



## DNA Board of Directors Meeting Notes

6 pm, August 5th, 2019

Covo, 401 Pine Street, St Louis, MO 63102

**Attendees:** Mike Willis (chair), James Page (Treasurer), Dan Pistor (Secretary), Melanie Fries, Alex Hurst, Taylor Jackson, and Carla Patton.

**Not Present:** LaShana Lewis

### Minutes:

James moved, Melanie 2nd to approve the minutes.

### Treasurer's Report:

James went over the bank statement and the amount of funds available. No new major revenues or expenses. He will be paying for baseball tickets this week. He needs to set up the Square account and remove Jared's name from the Square account. James updated our Census requirement for this year. James updated our information on the Secretary of State website. James will also update the Braintree account.

### Membership and Development:

Carla Patton passed out the trifold brochure for review. They had a Membership Committee meeting on July 17th and developed the brochure. They entered the main points. It still needs some tweaking. They are working on fees of \$15 for individuals, \$25 family, and \$75 small business. The content is from the original brochure. Carla asked for feedback on the membership fees. We discussed all the fees and how to incorporate them. Many ideas were bounced around on how to incorporate them. No one made any objections or endorsements to the amount of the fees. Members that pay will have voting rights. Non members can still attend meetings. The fee could also be incorporated in another donation. James mentioned we have done that for the 2018 Taste of Downtown event as long as their contribution meets or exceeds the \$75 fee. Melanie asked if we should vote on it. Mike said it should go back to committee to put some framework around it and finalize it. Melanie said it has to be done by the 13<sup>th</sup> (Taste of STL). Melanie has still not found the file for the old prospectus.

### Events:

They have established Happy Hours for the rest of the year. August is at 314, September is at the Missouri Athletic Club, October may be at Mizu. The MAC will provide snacks however the dress will be business casual. The board decided the business casual dress shouldn't be a major obstacle for attendance. We will be on the first floor. The Last Hotel happy hour was a big success. We had 8 new members sign up. Fall fires are set. 1st one at Bootleggin, 2nd at Lucas Park Grille, and the 3rd possibly at City Museum. The Old Post Office plaza was too expensive. We are signing people up for Taste of STL. Spark is on October 8th. The consensus at the Events meeting was to increase the price to \$50. Melanie asked board members to ask for donations to the silent auction. She has the letter and packet of items that could be donated. They need everything done by September 21st. Attendance at the last meeting was 8 or 9. Dan asked if they



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have made anyheadway in setting up smaller events. Mike said they will pivot to that after March. James said they need someone to spearhead the National Night Out event since Karen Leverenz, who spearheaded it last year, is unavailable this year. Dan said he will work on it. The date is Monday October 1st.

### **Safety:**

The last meeting on the 31st was well attended and a success. Dan sent out three items before the meeting. A letter regarding the Tucker Shell, a list of shots fired and shootings for June and July, and a list of solutions for quality of life issues that can be presented at the next Mayors meeting. James wants to develop the Tucker Shell letter into a petition to get nearby property owners involved. Dan agreed that should be the goal. We agreed that the next meeting with the Mayor should happen in September. Dan put together the shootings and shots fired to show the strong correlation of gunfire and the late night economy associated with a high concentration on alcohol selling establishments. Dan mentioned it's concerning that another media article was published regarding scrutinizing liquor license and race allegations made by the House of Soul and the Kwami folks. Dan said there has to be a better way of discussing these matters than people using race to achieve their goals. Dan said that racial matters are certainly a valid concern in todays society, however we still need to scrutinize liquor licenses. James and Mike said the best approach is consistency of messaging, educating members, and Good Neighbor Agreements should continue and don't get pulled down the race path. Melanie asked if it would make sense for the Convention Center folks to be brought into the efforts. Everyone agreed that the more partners the better. Melanie will reach out to them.

### **Nondiscrimination and Inclusivity Policy Clause:**

Mike said to take a moment to read the different clauses that LaShana proposed. Alex said statements about ICE may not pertain to us. Everyone seemed to like the Willow Glen example the best.

### **Holiday Party:**

Mike said we are struggling to find a place to have the party. Melanie suggested The Thaxton, Flamingo Bowl, and the MX. Melanie will reach out to Hotel Saint Louis. Alex asked suggested the Aquarium. The Arch is not an option this year.

### **Open Discussion:**

Mike said to start thinking about the next election and who is going to run. Mike proposed moving the next meeting to September 3rd. Everyone agreed.

Taylor sent out the Building Captain survey and went over the results. Biggest issues are communication and low attendance. She also needs to get a good list of Building Captains. Some suggestions are a newsletter and a list of all DNA Members in each building so Captains can have regular contact with them, reducing overlapping communication.



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Dan said he is now on the Board for a Citizens for a Greater Downtown St Louis and will serve as Treasurer. If anyone has questions or concerns to please speak to him on the matter. Their mission is to establish a new CID.

James has sent in his form to be renominated to the current CID board.

Dan made a motion to adjourn, Melanie 2nd, all were in favor to adjourn.



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