



UNION SQUARE
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT
DISTRICT

Public Affairs Committee
February 11, 2020 – 9:00 -10:30 am
323 Geary Street, Suite 203

MINUTES

In attendance

Committee members: Jordan Buckley, Corinna Luebbe, Rusty Middleton, Kelly Powers, Beau Simon and, Wes Tyler.

Staff and contract service providers: Karin Flood (USBID Executive Director), Brianna Caspersen (USBID Project Coordinator), and Eva Schouten (USBID Intern)

Guests: Rhonda Bennon (The Empire Group), Merrick Browne (Joseph Musto Estate Co), Emily Cohen (Mayor's Office), Jan Christian (The Empire Group) and Tim Hachman (Hachman Construction).

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Observing a quorum present, Corinna Luebbe called the meeting to order at 9:05am. Introductions were made.

2. Announcements

- Mardi Gras Bar Crawl – 5:30 – 8:30pm February 25th
Karin invited the committee to the upcoming Mardi Gras Bar Crawl. The event is free for USBID members.
- Executive Committee Meeting – February 27
- Annual Lunch
Karin updated the board about the 11th Annual Lunch which will be held at the Westin. St Francis.

3. Public Comment

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

4. Action to approve the January 14, 2020 minutes

Karin directed the committee to the minutes of the last meeting and updated them about the expansion of cannabis store, Pure710, on Kearny street and the positions taken on the March 3

ballot measures. The Board voted to change their position on Proposition D – Supervisor Aaron Peskin’s Vacancy Tax Measure from an “oppose” position to a “neutral” position.

Action: The Committee unanimously approved the January 14, 2020 minutes as motioned by Rusty Middleton and seconded by Wes Tyler.

5. **Presentation: Post Hotel Supportive Housing Project – Emily Cohen - Policy Advisor, Homelessness Office of Mayor London N. Breed**

Emily Cohen informed the committee the Post Hotel at 589 Post Street will become part of the City of San Francisco’s Master Lease Program which offers permanent housing to 90 homeless individuals who will receive supportive housing and on-site services. Each tenant will have a caseworker and a personalized care program to assist them in stabilizing their lives. All the tenants will be paying rent which is 35% of their income and the government will make up for the rest. The tenants will likely move in this Spring with the exact date is to be announced. Currently, there are 5000 units part of this Citywide program. In their experience 90% of the people who are part of this program never become homeless again, therefore offering people housing seems the most effective way for them to exit living on the streets. On site there will be 24/7 desk clerk and the social/case workers will be working Monday-Friday.

A discussion followed. The committee asked Emily to address the following comments and concerns:

- No plans for an on-site presence such as 24/7 security and the repercussions this would have for the adjacent sidewalk including loitering and disruption outside the building, impacting maintaining the cleanliness and order outside the building. Security is also important for the guest’s own safety as they come and go into the building.
- Lack of communal space(s) within the building for tenants to gather so they won’t be inclined to congregate on the street
- Use of a former retail space for a Social Service Center on Post – this would be better situated on an upper floor where people could line up inside if necessary.
- Having community leverage such as language in the lease to ensure that the tenant Episcopal Community Services is held responsible for the safety and cleanliness of the sidewalk fronting the building.

Karin will stay in contact with Emily about the project and inform the committee about updates and changes in the project regarding their concerns.

6. **Discussion: 2020 PAC Planning and Potential Speakers**

Karin directed the committee to the 2020 Strategy and Calendar and briefly summarized it. Bri gave a brief update about the congestion pricing plan. A small discussion followed about the committee’s plans for the year.

7. **Adjournment and Next Meeting: February 11, 2020**

Corinna adjourned the meeting at 10:31am.