



UNION SQUARE
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT
DISTRICT

Services & Public Safety Committee

March 24, 2020 – 9:00 -10:30 am

Virtual Meeting Zoom

MINUTES

In attendance:

The following committee members were in attendance: Ramiro Alvarez, Jess Doing, Raymond Gonzales, Jack Hill, Richard Lee, Michelle McKinney, Marcus Mirt, Maxine Papadakis, Michael G. Petricca, Steven Suen, Donald R. Thomas, Orlando Torres, Wes Tyler

The following USBID Staff and contract service providers were also in attendance: Karin Flood (USBID Executive Director), Ben Horne (USBID Deputy Director), Chris Boss (Director of Services), Joshua Chan (USBID Project Coordinator), Eva Schouten (USBID Intern), Karl Bijan (Block by Block Operations Director) and Karen Gagarin (Member Services Lead)

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Committee Chair, Don Thomas, called the meeting to order at 9:00am. Introductions were made.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Action to approve the January 16, 2020 Minutes

Action: The committee unanimously approved the January 16, 2020 Minutes, as motioned by Michael G. Petricca and seconded by Don Thomas

4. USBID Services update

a) Building Hours and Front Desk Staffing

Handlery has informed all Tenants at the Elkan Gunst Building (323 Geary) of its shutdown effective Tuesday, March 17. To continue the USBID's operations, the USBID is staffing the front desk of the building with an Ambassador to allow Block by Block staff to enter from 5:00 am – 11:00pm. Discussion took place among members regarding details of the operation.

b) Member Services Hours Update

Due to new building policy, the USBID has temporarily suspended overnight Member Services. To report a Safety Incident between 10pm-6am, please contact Legion Security's dispatch

number at 415-724-2909. Brief updates were also given regarding Block by Block's new COVID19 policies.

c) Current District Status and Area of Focus

Discussion took place among members regarding the significant increase of graffiti found in the district due to vandals taking advantage of closed businesses boarding up their windows with plywood.

5. Report from Members on Current Operating Status

Discussion took place among members regarding the operating status of their properties, as well as staffing levels, and security protocols. Committee members were advised to keep the USBID updated and informed of any situations and updates.

6. SFPD Union Square Area Updates & Reports

a) SFPD Ambassador program

Brief updated was provided to members regarding the Retired Officers who have joined the SFPD Ambassador Program as well as program timeline.

b) Central Station & Tenderloin Updates

Committee members were directed to the crime stats included in their packets; more details regarding the crime stats can be found on SFPD's website. Brief discussion took place among members regarding SFPD's updated staffing level during the shelter-in-place policy.

7. Union Square Area Garbage and Waste Updates & Reports

Recology

Representative of Recology provided an update on their service level and billing protocols. Brief discussion took place among members regarding the newly implemented gravity bins put out by Recology.

8. January/February 2020 Operations Reports

Members were directed to the two Operations Reports; highlights and summaries of the two reports were provided. A discussion about graffiti and barricading stores took place.

9. Miracle Message and DST Update

- Miracle Messages

Miracle Messages informed the committee that they have suspended the outreach until further notice. They are currently focusing on supporting shelters and other organizations who are donating necessities to those experiencing homelessness.

- DST

Downtown Streets Team has suspended their beautification operations effective March 16. Other case management and employment support continue to take place on a weekly basis.

10. Adjournment and Next Meeting: May 26, 2020

Meeting adjourned at 9:58 am.