



CASTRO/UPPER MARKET COMMUNITY BENEFIT DISTRICT

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Minutes of the Regular Monthly Board of Directors Meeting on March 11, 2010 Chase Bank, Community Room; 2112-15th Street; San Francisco California

The Meeting was called to order by Vice President Gustavo Serina at 6:02pm. He said he would act as the Meeting's chair, since President Dominic Campodonico was out of town. A quorum was present and was maintained throughout the meeting.

Directors present: Herb Cohn, DeJauna Joseph, Tim Patriarca, Pat Sahagun, Gustavo Serina, Pauline Scholten, Richard Sollitto, Ken Wingard;

Directors absent: Dominic Campodonico, Greg Bronstein.

Staff, Guests: Andrea Aiello (Executive Director); Richard Magary (taking Minutes); three guest presenters from SFMTA/SFDPW; and about (18) members of the public.

An agenda was distributed to Board members and guests, along with supporting materials to Board members for use at the meeting. A Friday Packet of Board materials and then supplements had been emailed to Board members on about March 9, et seq. Guests were invited (but not required) to sign in.

Brown Act Notice

Gustavo summarized California's Brown Act, as its rules apply to the CBD's Board meetings. They include provisions that meetings are publicly noticed in advance; are open to the public; for public comment on that specific item before any vote is taken; and for general public comment, scheduled as the next-to-last item of business (Item VII) on the Agenda for this meeting.

Minutes from February 11, 2010

Minutes of the Board's meeting on February 11, 2010 were *approved* as distributed, by general consent.

San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Presentation of the "Church & Duboce Track Improvement Project"

Ms. Yingming Gu and her colleagues Drew Howard of SFMTA and John Dennis of SFDPW gave a PowerPoint presentation about this major \$32 million project which is tentatively scheduled to start active construction in October 2010 and continuing through about October 2012. It includes track and other Muni LRV train operating systems replacements; undergrounding of some overhead utility wires; water, sewer, streetlight improvements; streetscape improvements, including reconfigured transit stops, improved boarding islands and bus shelters; pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly pavements and revised traffic patterns; public art; and other changes. Copies of the PowerPoint presentation were distributed. The presenters answered questions and heard comments from Board members and the audience. Project information is available at www.SFMTA.com/Duboce.

Treasurer's Report

Finance Committee Report

Herb presented the Treasurer's Report for January 2010:

Beginning of month cash balances were \$450,325.60

During the month of January 2010, the CBD earned interest of \$285.03.

Expenses for the month were \$86,520.62 for our maintenance contract, community guide, administration costs, and a one-time payment of \$50,000 for the Church/Market art project.

End of the month cash balances were \$364,090.01

Herb also distributed financial statements for the month of January 2010, and for the seven months-year-to-date ending January 31, 2010, including Balance Sheet, monthly and cumulative Profit & Loss for the year-to-date. As reported at the February Board meeting, the Audit Report for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2009 had just been received at that time. The Finance Committee subsequently reviewed the Report.

Finance Committee meeting notes from February 22, 2010 were included in Friday Packet materials sent to all Board members.

After discussion, the Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Neighborhood Liaison Report – Castro/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association (EVNA)

Alan Beach-Nelson, current president of this local residents' group (formerly "Eureka Valley Promotion Association-EVPA") said that EVNA has two priorities for 2010. They are "Planning," especially focusing on projects outside of the current Market-Octavia Plan boundaries (and possible extension of that boundary from Market-Noe to Market-Castro); and also to work for improved quality of life, especially as that is affected by operations of late-night businesses, especially bars and restaurants. EVNA hopes to work with the newly-forming "Castro After Dark" coalition of late-night businesses toward mutual goals.

Streetscape Committee

Harvey Milk Plaza

Ken said that a contract soon should be signed for landscape work at HMPlaza.

See additional Streetscape Committee proceedings on this topic, reported under "New Business" below.

17th Street Plaza

Renovation work should start within the next 30 days.

Harvey Milk Plaque

Work continues to design and to have a new plaque available by the first Harvey Milk Day on May 22, for installation ceremonies in front of Harvey's former camera store at 575 Castro. Andrea is assisting with logistics. Design is being coordinated with proposed Rainbow Honor Walk materials.

Market-Octavia Plan

A meeting was held at Supervisor Dufty's office, to review issues and the process to extend the western M-O Plan boundary from Market-Noe to Market-Castro Streets, and to help assure that all aspects of community input and recommendations from the 2009 Upper Market Workshops are integrated into M-OPlan projects, as applicable.

Executive Director's Report

Andrea's Report for February 2010 was included in Friday Packet materials sent to all Board members. There were no questions or comments regarding the report.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of New Board Members

Gustavo reported that the Board Development Committee had received and screened applications for Board membership from three individuals who fit required criteria: Joel Bubeck, James Laufenberg, and Blake Smith. Board Application materials provided by each of those candidates were included in the Friday Packet sent to all Board members.

Anonymous written Ballots were distributed, voted by each of the eight attending Board members, then collected and counted by Richard Magary. All three of the candidates were elected unanimously,

Streetscape Committee

Ken made a Motion on behalf of the Streetscape Committee (which did not require a second) to approve the manufacture and installation by Blank and Cables Company of new benches at Harvey Milk Plaza, as designed by CMG and approved by the S.F. Arts Commission, and in time to meet the June 30, 2010 fulfillment date for the Community Challenge Grant which is funding the benches and other HMPlaza improvements.

Extensive discussion followed, including a recap of two prior proposals for use of the CCG funds at HM Plaza which proved unfeasible, three cycles with the Arts Commission before final approval, the willingness to consider additional dividers if the benches prove to present issues with unauthorized sleeping and plans to space the legs in a way to discourage crawling under them.

It was noted during the discussion that additional funds are being sought from outside sources, for additional art work at HMPlaza. During the discussion, Gustavo read a message from Dominic to Board members on the subject. In summary Dominic's comments included a recap of his presentation to MUMC on the benches. Most of those present at the MUMC meeting were in opposition to the benches out of fear of people sleeping inappropriately on the benches.

Gustavo called for Public Comment on the Streetscape Committee Motion, and 5 people spoke for the maximum allowed 2 minutes each. Some speakers thanked the Castro CBD for generally doing a good job, but expressed concerns about the public communication process for this project. Concerns also were voiced that the benches will be an "attractive nuisance" for inappropriate sleeping. Some commented that the funds should be spent for other purposes at HMPlaza.

Following Public Comment on the item, The Board further discussed the matter, including an agreement that any negative "quality of life" issues caused by the benches will be monitored closely and addressed as needed; a suggestion by Herb that the Castro CBD invite MUMC to designate one or more of its Board members as liaisons with the CBD, in order that Directors of the two groups can more often attend each other's Board and Committee meetings, to help improve communications between the groups; and a continuation of the CBD's existing efforts to increase public outreach.

Following discussion, the Motion made by the Streetscape Committee was *approved unanimously*.

MJM Report

MJM's March 2, 2010 Report for February was distributed as part of Friday Packet materials to all Board members. There were no comments from Board members.

Public Comment

General Public Comment was called for at this point. There was none.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm.

Minutes taken and prepared by Richard Magary.

Approved April 8, 2010