

**Gary Boren – Secretary**

Gary Boren, on the DDA board since 2003, has also served on the boards of the American Civil Liberties Union, Michigan Bar Association, Detroit Bar Association, Detroit Consumer Bankruptcy Association, and the Ann Arbor New Jewish Agenda. He is a former board member and treasurer of the Ann Arbor Area Committee for Peace.

**Russ Collins – Research and Opportunities Committee Chair**

Russ Collins is an Ann Arbor native who has been the Executive Director of the Michigan Theater since 1982. Mr. Collins is a Professional Theatre Program Fellow of the University of Michigan, an Arts Administration Fellow of the National Endowment for the Arts and has been knighted by the Republic of Italy for his promotion of Italian film culture in the United States. He is the host of “Cinema Chat” on WEMU and presides at the Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce’s monthly Morning Edition program. Mr. Collins is an adjunct faculty member of Eastern Michigan University where he teaches film studies and Arts Administration.

**Dave DeVarti**

Dave DeVarti, on the DDA board since 1991, is active as a volunteer in other area organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union, the Fair Housing Center of Washtenaw County, and the Ecology Center of Ann Arbor. In addition, he is a former member of the Ann Arbor City Council and the Planning Commission.

**René Greff – Treasurer**

René Greff has served on the DDA board since 2000, with terms as Secretary in 2001 and Vice Chair of the Board in 2002. She is the Chair of the Living Economy Network, served as Chair of the Main Street Area Association from 2001-2004, is on the boards of Recycle Ann Arbor and Ozone House, and is currently serving on the steering committees of the Environmental Justice Campaign and Democracy for America. Ms. Greff has received numerous business recognitions for Arbor Brewing Company, including the Washtenaw County Environmental Excellence Award for Waste Reduction and Recycling (2000) and the Michigan Restaurant Association’s Restaurant Neighbor Award for Community Service (2000).

**Leah Gunn**

Leah Gunn is currently a Washtenaw County Commissioner, in addition to serving on the DDA since 1991, where she has been Chair of the Board in the past. Ms. Gunn has demonstrated local leadership through her involvement with the Natural Areas Millage in 2000 and the Greenbelt Campaign in 2003. She has also served as Co-Chair of the District Library Millage Committee in 1996, Campaign Manager for Mayor John Hieftje in 2004 and other candidates, and on has served on the boards of numerous local non-profit organizations. Ms. Gunn is also a member of the Michigan Environmental Council. For her environmental efforts, she has received two Environmental Steward Awards from the Sierra Club.

**Jennifer Hall – Board Vice Chair**

Jennifer Hall was appointed to the DDA in 2006 and is also a member of the City’s Greenbelt Advisory Commission. Prior to this appointment, she was Chair of the Ann Arbor City Planning Commission and a member of the Environmental Commission. Ms. Hall is currently using her background in conservation biology to assist the Washtenaw Land Trust with a land protection project.

**Roger Hewitt – Board Chair, Operations Committee Chair**

Roger Hewitt has served on the DDA board since 2004, is the Vice President of the State Street Area Association, and, in 2005, was appointed to the Downtown Rezoning Steering Committee. He also has a strong environmental interest, and is a member of the Ecology Center and the Huron River Watershed Council.

**John Hieftje**

John Hieftje is currently the Mayor of Ann Arbor, and has served on the DDA Board for four years. Mr. Hieftje has been a very active community leader, serving on the boards of numerous area organizations, including the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, Michigan Theater, Huron River Watershed Council, and Lake Superior Conservancy and Watershed Council. He is the Co-Chair of the Washtenaw Metro Alliance, and has served as Chair of Recycle Ann Arbor and of Urban Core Mayors of Michigan. In addition, he is a member of the Sierra Club, the Ecology Center of Ann Arbor, and the National Wildlife Federation (Great Lakes Office). Through these activities, he has demonstrated a strong commitment to improving the local environment, and has won several awards, including Local Elected Official of the Year Award from the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association; the Conservation Leadership Award from the Greater Detroit Audubon Society; the Conservation Award from the Huron Valley Group of Sierra Club; and the Preservationist of the Year Award from Washtenaw Land Trust.

**Joan Lowenstein**

Joan Lowenstein is an attorney at Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss, located in the First National Building in downtown Ann Arbor. She has worked in downtown Ann Arbor since 1986. Ms. Lowenstein was elected to City Council in 2002 and has been re-elected twice. She lives in the Ann Arbor Hills neighborhood, a short distance from downtown, and bikes to work. Ms. Lowenstein is married and has two sons.

**John Mouat**

John Mouat was appointed to the DDA in 2007. An east coast native, John came to Ann Arbor to go to university and now lives with his wife Lisa and daughters Ella and Julia on the near Old Westside. Mr. Mouat is a partner in the firm Mitchell and Mouat Architects, Inc., a downtown Ann Arbor firm specializing in Community Architecture, and his wife is a Policy Analyst for the EPA. He has been active with a number of civic organizations and boards over the years.

**Sandi Smith –Partnerships Committee Chair**

Sandi Smith was appointed to the DDA board in 2004, and is active on all four board committees. Ms. Smith was the director of the Washtenaw Rainbow Action Project for 5 years, and has continued her leadership there since leaving that position. She has also been very active with the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors since 1986, serving on the Board of Directors and chairing several committees. Ms. Smith is committed to making downtown Ann Arbor a great place to live and work.

**John Splitt – Capital Improvements Committee Chair**

John Splitt is the owner of a small downtown business and is an Ann Arbor native. Mr. Splitt was appointed to the DDA in 2006 and is also a board member of the State Street Area Association. In his spare time he enjoys participating in team sports like softball and basketball.