

Board of Directors Meeting

November 29, 2021, 5:00 pm

(Meeting is being held online due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic)

Meeting Minutes

FINAL/APPROVED 1/24

Present:

Board Members

Mike Vuong, Business Owner Seat, Boys and Girls Clubs of San Francisco – President

Soha Abdou, Property Owner Seat, CCDC

Gary Besser, Resident Seat

Leigh Chang, Property Owner Seat, L37 Partners

Rene Colorado, Jr., Business Owner Seat, Lers Ros/Esan Classic

Regina Guggenheim, Property Owner Seat, BroadwaySF

Aashish Karkhanis, At-Large Seat, Foley & Lardner LLP – Secretary

Jennifer Kiss, At-Large Seat, Platypus Advisors

Naomi Maisel, Business Owner Seat, La Cocina Municipal Marketplace

Susie McKinnon, Property Owner Seat, Cova Hotel

Cindy Ramesh, Property Owner Seat, Hilton

Eric Rodenbeck, Property Owner Seat, Condominium in The Hamilton

Adam Tetenbaum, Property Owner Seat, Olympic Residential Group – Treasurer

Jaime Vilorio, Resident Seat

Staff

Siggy Bang, TLCBD Staff

Simon Bertrang, TLCBD Staff

Aseel Fara, TLCBD Staff

Esan Looper, TLCBD Staff

Greg Moore, TLCBD Staff

Eric Rozell, TLCBD Staff

Alicia Seleska, TLCBD Staff

Christy Shirilla, TLCBD Staff

Absent:

Board Members

Rhiannon Bailard, Property Owner Seat, UC Hastings Law – Vice President

Adama Bryant, Resident Seat

Guest:

Veronica Guevara

1. **Call to Order. Welcome and Introductions**

M. Vuong called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

2. **Discussion: Communications & Executive Director Updates**

S. Bertrang reminded the Board that the Monthly Update was sent out for review ahead of the meeting and added that the Mission Neighborhood Center started their new clean contract on Monday the 22nd and seeing some impact so far.

3. **Discussion: Tenderloin Conditions Emergency Response**

C. Shirilla shared that the community held a rally across the street from City Hall on November 5th in response to a young girl being attacked on her way to school. There were a series of 3 planning meetings beforehand. Everyone met at La Cocina for snacks provided by La Cocina and a group of children from 201 Turk played at the Civic Center playground prior. Residents spoke and R. Colorado spoke on behalf of merchants.

Later, some residents went to City Hall with a group of students from Redding Elementary and handed over a letter with almost 500 signatures to the Mayor's office. Ivy Lee, the Mayor's public safety advisor, responded with a meeting on Monday. The City understood that the overwhelming concern from residents and merchants was the open air drug dealing. The City is bringing in help from many departments and agencies in the City including the Fire and Police Departments.

S. Bertrang added that the response will be modeled after a DEM response, i.e. a version of HSOC or COVID Command Center but focused on the Tenderloin.

V. Guevara suggested inviting UC Hastings' chapter of Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP).

C. Ramesh felt that 311 needs a faster response if it is going to be the City's option for communication.

M. Vuong advised emailing Captain Canning when you notice "energy" in the neighborhood has shifted to a different area.

V. Guevara offered to help ask Tenderloin merchants for support in the future either through signatures, donations, or action.

G. Moore shared that there was a meeting earlier today around bringing back the Yellow Brick Road. It would bring more visibility to the Safe Passage Program. Safe Passage will be moving to a new model with an hourly role, but it has not been budgeted for and the Yellow Brick Road could help provide money.

G. Besser asked if there are ways to encourage Economic Opportunity activities to attract what the Tenderloin does have to offer--his street is often clear when the bars and a popular ramen spot are open.

Many members seconded that supporting small businesses needs to be a priority.

[Action: S. Bertrang and E. Gorberg will create a new communication to keep the Board updated on a regular basis.]

4. Discussion: Supervisorial Redistricting

S. Bertrang shared a graphic and explained that due to the 2020 Census the Supervisorial Districts need to be redistricted. District 6 needs to decrease significantly in geographic size. The Redistricting Task Force has been meeting twice a month. The recommendations will be made in the Spring and will be in place for the next ten years. He then asked the Board how they felt it should be addressed.

E. Looper suggested holding a Tenderloin Talk. J. Vilorio recommended that TLCBD should have an official position and then a resident position, etc.. A. Tetenbaum asked if the Tenderloin could be split into 2 districts. A. Karkhanis supported making sure that TLCBD has a firm position.

S. Bertrang clarified that funding would not be impacted directly as it would still come from a Supervisor and the assessment is still tied to addresses, not census results.

C. Shirilla wondered if sharing a Supervisor with Lower Polk would be beneficial.

J. Kiss asked if there were any lessons learned from redistricting in the past.

[Action: S. Bertrang and M. Vuong will follow up with those interested in creating an Ad Hoc committee on redistricting.]

5. Discussion: Board Engagement and Retreat

S. Bertrang shared that the Board Retreat is being planned for the end of January. Staff would like to address how to better engage the Board and utilize the Board's expertise better to support the organization.

M. Vuong added that they are looking for places where Board members would like to be involved--what other talents or interests Board members hold that could be of service.

[Action: S. Bertrang and M. Vuong will send out a survey/poll with 3 or so questions to engage the Board.]

6. Action: Approve September Minutes

MOTION: Review and approve the draft minutes of the September Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Moved by: A. Karkhanis

Seconded by: G. Besser

Abstained: R. Colorado, C. Ramesh

Passed: yes

7. Action: Approve Remote Meetings in December

MOTION: Approve Zoom Board and Committee Meetings for the month of December as authorized by AB 361, which allows continued virtual meetings in view of the ongoing active State-proclaimed state of emergency and local recommendations for social distancing.

Moved by: M. Vuong

Seconded by: J. Kiss

Abstained: none

Passed: yes

8. Information Sharing: Announcements & Future Agenda Items

J. Vioria shared that the Tenderloin Tree Lighting event at Boeddeker Park is December 15th from 5-7PM--both in person and on Zoom. There will also be a window decorating contest.

The Tenderloin Merchants Association is putting on another Flea Market this Saturday ~11AM-5PM on Larkin.

There will be a La Cocina Fundraiser/Art Fair on December 11th at the Marketplace.

E. Looper shared that La Voz and TLCBD are hosting a Winter Wonderland event for families on December 16th from 3-6PM.

G. Moore announced that Safe Passage will be hosting a Kidpower Personal Safety Training event translated into Arabic on Thursday, December 9th with 2 more to follow.

The Tenderloin will also be hosting its first Kwanzaa event at Boeddeker Park on December 13th from 1-4PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Next Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, January 24, 5:00 pm | Online - Zoom