

**Castro/Upper Market Community Benefit District
Land Use Committee**

March 30, 2017

Minutes

Present: Alan Lau, Scott James, Jim Laufenberg, Helen McClure, Shawn Vergara

Absent/Excused

Guests/Staff: Andrea Aiello, Executive Director; CBD Retail Strategy - Business Attraction Consultant, Jason Luger

I. Introductions/Brown Act: Meeting began at 10:35 a.m. Reviewed Brown Act. Committee members introduced themselves. **Motion:** (SJ1, JI 2) Approve minutes from 2/27/17, call for public comment, there was none, approved.

II. Vacancy Rate and Community Concerns

Andrea reported that the neighborhood associations had a meeting last week to discuss the vacancy rate and the Hoodline/ABC coverage. Decided to ask Supervisor Sheehy to hold a public hearing on the issue and question...why is the vacancy rate so high in the Castro and not other neighborhoods?

Committee discussed a lot. Multiple issues discussed from CU issues and formula retail regulations to streetscape, homeless and misdemeanor crime, to why does it take so long for businesses to open? For example, Castro Fountain – 2 years. Committee instructed Andrea to raise idea of suggesting some sort of “enterprise zone” to be established for the Castro. Can we pilot some ideas: expedite permits, PUC involved re: utilities, etc.

III. Public Comment

There was none.

IV. Adjourn

11:42 a.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by Andrea Aiello

Approved 4/24/17