



DNA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

6 pm, January 6th, 2019

Covo, 401 Pine Street, St Louis, MO 63102

Present: LaShana Lewis (Chair), Dan Pistor (Secretary), James Page (Treasurer), Melanie Fries, Alex Hurst.

Meeting was called to order at 6:10pm.

Minutes:

Everyone reviewed the minutes. **Motion made by Melanie. 2nd by James. All approved.**

Treasurers Report:

James sent out the bank statements in full for review. There was a old check that was cashed from Taste of Downtown recently. **Dan moved. LaShana 2nd. All approved.**

Board Elections:

LaShana said we have 7 applications. 4 of them meet the criteria to be allowed to run. LaShana, Dan, and James previously discussed that per our Bylaws, we don't have to fill all seats at the election, therefore we could proceed with the election with the 4 candidates or less. If one candidate drops out before the election, then we can have a special meeting to appoint another member as a Director. The 3 Directors not running will make up the election committee. Since we are also voting on the Bylaws, LaShana asked Alex if the Bylaws go into effect right away and if the other candidates could run provisionally. Alex said that is something we could do. Dan said he would rather not have any provisional candidates. Alex said we are taking away the option for us to pick from the entire list of applications. Alex said a third option would be to ask the membership to waive the membership requirement and proceed with the election. Melanie said that approach could cause some members to be upset because they didn't realize that would happen and could have ran. She added we should vote on the ones that meet the 2 year membership requirement and then appoint a Director if seats are still available. LaShana agreed we should go with the original plan of the current candidates that meet the 2 year requirement. Alex will respectfully dissent due to the fact he doesn't want to exclude people. **LaShana moved to put all the candidates that meet the 2 year requirement onto the ballot and fill any seats that may be needed due to lack of candidates through our normal process. James seconded. LaShana, James, Dan, and Melanie approved and Alex abstained.** LaShana will get communication out to the candidates explaining why we are proceeding this way and publish the bios on the website.

Bylaws:

LaShana wanted to do a final vote on the Bylaws. Alex said there has been no revision to version 3. Dan said since no edits have been made we don't have to vote again since we did last meeting. We decided version 3 is the final version and no vote needed. James has the voting forms ready. Alex suggested adding the date to the ballots. Alex will write up a summary of substantial changes for the Town Hall but will omit the language changes. They will be placed on the website and be passed out at the Town Hall.



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Melanie asked about absentee ballots for this election. James said that cannot happen until the Bylaws are passed so it's too late for this Town Hall. James said Zach McMichael pointed out the Bylaws are not on the website. LaShana will create a tab for the Bylaws but they should be on the website somewhere.

Membership and Development:

Melanie said they are finishing up the list of donors, annual report, etc before the end of the year. Membership did not meet in December but will when Rob returns.

Safety:

Safety met December 18th. Dan sent out attachments for Tucker Shell and the form letter for the Governor and asked for feedback. Dan mentioned one member, who has been at safety meetings periodically throughout the years, was present at the meeting and spoke out about the Release Center item. We came to the conclusion that we should send a letter to the Governor for a better location. Dan asked if we need to vote. **James moved we accept and adopt the letter to the Governor with the exception of minor edits like re-wording. Melanie 2nd. All voted in favor. None opposed. James moved we accept and adopt the Tucker Shell letter with the exception of minor edits. Melanie 2nd. All approved. None opposed.** Shane wants to have the Building Captain meeting after the Safety meeting since the subjects overlap and some captains are also safety members. Dans concern is it will take away some time from safety and not dedicate enough time for captains. James mentioned concerns of running out of space at Lucas Park. We decided that Dan will reach out to Shane and see if it would work to have the meeting right after safety. Dan is going to set up a meeting with Schnuck's to discuss some safety and alcohol issues. Dan mentioned an RFT article where a liquor license applicant alleged issues with race going through the liquor license process. Dan said no racial comments were ever mentioned at the safety meeting. DNA didn't oppose the license but did pass along some red flags that were discovered. Racism is certainly a valid issue in today's society, however just because we question applicants, doesn't mean it is because of race. We question all applicants, send them through the same process, and treat all of them the same way. Dan mentioned that Melanie has asked what could be funded for safety. Dan mentioned that we could use some funding to set up an outreach system to send info cards via mail to signers. Funding would be for postage and printing.

Holiday Party:

James said it was a success. However, we had too much food based on no shows from the Eventbrite RSVP's. Many of the no shows were from the Covo RSVP's. Melanie asked about combining the holiday party and Spark. James suggested sending that back to the Events Committee. Melanie expressed we should reconsider partnering with Covo next time. James gave the leftover food to Biddle.

Town Hall:

We have Board Elections and Bylaws. LaShana asked which one we should do first and everyone agreed Bylaws should go first.



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Open Discussion:

Melanie said she has been a bit out of touch due to the issues at her residence. LaShana said we should discuss fundraising at the retreat.

James is lining up speakers for the next 2 town halls. Streets, Ameren, Treasurers Dept, and Design Downtown are in the works.

Dan thanked everyone for serving on the board for the past year. It is a very thankless job and not an easy one.

LaShana said it was an honor to serve as Chair the past 2 months.

Melanie made a motion to adjourn, Alex 2nd, all in favor to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:39pm.

