



Retail Theft Prevention Meeting Committee

May 3, 2022, 9:00am – 10:30am

Virtual Meeting- Zoom

MINUTES

The following attendees were present: Andre Lawrence (The RealReal), Anthony Oropeza (Victoria's Secret), Armine Esackanian (Christian Dior), Conrad del Rosario (DA's Office), Sgt. Culbert Chu (SFPD), Daniel Patasnik (Swatch), David Della Fave (Chanel), Don Thomas (Club Donatello), Elida Mena (CBRE the Management Company), Ofc. Gary Kunaboot (SFPD), Georgina Cervantes, Jason Dyer (Westfield SF Centre), Javier Zarzosa (Tiffany & Co.), Jennifer Marino (SFPD), John Joe Garrity (SFPD), Kevin Dombly (Highway Patrol), Sgt. Mark Milligan (SFPD), Orlando Torres (Gap), Ricky Soares (Legion), Robby Saylor (Ross), Robert Chan (DA's Office), Roland Tolosa (Applied Video Solutions), Thau Long (SFPD), Tom Ostley (Cal Orca), Wendy Gomez (DSW), Wylie Broshar (Old Navy), and Zuhai Weber (Louis Vuitton).

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

1. Welcome, introductions, & brief announcements

a. Ben Horne, Deputy Director

Ben asked the retailers in the committee of trends they have witnessed regarding sales and thefts. Retailers confirmed foot traffic and sales have gone up. It was reported that they have also seen an uptick in retail theft.

b. Lance Gorée, New Director of Services

Lance Goree was introduced as the Alliance's new Director of Services.

2. Public comment

No public comment was made.

3. Action: Approve Committee Meeting minutes from 3/01/22

Action: The committee unanimously approved the Committee Meeting minutes from 3/01/22 as motioned by Wylie Broshar and seconded by Orlando Torres

4. Committee Updates



a. Wylie Broshar, Committee Chair Candidate

Wylie Broshar has been chosen to be the new Retail Theft Prevention Committee chair. He briefly shared his thoughts and goals for the committee.

b. Retail Summit Debrief

Marisa gave a recap of the Retail Summit that took place on March 29th. There was positive feedback from the community and a sense of safety from the SFPD and the Mayor.

Jennifer Marino with the SFPD informed the committee of a Bay Area Retailer Crime Association that is in the works with the first meeting on May 17th. There is also potential funding from the State to improve LPR-style cameras.

c. Alliance Ambassador & Security Update on Trends

i. Alfonso Navarro, Operations Manager, Block by Block

Alfonso informed the committee of an uptick in physical interactions with unsheltered individuals towards ambassadors due to possible narcotics and drug use. These altercations seem to happen more often around the borders of the district.

ii. Ricky Soares, Manager, Legion Corporation

The Legion team has been successful in preventing several burglary attempts. Overall, statistics are down compared to last year. They have been more vigilant as foot traffic increases.

5. SFPD Union Square Area Updates & Reports

a. Retail Theft 10B Coordinator, Sgt. Mark Milligan

There has been an increase in demands for 10B officers at retailer locations and non-retailer locations throughout the city. Due to staffing shortage, the SFPD has had some challenges with filling all 10B shifts and requests.

b. Central Station, Sgt. Culbert Chu / Off. Kwame Lovell

As foot traffic continues to increase in Union Square, the police department will continue to maintain the current staffing level in the district. There have been staffing changes in the Tenderloin as the State of Emergency in the Tenderloin comes to an end. Overall crime statistics have been steady with a slight increase in thefts. The command van will continue to be stationed on Post Street. Sgt. Chu encouraged retailers and ambassadors to call the command van directly for any incidents as the van is part of the Safe Shopper program.



c. Tenderloin Station, Captain Chris Canning / Off. James Gay

No representatives were present from the Tenderloin Station.

d. Retired Police Ambassador, Joe Garrity

Joe Garrity reported an uptick of unstable individuals along the Grant Avenue corridor and around Mason Street and Cyril Magnin Street. The retired SFPD Ambassadors have been able to resolve and deescalate situations with the help of the Alliance and the SF Travel ambassadors. Since the retail summit, larger retailers have been reporting more incidents as encouraged, which will help ensure the overall crime statistics reflects the reality on the streets. Joe also noted a delay in the Crisis Response Team's response time and suggested that it needs to be addressed. From May 31–June 3, the Westin St. Francis Hotel will be hosting the PERF/MCCA Annual Meeting, where police chiefs, sheriffs, and other leaders across the country will be meeting regards to discourses within the industry.

6. District Attorney Updates

a. Conrad del Rosario, Assistant District Attorney

Conrad del Rosario informed the committee the prioritization process of convicted thieves. Repeat offenders can be addressed if businesses or store operators files a Stay-Away Order. Contact Conrad at conrad.delrosario@sfgov.org for any questions or concerns.

7. Project Updates

a. Union Square Member Services Updates, Lance Gorée

Lance informed the committee of the issues occurring during the Saturday Live Music in Union Square regarding skateboarders. The Alliance is looking into extra security options during the music events.

b. Security Camera Network, Ben Horne

Grant Avenue and Burberry will now have security cameras in their area. The Alliance is reaching out to the Phelan Building and businesses along Market Street for potential camera locations.

8. Adjourn