

# ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 11, 2022 :: 3:30PM :: Carol's House

**Call to order and Roll Call** The meeting was called to order at 3:36 pm. Board members attending were Carol Munro, Michele Johnson, Tony Vardaro, Larry Johnson, Jeffrey Burnell and Jeff Hoffman

**Acceptance of Agenda** The agenda was **accepted as proposed**.

**Review and Approval of Minutes of July 7, 2022** It was **Moved/Seconded/Carried** to approve the minutes as proposed. Michele noted that she did not want to be involved in recruiting volunteers to staff any Landmarks included in the 2023 Modernism Week Tour.

**Public Comment** None

## **Treasurer's Report**

Copies of the July 7, 2022 Financial Statements were emailed in advance. Larry Johnson said that total 2022 income to date is \$57,729.78. Expenditures total \$12,644.77, leaving a balance of \$45,085.01. Larry said that the only expenditure since the last meeting was \$360.53 for three Communications Contracts—5-year web address renewal, and new annual contracts for Zoom and Constant Contact.

Jeffery Burnell reported on his research related to new organizational email addresses. He recommended that we go with GoDaddy as the vendor. He presented the Board with two options

Option 1 -- \$3.99 per email per month for the first year, and then \$10 a month per email thereafter. So for one year, our cost now would be around \$400.

Option 2 -- \$3.99 per email per month for year one and a discounted rate for year two, and then \$10 a month per email thereafter. So for two years, our net cost would be around \$650.

Given the cost savings and the ability to lock in the lower price for a second year, Jeffrey recommended that we go with option 2.

Before taking formal action, Larry reported on the recommendations of the Finance Committee on the proposed revisions to the 2022 Budget (6-2-22 version). As outlined in their memo, the Finance Committee is recommending that the new cost of organizational emails be covered by a reduction in the General Membership line item. Larry noted that the current balance in the Membership meetings line item is currently \$5,023.94. Given either option would leave more

than sufficient funds to cover the costs of the one remaining membership meeting in November 2022, the Finance Committee supports either option the Board decides to take.

After discussion, it was **Moved/Seconded/Carried** to add \$650 to the Communications Contract line item to cover the cost of option 2, and deduct that amount from the Membership meetings line item.

Larry also reported that after a rather lengthy process we have now completed all the required paperwork with the Bank. We can now go to the bank and sign the signature cards to finalize the authorization of Carol Munro, Jeffery Burnell, and Larry Johnson as the three approved check signers. Larry said he would take the lead in setting up an appointment with the Bank.

### **2023 Modernism Tour**

Carol Munro said that we have a lot of information to review and decisions to make today related to our 2023 Modernisms Tour.

#### *Deadlines*

Carol highlighted for the Board two key upcoming deadlines. All proposed homes for the tour must be curated and approved by Modernism staff by August 31<sup>st</sup>. The Final draft of our event posting for the Modernism Website must be submitted by September 15<sup>th</sup>. She reminded the Board that tickets go on sale on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### *List of Homes*

Carol reviewed the list of 7 homes now recruited for the 2023 tour. In addition to the three homes discussed at our last meeting, we have now secured the commitment of homeowners at 992 E. La Jolla, 981 E. Marion Way, and 1370 E. Marion Way. She thanked Tony for securing condo unit 326 at the Ocotillo Lodge which will be on both our tour and the Ocotillo Lodge tour. [Modernism Week staff has since notified us that their guidelines preclude having the same unit on two tours in the same year. Efforts to securing another Ocotillo Lodge unit or another home are underway.]

Carol thanked everyone for their efforts to secure these 7 homes for the tour. There was agreement that this mix of four Krisel designs and 3 designs by later architects will make for a very diverse and exciting tour.

#### *Budget/Tickets*

Carol reminded the Board we are approved for up to 400 tickets. Larry suggested that we start with 50 tickets for seven start times for a total of 350 tickets. Once a few of the start times sell out, we can add additional tickets. The Board discussed the pros and cons of how many tickets to start with, but left a final decision to our next meeting.

Modernism staff provided Carol with a list of the prices other tours will be charging for the 2023 tour. For the most part, tour prices are remaining unchanged for 2023. Tony Vardaro shared that the Ocotillo Lodge has set its price as \$95. Carol suggested we increase our price from \$75 to \$85 or \$90. There was agreement that we should raise our ticket price to at least \$85 dollars, but a final decision was not made pending finalization of all 7 tour homes and further discussion at our next meeting.

#### *Check in location*

At the last meeting, the Board decided to pursue 2 options for the check in location—Smoke Tree Condominiums and Ocotillo Lodge. Larry confirmed with Smoke Tree that it is available again in 2023. Tony Vardaro reported that the Ocotillo Lodge was also available. While there was no usage cost for either location, Tony shared that the Ocotillo Lodge is requesting that we set up the Krisel Exhibit in their Clubhouse for their Saturday tour.

