



Services and Public Safety

March 22, 2022, 9:00am – 10:30am

Virtual Meeting- Zoom

MINUTES

The following attendees were present: Brenna Carrick (Phelan Building), Dana Boyd (Newmark Knight Frank), Don Thomas (Donatello Building), Johnny Linares Sr. (Block by Block), Joe Della Cella (Recology), John Joseph Garrity (SFPD), Officer Kwame Lovell (SFPD), Marcus Mirt (Recology), Ricky Soares (Legion), Semu One Bear (Block by Block), Susan Brown, and Wes Tyler (Chancellor Hotel).

The following staff members were present: Ben Horne (Deputy Director), Karen Gagarin (Services Manager), Joshua Chan (Sr. Project Coordinator), Melanie Medina (Intern), and Tinea Adams (Op. Manager, Block by Block).

1. Welcome, Introductions & Brief Announcements

- a) Chair Don Thomas called the meeting to order at 9:05am.

2. Public Comments

Don asked for public comment. Hearing none, he moved to the next agenda item.

3. Action to approve committee meeting minutes

Committee members were directed to the meeting minutes included in their virtual packets.

- a) Services and Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes from 3/22/22.

Action: As moved by Wes Tyler and seconded by Don Thomas, the committee unanimously approved the meeting minutes from 3/22/22 as presented.

4. SFPD Union Square Area Updates and Reports

- a) Central Station

Representatives of the Central Station provided the following updates. Foot traffic has increased in Union Square, leading to an increase of larceny theft. There has been an increase in reporting; which may have contributed to the increase as well. The command van was vandalized in the morning last week and the offender has been apprehended. SFPD is looking into assigning two dedicated officers inside Union Square Garage. Discussion took place regarding overall morale, staffing updates, and repeat offenders.



b) Tenderloin Station

No representative from the Tenderloin Station was present at the meeting. According to statistics reported by the Tenderloin Station, there was a large increase in larceny theft for both the months of March and April.

c) Retired SFPD Ambassador

Representative of the retired SFPD ambassador informed the committee that there has been an increase in reporting statistics. Additional discussion took place regarding general trends and crime rate. The PERF/MCCA Annual Meeting will be hosted at the Westin St. Francis from May 26th to June 3rd. Police chiefs, sheriffs, and other leaders from around the country will be in and around Union Square during the forum dates.

5. Services Updates

a) Public Works Updates

The Alliance has scheduled two night walks in early June with Public Works to survey overnight waste management of businesses in the Union Square area.

b) Recology Updates

Representatives from Recology provided an update on the status of the Big Belly's in the district. There are currently three Big Belly's that need repair. Recology will also be joining the Alliance for the night walks.

c) Security Camera Updates

New cameras were installed at Burberry and outreach is being done along Market Street and the Triton Hotel along Bush and Grant. The Alliance is also in discussion with Westfield regarding new cameras.

6. March/April 2022 Operations Reports

a) Block by Block

Lance introduced Tinea Adams, the new Operations Manager at Block by Block. Semu proceeded to provide a summary of the March/April operations reports. There were issues in inputting and reporting on the D360 app in March, creating some discrepancies in the statistics for both March and April. The Saturday Live Music series was also highlighted; a summary of the ambassadors' contribution to its set-up and take-down was provided. Committee members paid tribute to ambassador Joey Chapman, who unfortunately passed away last month.

Discussion took place regarding measures to be carried out to prevent people from skateboarding in Union Square Park; a brief discussion also took place regarding the before and after pictures included in the two reports.



b) Ricky Soares, Manager, Legion Corporation

Ricky informed the committee that Legion has been dealing with more quality-of-life issues and enforcing the Civil Sidewalks Ordinance (“Sit-Lie” Ordinance) where appropriate.

7. Committee updates:

a) New Committee Chair for Retail Theft Prevention Committee

Lance announced Wylie Broshar, the Senior District Loss Prevention Manager of Old Navy, is the new chair for the Retail Theft Prevention Committee. Next RTP meeting is on July 5th.

b) Branding Updates- Visual Presence

The Alliance’s branding will be added to the new vehicles such as the GEM cart and the gator. Additional wrapped vehicles will increase brand presence and awareness of the Union Square Alliance, especially during the evening hours. Legion Security is working with the Alliance to possibly include Alliance branding on their uniform.

c) Big Belly Updates- Additions & Contracts

A grant provided by the city has allowed the Alliance to expand its Big Belly program. The Alliance is working to lease 10 additional units to be placed around the district.

d) Union Square Park Updates

Skateboarders in the park have been an ongoing issue, especially during the Saturday Live Music Series. A brief discussion took place among committee member regarding any feasible preventative measures. The Taiwanese Festival took place on May 7th was a success. Next event in Union Square Park is the Spring India Day, which will take place on Saturday, June 11th. The Union Square in Bloom Finale will take place on Saturday May 28th, from 1pm–4pm. The event will include public salsa dancing lessons and an outdoor bar.

8. Adjourn