

MOTION: Dick Freeburg moved, Marie Stirling seconded that the DNA board move to adopt a park in the downtown area such as Williams Park.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mike Johnson reported on food distribution to homeless persons in Williams and Mirror Lake parks. Legally, communities around the nation have been stymied by the courts in preventing such distribution. The solution for St. Petersburg, Mike reported, will be larger trash containers in the parks to accommodate the leftover food and containers. He also reported on a concept that is being pursued by

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two-way from Central Avenue to Fifth Avenue North. The conversion is scheduled for August..

Peter Belmont reported on the planning process for a hotel on the south side of Fourth Avenue Northeast, between First Avenue and Bay Street NE. Historic properties are located on the land proposed for a hotel complex. The owner/developer has recommended that one of the homes, the Henry-Bryan House, be moved outside the downtown historic district. St. Petersburg Preservation, Inc., is opposed to that.

MOTION: Tim Baker moved, Mike Johnson seconded that before the City approves relocation of historic properties to a lot outside downtown, the City should explore possibilities in the downtown historic district or adjacent historic areas before relocation is permitted.

The motion passed unanimously.

There was then discussion of pending demolition of shops along Central Avenue between Sixth and Seventh streets, numbered 601-659 and called collectively the Crislip Arcade.

MOTION: Mike Johnson moved, Sydni Shollenberger seconded that the conditions imposed by the EDC remain in force and demolition of the Crislip Arcade on Central Avenue should not proceed.

The motion passed unanimously.

Following a brief discussion on prospective speakers for the July General Membership Meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Sydni Ann Shollenberger, APR*

*Secretary*

*Downtown Neighborhood Association*

*St. Petersburg, Florida*

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Opportunities to meet neighbors, learn about community assets, enjoy the neighborhood.

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Keeps our members informed about the neighborhood and the City.

### ABOUT SPDNA

It is our goal to maintain and enhance downtown’s quality of life by strengthening the connection and collaboration between government, commerce and residents through advocacy, social interaction and information.



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