Larry reported that he had contacted Eric Chiel to discuss his willingness to set up the Exhibit twice, and any concerns he might have with security for the exhibit itself for this extended period. Larry reported that Eric had agreed to both setups, assuming we agreed to several conditions he specified. Tony said that all Eric's conditions could be met. Tony also said that we could have our Thank You Event at the Ocotillo Lodge.

The Board decided to go with the Ocotillo Lodge for the 2023 tour. While Smoke Tree had worked out very well in 2022, the Ocotillo Lodge was seen as more centrally located and closer to the homes on the 2023 tour. Tony was thanked for his efforts to make the Ocotillo Lodge available for our Tour.

#### *Volunteers*

There was no new update on recruitment/training of Tour volunteers.

#### *Insurance*

Larry Johnson reported that he had good news on the cost of insurance for the 2023 tour. Modernism Week staff put the insurance contract for all 2023 events out for bid. Due to the history of few if any claims over the years, they were able to secure a new vendor at a reduced price. Our cost will be going down almost in half of 2022 to only \$300 a year. The coverage will also be more comprehensive.

#### **Discussion of Eric Chiel's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Proposal**

Carol shared with the Board a 3-page written "Proposal to Acknowledge the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Twin Palms Neighborhood Organization" submitted by former board Eric Chiel. He proposes that we brand the day of our home Tour "Twin Palms Day" and mount a day-long series of activities that would be designated official Modernism Week events. These events would all center around our neighborhood and its history.

He suggested the following 5 events for that day: Our Home Tour; a neighborhood walking tour lead by Eric; a film screening of “William Krisel, Architect” by documentary filmmaker Jake Gorst; a presentation/discussion by Jill Alexander on the contribution of her family’s business the Alexander Construction Company; and a proclamation by the City of Palm Springs declaring the day Twin Palms Day.

After discussion, it was decided to pursue Eric’s vision with one major modification. Instead of trying to do all the suggested events in one day (Monday), it was decided to spread out the events over the 3-day President’s Day weekend. This will allow Board members and volunteers involved in our Home Tour the option to participate in some of all of the other events.

Tony Vardaro said that he would suggest to the Ocotillo Lodge Tour planning committee that their Saturday Ocotillo Lodge Tour be included as a part of the overall 3-day celebration.

If some of these events are not able to happen during Modernism Week, Larry Johnson suggested we consider trying to hold one or more of them as a part of our late March 2023 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Twin Palms Annual Membership meeting.

The Board asked Carol to contact Eric to run our suggestions past him to confirm that he was in agreement with our revisions to his proposal. Assuming he is, he was authorized to approach Modernism Week staff with our ideas and gauge their interest in working with us. He will report back to us their response. He was also authorized to contact Mr. Gorst and Ms. Alexander to inquire as to their availability and interest in participating during Modernism Week. He will report back to the Board on their responses.

### **Additional Business/Updates**

#### *Neighborhood Entry Signs*

Larry Johnson asked if there was any update on efforts to reach out to the owner of the house on the south east corner of Twin Palms and Navajo to inquire if they were interested in working with use to make improvements to the older Twin Palms wooden sign on their property. Carol reported that we have not been able to make any contact yet.

#### *Little Library Update*

Larry Johnson reported that we have received our first bid on constructing the Little Library from Palm Springs Welding. Due to the almost 100% increase in the price of steel over the past year, the bid came in higher than he expected. The bid was almost \$4,000 (\$2,560 for post and structure, \$760 for installation of the post and concrete pad, and \$505 for painting). He said we might be able to reduce the cost by using other vendors to install the base and do the painting.

Several members suggested that we also explore seeks bids to build the structure in wood as this might be less costly. Given that both the steel and wood need to be painted, the type of material used is less important since both will require some ongoing maintenance to keep looking good. It was agreed that either way we want the post and bottom base of the structure

to be made of steel in order to ensure a durable solid structure. Carol said she had a couple of leads on carpenters and would get those to Larry who said he would follow-up and seek bids.

Larry also reported that he had spoken with Jeffery Burnell who said that the next meeting of the Twin Palms Condo Association Board was October 17, 2022. Jeff said he could put us on the agenda to present the Little Library design and seek approval to site the library structure on their property.

At this point, the goal is to have the Little Library built and installed in time for the 2023 Modernism Tour.

### **Next Meetings**

After discussing several dates in September, the next meeting was set for Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 3:30 pm.

As previously scheduled, the next General Membership Meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2022. Tony reported that he had secured the Ocotillo Lodge clubhouse for that meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 pm.

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