DACNA XXVIII – Monthly Report – July 14, 2019

Dear Family: Please listen carefully – there is much to report. Immediately following DACNA 27 and prior to DACNA 28 elections on June 8th, Gary W and Tami H along with several other past DACNA chairs reached out to multiple venues for availability to host DACNA 28. This search was a result of tight space at Motor City Convention Center and consensus from the fellowship that a return to the Renaissance Marriott would be appreciated. Immediately following the elections Tami H and Gary W reported to the entire convention committee, close to 60 people, that we were exploring these options and that immediate feedback from the Renaissance Marriott was no availability for Easter weekend 2020. The committee was unanimous that we should continue to explore options AND if the Marriott or other suitable venue was available, to book it. In addition to the Renaissance Marriott; we looked at nearby convention hotels such as the Sterling Inn and Best Western Premier, Cobo Hall and the Suburban Showplace in Novi. None of the hotels we surveyed have the meeting room capacity to host a convention the size of DACNA. The Suburban Showplace has the meeting space but only 100 hotel rooms and two suites with facility rent starting at $40,000 and a food beverage commitment of $30,000. They also charge $5.00 per car per day for parking. Cobo Hall had an even higher facility rent and food and beverage minimum. Parking for Cobo Hall is $10 per car per day. Cobo Hall has no affiliate hotel. The Renaissance Marriott told us they currently had availability for DACNA in 2021 and 2022, but that DACNA for 2023 was tentative because the AKA convention that booked the entire hotel in 2019 wanted to return. With all the data collected the Exec Body of DACNA and three past DACNA chairs met on June 26th to decide how best to proceed. The unanimous consensus was that we return to Motor City Convention Center for DACNA 28 AND that we book the Renaissance Marriott for DACNA 29, 30 and 31. Our deadline for booking was June 30th to secure all three years otherwise the AKA convention would take 2023 and we would be back in the same situation we were in for 2019/2020. Contracts were signed on June 28th for all three years. Each contract has a clause that transfers accountability to new chair and co-chair designees upon election and notification to the hotel staff. So - DACNA 28 will be held at the Motor City Hotel and Convention Center. Reservation are now being accepted by the hotel – use CODE DACNA. Amenities and pricing remain the same as 2019 - • Complimentary self and valet parking • Complimentary Starbucks coffee and bottled water in each guestroom • Complimentary use of 24-hour business center • Complimentary use of 24-hour fitness center • 10% off all products in Lacquer Gift Shop • 10% off spa services in D. Tour Spa • 10% off all in-room dining ordered electronically through TV in room Room rates are as follows – • Deluxe Double Rooms - $159 • Deluxe King Rooms - $159 • Deluxe Suites - $299 • Tax on rooms/suites is 15% • A charge of $50 per room (not per night) is charged/held for incidentals Changes for DACNA 28 - • Food and beverage purchased at any venue in the convention/hotel center will be allowed on the convention floor – things like dogs, pizza, a burger, coffee and water (not full sit-down meals and not food brought in from the outside) • Roving food carts with reasonably priced snacks will be available at various times throughout the convention Extra convention space will be roped off in the Overdrive area on the food floor for talking, cards and dominos • Programming and Entertainment committees will work to reconfigure how rooms are utilized to avoid overcrowding and better people flow • The Sound Board is being negotiated to use for the Saturday night banquet and speaker • Both the Ohio and Spruce lots will be available for self-park • More information will be available at the July 20th DACNA convention committee meeting AND the August Area meetings Our first fundraiser is being held August 30, 2018. It will be a speaker event followed by a dance. Doors open at 7PM. The event takes place at Detroit Recovery Project – 1145 West Grand Boulevard. Flyers will be available next month. DACNA 28 planning meetings are held the third Saturday of each month. The next meeting is July 20, 2019. The meeting will be held at St. John Conner Creek at 4777 East Outer Drive. The meeting starts at 11AM. We encourage everyone to attend our meetings. We can use the help planning the convention AND you can access more detailed information than allows for an Area report. In Loving Service – Gary W. (Chair) and Tami H. (Vice Chair)