



Public Affairs Committee

July 12th, 2022 – 9:00 -10:30 a.m.
Hybrid, In person and via Zoom

MINUTES

In Attendance

Committee members: Wes Tyler, Russ Keil Jr., Kelly Powers, J. Timothy Falvey, Anna Chung, Stephen Brett, Spencer Sechler, Lauren Ellis, Martina Erhart, and Pamela Mendelsohn.

Staff: Marisa Rodriguez (Executive Director), and Melanie Medina (Intern).

Guests: Katie (Strada Investment Group), Sean Knudsen (Strada), Michael Mason (SFFD, Crisis Response Team), Ken Rich (KJR Consulting).

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Marisa Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Introductions were made.

2. Public Comment

Marisa called for public comment. Seeing none, she moved to the next agenda item.

3. Announcements

- Powell Street Promenade

Marisa met with Tom Maguire from the SFMTA and discussed garage safety, funding for Powell Street Promenade, and valet parking. Tom will report back in September regarding possible funding for projects in Union Square such as the Powell Street Promenade and repainting bus lanes and curbs.

- Strategic Planning Updates

The consultants continue to work with the Alliance to create a long-term plan with a focus on safety and economic development.

- SFPD Updates

The new Captain of Central Station is Capt. Douglas Farmer. Marisa summarized the potential of SFPD accessing live access feed of private entities camera systems such as the Alliance. Discussion took place regarding need of additional patrol on upper Powell Street in light of uptick in crime.

4. Action to Approve the June 14, 2022, Minutes



Marisa directed the committee to the minutes of the last meeting and provided a summary.

Action: The Committee unanimously approved the June 14, 2022, minutes as motioned by Tim Falvey and seconded by Spencer Sechler.

5. Chief Michael Mason, Crisis Response Team

Chief Michael Mason from the Crisis response team spoke to the committee about the work they do and how it gets distributed among other city agencies. The crisis response team provides rapid response to calls for individuals experiencing crisis in public spaces and are seen as an alternative to police. The crisis response team was created by the mayor to reimagine public safety response and be an alternative to police in situations that require immediate acute medical attention. Most incidents the crisis team receives result in not having to transport the individual to a second location for medical care. All calls are received through 911 and the dispatcher will distribute the call to the appropriate team. This has led to an increase in police call volume getting distributed to the crisis team. The city is moving to dispatching police that directly deal with incidents where there is a threat to life or public safety.

6. Strada Investment Group, 2 Stockton Vision Plan, and action to approve writing a letter of support for expansion and activation.

Katie Hofstetter from Strada Investment Group and Sean Knudsen from Invesco presented a development project they are working on at 2 Stockton. They plan on expanding the existing building with an additional 3 stories to be used as office space. Due to the increase in square footage with the additional office space, they are required by the city to create a POPO (privately owned public open space), that would go along Stockton Street. A deck was shared showing renderings of the new building and POPO. The committee advised against the location of the POPO due to its size and discussion took place regarding alternative options. Strada asked for the Alliance's support when they present to the historic and preservation committee with the city, along with the planning commission.

Action: The committee unanimously approved to write a letter of support for Strada Investment Group regarding 2 Stockton as motioned by Stephen Brett and seconded by Lauren Ellis.

7. Other Legislative Updates

- Mayor's Downtown Recovery Budget- \$6 million

Through advocacy efforts by the Alliance and small businesses in Union Square, the full \$6 million budget was granted for the downtown recovery.



- New DA- Brooke Jenkins

Marisa announced the new DA, Brooke Jenkins, a former colleague from her time working at the DA's office. Discussion took place regarding having Brooke Jenkins speak to the Alliance to discuss how we can support her.

8. Adjournment and Next Meeting: August 9, 2022, 9:00am

Marisa adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.