



CASTRO/UPPER MARKET COMMUNITY BENEFIT DISTRICT

693 14th Street San Francisco CA 94114

www.CastroCBD.org 415-500-1181

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting on December 17, 2020

Directors Present: Daniel Bergerac, Treasurer Crispin Hollings, Misha Langley, Vice President Alan Lau, Secretary Jim Laufenberg, Helen McClure, Desmond Morgan, Pat Sahagun, President Justine Shoemaker

Directors Absent and Excused: Angel Davis, **Staff Present:** Andrea Aiello

Guests: D-8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, Marc Nagal Co-Founder Rescue SF, Chery Maloney Castro Corridor Manager

Members of the Public Present: None

Meeting Held Via Zoom Due to Coronavirus Shelter In Place Order

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS: The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Board President Justine Shoemaker. A basic quorum was present and maintained throughout the meeting.

Brown Act Notice:

Justine summarized California's Brown Act, as its rules apply to the CBD's board meetings. They include provisions that meetings are publicly noticed in advance and are open to the public; for public comment before any vote is taken on each agenda item and following committee reports; and for general public comment, scheduled as Item 2 on the agenda for this meeting. Guests who interrupt or are otherwise disruptive of the meeting will be given a verbal warning. If a second interruption or disruption by the individual(s) occurs at the meeting, they will be asked to leave. A copy of the meeting agenda was publicly posted timely, in advance, on-line at www.castrocbd.org A copy of the board package was available for public review on the Castro CBD website.

2. General Public Comment

A call for general public comment was made. There was none.

3. APPROVE OCTOBER 8, 2020 CBD BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Discussion and consideration of approval for October 8, 2020 board meeting minutes was made. **Motion CH1, JL2, to approve minutes. Minutes were approved.**

4. Discussion and consideration to support A Place For All ordinance. An ordinance

calling for the expansion of safe sleeping sights in San Francisco: Supervisor Mandelman discussed his legislation A Place For All. A Place For All would require the City to create a network of temporary Safe Sleeping Sites with enough capacity to ensure that on any given night in San Francisco any unhoused person for whom the City cannot provide a supportive housing unit, shelter bed, or hotel room can be offered a placement at a Safe Sleeping Site. Within 60 days of passage, the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing would be required to prepare and present an Implementation Plan to create 500 additional safe sleeping site placements within nine months and enough placements to accommodate all unsheltered people in San Francisco within nine months after that. The City

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Controller will be required to prepare an annual report evaluating the program. Discussion and questions and answers. This bill directs the Department to create a plan that would recommend where the safe sleeping sites will be, the array of services, any restrictions or controls, the cost, etc. Supervisor Mandelman also discussed what the city has accomplished: 8,000 people are currently in supportive housing; 26,000 people have been moved off the streets into some type of permanent or supportive housing since 2004. More discussion.

Motion: This is a motion from the Services Committee, motion passed, one abstention. It was suggested for the E.D. to work with Castro Cares to get community-wide support for this legislation.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS

B. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

- Thank you to volunteers: Andrea reported that she distributed thank you gifts to CBD volunteers.
- FY 2019-20 Annual Report: FY19-20 Annual Report should be in the mail at the beginning of new year.
- Mary Botts: Andrea spoke of Mary Botts and the tragedy of all the lost lives due to overdose and homelessness in San Francisco. She thanked the board for supporting A Place for All.
- Castro Leadership Group: Andrea reported that she is chairing this group, the group now includes CBD, Castro Merchants, EVNA, DTNA, Neighborhood Action Group, D8RTF, Castro LGBT Cultural District. The group meets monthly.

C. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Justine acknowledged all the work that the CBD's committee members do, she is very proud of the CBD members and happy that the CBD received funding for the unarmed public safety ambassador program. This is a testament to the hard work staff and committee members put into this effort. She thanked the cleaning crew for working during very difficult conditions this year and keeping the Castro, Upper Church and Upper Market clean. She looks forward to the new year and the renewed CBD.

D. FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

- 1) **Motion from the Finance Committee** to approve the 6 Month Budget End Projections ending 12/31/2020: **PS1, JL2 Motion passed.**
- 2) **Motion from Finance Committee** to approve revised Indirect Rate reallocation formula for city grants: **JL1, PS2 Motion passed.**
- 3) **Motion from the Finance Committee** to approve the 6 Month CBD Budget from 1/1/2021-6/30/2021: **JL1, PS2 Motion passed.**

E. SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT: Motions from Services Committee

- 1) Discussion and consideration for approval of contract with OWED for \$443,245 for Castro Cares, Public Safety Ambassador Program and Shared Spaces Program including subcontracts for Downtown Streets Team for \$75,932; Patrol Special Police for \$104,258. **Motion JL1, PS2** to approve of contract with OWED for \$443,245 for Castro Cares, Public Safety Ambassador Program and Shared Spaces Program including subcontracts for Downtown Streets Team for \$75,932; Patrol Special Police for \$104,258. **Motion approved.**
- 2) Discussion and consideration for approval of the 12-month Block By Block contract for \$826,236. **Motion DM1, JL2** to approve the 12-month Block By

Block contract for \$826,236. **Motion approved.**

3) Discussion and consideration of approval holiday bonuses for Block By Block Castro Clean Team, for a total of \$6000, to be distributed as approved by the Executive Director and the Operations Manager. **Motion JL1, DM2** to approve holiday bonuses for Block By Block Castro Clean Team, for a total of \$6000, to be distributed as approved by the Executive Director and the Operations Manager. **Motion approved.**

4) Discussion only Castro CBD's Public Safety Initiative: Patrol Special Police, Public Safety Ambassadors and consideration of a Public Safety Camera program: All board members are happy with the new Patrol Special hours and agreement and are excited to see the Safety Ambassador program implemented. Board discussed safety camera program in detail and extensively. Issues discussed include: concerns with privatization of public safety, some board members expressed discomfort with putting this type of program in the hands of a non-governmental entity with power and control residing in a non-elected entity. Concerns raised around on-going costs for breakage, software problems and staff support to run program and retrieve video. Who will pay for this and how much will it cost? To some extent the questions around cost will be answered through the RFP process. Others expressed concern about the amount of vandalism in the neighborhood, stating that between 4-5 a.m. there is so much vandalism, ground floor commercial spaces are having their windows smashed multiple times. Something needs to be done. Safety is part of our mission. Feet on the ground are critically important, but there cannot be feet on the ground 24/7 and all over the district. Questions raised: will video footage lead to convictions? One merchant reported extensive video of vandalism inside his store and months later, still nothing has happened, despite an immediate police report and turning over of the video to the police immediately. The police were even able to identify the person who broke in and nothing has been done. What is the use of cameras if SF law enforcement doesn't make use of the video footage? Again, board members expressed concern with the frequent vandalism and crime. Is it not better to at least have the video rather than not have it?

Extensive community input is being sought: Community input is in 2 phases: the current online survey is gathering input. Once the online survey is closed (early January about), the CBD will hold a "virtual" townhall. The goal for all community input is to be completed by the end of January.

The Services Committee is working on a decision-making process to help guide the CBD Board on making a decision on whether to accept the grant to install a camera program or not. Andrea is going to research arrest/conviction rates from other CBD's (notably Japantown and the Tenderloin CBD's). Andrea is also in the process of receiving the policies from all CBD's. She has said before, that the Tenderloin CBD has stronger privacy policies than the Union Square BID and that the Tenderloin CBD policies might be a good place to start if the board does decide to move forward with the camera program. If the board does decide to move forward, policies and procedures would be adopted in consultation with Castro community leaders.

F. DISTRICT IDENTITY AND STREETScape IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Update:

- Mural by Serge Gay Jr. will be on the Duboce St. side of Maitri
- We had a meeting with Supervisor's office and Bureau of Urban Forestry and they will be trimming the ginkgos on Castro in the next month and the 3 Magnolias on the Castro St. side of Pottery Barn bldg. They will also be ordering all the palms that have failed/been damaged and will be replacing them once it gets warmer.

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- We are reaching out to collaborate with the Castro LGBT Cultural District around beautification strategies.

G. RETAIL STRATEGY COMMITTEE REPORT

- 1) Update Corridor Manager: Cheryl Maloney the Corridor Manager spoke on the progress she has made. She is providing assistance with lease negotiations, questions about COVID and spreading the word about the services she can offer. Reviewed the template for quarterly reporting.
- 2) Discussion of approval to pause the Corridor Manager Program due to the Corona Virus pandemic, to re-evaluate a start-up time in March 2020 and request a no-cost time only extension until June 2022. This motion was from the Retail Strategy Committee. **Motion JL1, DM2** to approve to pause the Corridor Manager Program due to the Corona Virus pandemic, to re-evaluate a start-up time in March 2020 and request a no-cost time only extension until June 2022. **Motion passed.**

5. MOTION TO ADJOURN: Motion was made by JL1, AL2 to adjourn at 7:41 pm. Approved. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes taken and prepared by Andrea Aiello

Date Approved 2/18/2021

DocuSigned by:

James Laufenberg

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Jim Laufenberg, Secretary