



Services and Public Safety Committee Meeting

July 25, 2023, 9:00am – 10:30am
Hybrid Meeting

MINUTES

The following attendees were present: Don Thomas (Donatello Building), Joe Della Cella (Recology), John Joseph Garrity (SFPD), Marcus Mirt (Recology), Ricky Soares (Legion), Tinea Adams (Block by Block), Dmitri Shimolin (Applied Video Solutions), Steven Suen (Biscuits & Blues), Officer Lovell (SFPD), Lt. Mason (Tenderloin Station), Sergeant Marino, Maxine Papadakis, Wes Tyler, Bryan Pourtabib, Lt. Hall, and Susan Brown.

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

1. Welcome, Introductions & Brief Announcements

- a) Lance Goree called the meeting to order at 9:02am.
- b) Brief Overview of the Agenda/Key Points
- c) Upcoming Key Dates

Marisa reminded the committee of the Economic Development and Retail Safety Summit on Friday as well as the Alliance Board meeting on Thursday.

2. Public Comments

Lance asked for public comment. No public comment was made.

3. Action to approve committee meeting minutes.

- a) Services and Public Safety meeting minutes from 5/23/23.

Action: As moved by Maxine Papadakis and seconded by Sergeant Marino, the committee unanimously approved the meeting minutes from 5/23/23 as presented.

4. SFPD Union Square Area Updates and Reports

- a) SFPD Lt. Hall (New Union Square Lieutenant), Sergeant Marino (Retail Theft Prevention), Lt. Mason (Tenderloin Station)

Lieutenant Hall introduced himself to the committee as the new dedicated Lieutenant for the Union Square district. He emphasized his commitment to working with the city. Lt. Hall answered questions surrounding police deployment in the Square, plans surrounding organized retail theft prevention, and cleaning in the Square. Sergeant Marino discussed a California State Organized Retail Theft grant that SFPD hopes to receive to improve public safety regarding investigation capacity and provide



extra staffing, particularly for analysts. The committee discussed funding automatic license plate readers as a potential use of this grant.

Lieutenant Mason discussed the status of policing in the Tenderloin district, noting that UN plaza and the neighborhoods are both areas of focus, but are short staffed. He discussed ways to prevent organized retail crime including shutting down streets to car traffic and tracking the movement of getaway cars. The committee discussed the policing of illegally tinted vehicles to deter organized retail theft.

b) Joe Garrity, Retired SFPD Ambassador

Joe Garrity informed the committee that there has been an increase of SFPD police ambassadors. They are now present 7 days/week with at least 2 ambassadors out patrolling the district, with 4 ambassadors being the typical presence. Joe noted the hesitancy of small businesses to report damages or theft to the police, as they fear increased insurance costs.

5. May/June 2023 Operations Reports

a) Lance Goree, Director of Services

Lance noted the Ops report's new design emphasizing the soft skills of Block by Block and Legion, especially how the two can collaborate and work with retired officers.

b) Tinea Adams, Operations Manager, Block by Block

Tinea Adams summarized the operations report from Block by Block for May and June. As a result of an increase in visitors to the Square due to summer tourism, there has been an increase in hospitality requests and litter removal. Requests pertaining to graffiti, cleaning, quality of life, and 10-B incidents are down.

Ken requested collaboration from the committee regarding the nature of the Ops report including the type of information the committee wants to see collected.

6. Contracting Updates – Ken Rich/Ben Horne

a) BxB & Legion Contract Update

Ken gave an update on the BxB and Legion contracts, as the existing contracts have both been extended by two months. The Alliance hopes to have a new contract by August 1. The new contracts will be presented at the September Services committee meeting.

b) AVS Contract Update

The current AVS contract was also extended for another two months with hopes of a new contract by August 1. It will also be presented at the September committee meeting.

c) Possible **action** to approve US Park Services agreement with LAZ parking

Ben introduced a new contract with US Park Services. In this new contract, the Alliance will no longer provide consistent cleaning services and power washing to Union Square Park.



The Alliance will provide 8 hours of daily security and hospitality ambassadors and will be paid \$27,864 monthly.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the US Park Services agreement with LAZ parking as motioned by Dimitri Shimolin and seconded by Steven Suen.

d) Possible **action** to approve new contract with Cube84.

Ben introduced a new contract for Cube84, the Alliance's Salesforce administrator. The Cube84 contract would allow Legion to be onboarded to the platform as opposed to staying on another platform and raise the Cube84 hourly pay to \$115/hr.

Action: The committee unanimously approved the new Cube84 contract as motioned by Dimitri Shimolin and seconded by Maxine Papadakis.

7. Adjourn