

**Castro/Upper Market Community Benefit District
District Identity & Streetscape Improvement Committee Meeting
August 22, 2016 DRAFT Minutes
Committee Members Present:** Brian Gougherty , Shawn Vergara
Guests/Staff: Andrea Aiello, E.D., Daniel Bergerac, Brad Lautenbach

- I. **Introductions/Brown Act Minutes Approval:** Meeting called to order at 6:06 p.m. All introduced themselves, Brown Act reviewed. **Motion** approved August 8, 2016 minutes (BG1, SV2). Call for public comment, there was none, approved.

- II. **Community Challenge Grant**

Committee discussed ideas for grant at length. Andrea reviewed that we want overall to use art to unify and tie the district visually together. The committee has discussed potential ideas including: painting utility boxes, landscaping, way finding signage, sculpture, LED lighting, bike racks. Discussed short timing available through this RFP – 5 weeks and need to have selected the artist already. Given short turnaround committee decided to apply for something that was do able and easy. Much discussion ensued. **Motion:** (BG1, SV2) To apply for a Community Challenge Grant to paint the utility boxes in the district by hiring one or two professional artists. A request for qualifications will be sent out this week and CBD board will select the winning candidate(s) at the September board meeting. More discussion, call for public comment. Members of the public expressed frustration at the very short turn around time. Given the short turn around time, public comment was supportive of the painted utility boxes. Motion approved.

Andrea to research budget for painting utility boxes.

Discussed applying for larger project in February, possibly in collaboration with the Mayor’s Office of Housing & Community Development (MOHCD) grant. Shawn shared an artist who does kinetic wind sculptures. Ideas for next grant include: sculptures of some type in median on Market (kinetic wind?), living alley, way finding, dynamic wind, dynamic lighting in the Wiggle.

- III. **Jane Warner Plaza Grant Update**

Andrea discussed recent challenges with the contract with Larkin St. The current intern/Plaza Steward quit last Saturday 8/13/16. There had been problems building. In retrospect and after researching about supported employment programs, Andrea realized that the model that was created between Larking and the Castro CBD just was doomed to failure. Supported employment typically requires a supervisor working side by side the intern. The independence required in this situation is not a successful situation. Andrea reported she discussed this with Scott Wiener’s aide Andres Power, Andres said he would explain to Scott and that the CBD needed to do what they needed to do to make JWP a success. Andrea also discussed this with Craig Lahti of Larkin and he agreed this was an unusual situation and there were no other “internships” like this with so little supervision and so much independence. Andrea reported

there was a mutual agreement between Larkin and the Castro CBD to terminate the contract.

Motion: (SV1, BG2) To terminate the existing contract with Larkin St. Youth Services and to contract with Block by Block for the remaining funding, approximately \$38,000, to run the Plaza Steward program or a program very similar. Much discussion, committee had follow-up questions for Andrea re: specifics of issues. Public comment included a question if it was possible to salvage to contract with Larkin by hiring a part-time supervisor to work with the intern? Andrea's response was this type of staffing is not in the budget. Andrea did add that it was possible the Block By Block(BBB) would want to collaborate with Larkin and offer internships, committee members really liked that idea. Andrea will talk with Joe the Operations Manager with BBB. Motion approved.

Andrea explained that the city is on a two-year budget cycle. In the spring of 2015, the city budget had \$150,000 for FY 15-16 for FY Jane Warner Improvements and \$125,000 in the FY 16-17 budget. The process of getting these funds was delayed, so the money got pushed back to FY 16-17 (current) and FY 17-18. The city wants to amend our current \$150,000 contract to add the \$125,000. At this time we would also change the contract from Larkin to Block By Block. The board has to accept these funds, so a motion to accept the funds is necessary. **Motion:** (SV1, BG2) Accept the amendment of an additional \$125,000 to the existing Jane Warner Improvement contract. Details of the contract amendment will be presented at the September board meeting. Discussion, call for public comment, there was none. Motion approved.

Andrea reported on the status of the shed that we use to store the furniture. It broke for the 3rd time and she finally gave up on it and tossed it. The furniture is being stored in Orphan Andy's backyard. Because of this, the furniture will only be brought out Friday – Sunday due to the difficulty in getting the furniture in and out. She reported she is researching metal boxes but is having trouble finding the exact size. Shawn said he knows someone who can build a really great metal storage shed, he will get Andrea his contact info.

IV. CBD Marketing

Brad and Andrea discussed ideas of holding some “open house/meet and greet” type of events in the eastern part of the district. Discussed possibly at the old recycle yard, or at The Myriad, currently planning event for 2001 Market St. (38 Dolores) Committee members thought this was a great idea.

V. Public Comment

There was none

VI. Adjourn Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by Andrea Aiello
Approved 1/3/16