Retail Theft Prevention Meeting Committee

March 1, 2022, 9:00am – 10:30am
Virtual Meeting- Zoom

MINUTES

The following attendees were present: Armine Esackanian (Christian Dior), Cem Colpan (Saint Laurent), Conrad del Rosario (SF DA’s office), Daniel Bieri (U.S. Dept of Homeland Security), David Hale (Macy’s), Don Thomas (Club Donatello), Elida Mena (CBRE the Management Company), Eric Hamilton (Gucci), Ofc. Gary Kunaboot (SFPD), Officer Haven Latimore (SFPD), Javier Zarzosa (Tiffany & Co.), Johnathan Ching (Hublot), Johnathan J. Shimp (Louis Vuitton), Officer Kwame Lovell (SFPD), Louie Pacheco Saenz (Montblanc), Melanie Antone (Old Navy), Orlando Torres (Gap), Owen Scharlotte (Nob Hill Security), Raul Esquivias (Gucci), Roland Tolosa (Applied Video Solutions), Sheila Marko (Flood Corporation), Tee Chisholm (Hilton Parc55), Thaddeus Southhall (Cartier), Thau Long (SFPD), Tom Ostley (Cal Orca), Vincent Sanchez (Westfield), Wolf Ahonen (Levi’s), Wylie Broshar (Old Navy), Zuhal Weber (Louis Vuitton), Kelly Powers (Hotel Council).

Guests: Cecily Brewster (DA’s Office), Rachel Greenwood (DA’s Office), Saul Castaneda (Sephora), Dan Bieri (HIS San Jose), Lessa Vivian (DA’s Office), Rami Khoury, Sgt. Culbert Chu (SFPD), Christopher Hart, Carl Haymes, Eddy Jimenez, Steve Siegmann, Sgt. Mark Milligan, Alfonso Navarro (Block by Block), and Melanie Medina (Intern).

The following staff members were present: Marisa Rodriguez (Executive Director), Ben Horne (Deputy Director), Joshua Chan (Sr. Project Coordinator), Karen Gagarin (Services Manager), Alfonso Navarro (Block by Block), and Melanie Medina (Intern).

1. Welcome, Introductions & Brief Announcements
   Joshua Chan, Sr. Project Coordinator for the Alliance, called the meeting to order at 9:03am. Introductions were made.

2. Public Comments
   Joshua Chan asked for public comment. Hearing none, he moved to the next agenda item.

3. Committee Updates
   a) Discuss and action to approve Retail Theft Prevention Schedule for 2022
   Josh presented the tentative RTP schedule for 2022 to the committee. The meetings are bi-monthly on the first Tuesday.
**Action:** The committee unanimously approved the Retail Theft Prevention Schedule for 2022 as motioned by Wylie Broshar and seconded by Roland Tolosa.

b) US Alliance Staffing Updates

The Alliance has chosen three finalists for the Director of Services position and hopes to have a final decision within the next week.

c) Committee Chair - Vacant

The chair for the Retail Theft Prevention Committee is vacant. If anyone is interested in taking on the role, contact Josh Chan or Ben Horne. This position is an opportunity for leadership and to be involved with the community.

d) Alliance Ambassador and Security

i. Alfonso Navarro, Operations Manager, Block by Block

Alfonso informed the committee that statistically speaking, the past couple months have been steady regarding cleaning requests. There has been an uptick in mentally disturbed individuals which may be a result of the Tenderloin State of Emergency.

ii. Ricky Soares, Manager, Legion Corporation

Ricky informed the committee that there has been an increase in encampments within doorways at night which can be a direct result of the situation in the Tenderloin. There have been, however, fewer burglaries. Discussion took place regarding broken windows in the district.

4. **SFPD Union Square Alliance Area Updates & Reports**

a) Central Station – Sgt. Chu, Officer Lovell, and Officer Latimore

Sgt. Chu, Central Station, notified the committee that the command van parked in front of Union Square Park on Geary Street may be moved to the north side of the park on Post Street. He also touched on topics regarding individuals involved in the November looting, the State of Emergency Declaration in the Tenderloin, and 711 Post Street shelter.

Officer Latimore and Lovell remind retailers the importance of reporting thefts.

b) Tenderloin Station – Cap. Chris Canning

No representative from the Tenderloin station was present.

5. **Retail Theft Merchant Training**

Cecily Brewster from the DA’s office and Sgt. Milligan presented a retail merchant training to the committee. Sgt. Milligan has worked at central Station and is now a coordinator of retail theft as a liaison between the community, DA’s office, police officers, and retailers. The
purpose of the training was to inform retailers how to distinguish the different types of thefts and how to properly report them.

6. **Adjourn- 10:30**
   Next meeting May 3, 2022, 9AM