



Services and Public Safety

March 22, 2023, 9:00am – 10:30am

Virtual Meeting- Zoom

MINUTES-APPROVED

The following attendees were present: Don Thomas (Donatello Building), Joe Della Cella (Recology), John Joseph Garrity (SFPD), Officer Haven Latimore (SFPD), Marcus Mirt (Recology), Ricky Soares (Legion), Tinea Adams (Block by Block), Mike Petricca (Academy of the Arts), Dmitri Shimolin (Applied Video Solutions), Thomas Brock (Lids), Tammy Brock (Lids), Steven Suen (Biscuit & Blues), and Tee Chisholm (Parc 55).

The following staff members were present: Marisa Rodriguez (CEO), Ben Horne (CFO), Ken Rich (COO), Lance Goree (Director of Services), and Melanie Medina (Executive Assistant)

1. Welcome, Introductions & Brief Announcements

- a) Chair Don Thomas called the meeting to order at 9:05am.
- b) Brief Overview of the Agenda/Key Points

Marisa Rodriguez informed the committee of the main goal of the committee which is clean and safe. She thanked the city departments that are in attendance.

2. Public Comments

Don asked for public comment. Ben Horne announced the upcoming Annual Union Square Foundation Luncheon and Fundraiser taking place on April 21st at the Westin St. Francis

3. Action to approve committee meeting minutes

- a) Services and Public Safety and Retail Theft Prevention Committee Join Meeting Minutes from 11/15/22.

Action: As moved by Mike Petricca and seconded by Marcus Mirt, the committee unanimously approved the meeting minutes from 11/15/22 as presented.

4. SFPD Union Square Area Updates and Reports

- a) Central Station

Captain Farmer informed the committee that statistically robberies have decreased but burglaries have increased. The current footprint of officers in Union Square will remain and a lieutenant will now be in the command van. Captain Farmer discussed incidences where police officers stopped several crimes in action in Union Square. Don Thomas suggested that the news of positive arrests should be shared out more often. Discussion



took place regarding youth incidences and criminals. Marisa thanked SFPD for their hard work and continued presence.

b) Tenderloin Station

No representative from Tenderloin Station was present.

c) Retired SFPD Ambassador

Joe Garitty informed the committee that there has been an increase of SFPD police ambassadors. They are now present 7 days/week with 2 ambassadors out patrolling the district. Joe highlighted the increase in business along O'Farrell Street. Discussion took place regarding how the ambassadors coordinate with SFPD and member services.

5. January/February 2023 Operations Reports

a) Tinea Adams, Operations Manager, Block by Block

Tinea Adams summarized the operations report from Block by Block for January and February. Post holiday season, there has been an overall decrease in hospitality interactions and illegal street vending. There has been an increase in garbage debris, disorderly individuals, and graffiti. The Union Square Block by Block ambassadors were recognized on the official Facebook page for Block by Block highlighting their hard work. Ambassadors have also been handing out MPC orders to businesses in the district to help alleviate sit and lies in doorways. Discussion took place regarding the cleanliness of Union Square.

b) Ricky Soares, Manager, Legion Corporation

Ricky informed the committee that there has been an increase in security foot patrol with 24/7 security. The night guards have been having quitter nights due to the morning and swing shift being responsive and handling situations. Ricky then provided a few highlights that include Legion helping prevent a break in and stopping a potential arson incident. Legion's presence in the district is beginning to have a reputation, preventing incidents from occurring.

6. Services Updates

a) Discussion and **action** to approve new Alliance Services RFP

Ken Rich dismissed Tinea Adams and Ricky Soares from the meeting at this time.

The Alliance will be releasing a services RFP to hear from several vendors about their services and best practices. There Alliance is looking for clean and safe services, event support, security, and overnight pressure washing. An RFP committee will be formed to evaluate the proposals and make recommendations to the services committee at the next meeting.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the Alliance services RFP as motioned by Mike Petricca and seconded by Marcus Mirt.

b) Discussion and **action** to approve extension of Block by Block contract



The 19th amended contract with Block by Block was presented to the committee. This amendment will extend the current contract. No other changes were made to the contract.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the extension of the Block by Block contract as motioned by Marcus Mirt and seconded by Don Thomas.

c) Security Camera Updates

Applied Video Solutions (AVS) have recently been upgrading their firewall across their system. Wiline has also been doing similar updates to their hardware system. Discussion took place regarding property ownership changes and how that affects the camera system installed at that location.

d) Retail Theft Prevention Committee Update

April 18th will be the next Retail Theft Prevention Committee. DA Jenkins and AC Lazar will be joining the meeting to discuss the strategies they have in place for retail theft. Discussion took place regarding a communications channel between SFPD and retailers.

e) Union Square Park Services

The Alliance continues to provide clean and safe services at the park. Skateboarding continues to be a major issue at the park. Anti-measures have been put into place such as clips to discourage skateboarding. SFPD's interactions with the skateboarders have been negative with push back from them. Discussion took place regarding different tactics to prevent skateboarding.

7. Committee updates:

a) Big Belly Sponsorship and new locations

Be informed the committee that there is branding opportunity on Big Bellies throughout the district. If a retailer would like a Big Belly by their business, they should contact the Alliance. The Alliance will insure and maintain the Big Belly for you.

b) Skateboarding in Union Square Park

Topic was discussed earlier in the meeting.

8. Adjourn