

## **Meeting of the Historic Decatur Association (HDA) Board of Directors (BOD)**

**Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at 6:00pm**

**Meeting Location: Carnegie Visual Art Center**

### **BOD Meeting Attendees:**

Cindy Upton  
Kelly Hutchings  
Canitha Thomas  
Astrid McIntosh  
Harriette Mathews  
Brenda Henson  
Marsha Ercegovic  
Nancy Greenleaf  
Carol Chenault  
Mike Meely

2021 HDA President Canitha Thomas called the meeting to order. The first meeting topic was the acceptance of the June meeting minutes. The first motion of acceptance was made by Marsha Ercegovic, with a second from Carol Chenault. The acceptance of the minutes was with a positive unanimous BOD vote. The minutes are archived on the HDA website.

HDA Treasurer Mike Meely emailed the treasury report to the BOD. He said that the HDA currently has 95 paid member household. We have \$48,160.39 cash on hand, with a remaining set aside for trees that may be reallocated later. This leaves \$34,690.18 unobligated. Kelly Hutchings made a motion to accept the report, with a second from Brenda Henson. The acceptance of the report passed with a unanimous positive vote.

The August newsletter will be ready for distribution soon.

The next topic was New Business. Canitha said that she was contacted by Barney Lovelace concerning the large trucks that are tearing up the roundabouts on Grant Street. Barney wants to ask Decatur City to remove them, since the damage from the trucks is impacting those neighbors near the roundabouts. Canitha spoke to Decatur Police Officer Delgado about this possibility and was told that he would contact ALDOT about posting signs for no 18-wheeler traffic. Officer Delgado did not think that ALDOT would remove the roundabouts.

Kelly Hutchings submitted her BOD resignation letter. She is moving out of the district to Harvest, Alabama in the next several weeks. The BOD thanked her for her contributions and support and wished her happiness in her new home.

The window restoration workshop is August 21<sup>st</sup> at Ingalls Harbor. For the BOD pledged \$1200 toward the costs of the workshop, Canitha indicated that only \$100 more was needed.

The next discussion topic was the Christmas Tour. With no appointed committee chairperson and no formal committee, several members of the BOD are working through the many details of preparing for the Tour. Canitha reported that 3 houses have been scheduled for the Albany portion of the Tour. Old Decatur BOD members are working to schedule homes in their neighborhood. Several of the BOD members are soliciting sponsorship contributions to offset the costs of the Tour. There was a discussion on the Christmas Tour website loss of webmaster support. Astrid McIntosh is looking into whether she can make the needed updates. It was also confirmed that each of the tour houses would receive the \$400 stipend.

Under Old Business, Canitha asked the BOD to discuss the merits and need for the HDA in light of burnout of several current volunteers, with no obvious interest from many neighbors to get involved. Also, the number of paid member households has decreased over the years. Without several strong pushes which requires a substantial amount of volunteer time, many neighbors are not sending in their dues. With so many new people moving into the Albany and Old Decatur neighborhoods, has the makeup changed to the point where there is not enough interest to sustain the HDA's projects and interests? There was a BOD discussion acknowledging this situation, although nobody wants to completely end the HDA. There will be more discussions in future meetings to discuss viability and sustainability of the organization.

Marsha asked if she could print more tree calling cards. The motion to approve was made by Brenda with a second from Carol. Marsha did not need additional budget for the printing.

The HDA BOD normally meets at 6:00pm on the last Tuesday of every month except December. The next meeting of the HDA BOD is scheduled to occur on August 31, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cindy Upton, HDA Secretary