



CASTRO/UPPER MARKET COMMUNITY BENEFIT DISTRICT

584 Castro Street #336; San Francisco CA 94114

www.CastroCBD.org 650/355-1294

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Board of Directors Meeting on November 10, 2011 Castro Community Room, 501 Castro Street, Second Floor, San Francisco, California

The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm by Acting Chair and Treasurer Herb Cohn. President Dominic Campodonico was unable to attend the meeting.

A quorum was present and was maintained throughout the meeting.

Directors Present: Treasurer Herb Cohn, Mark Giberson, Jim Laufenberg, Gustavo Serina, Blake Smith, Bruce Smith, Dennis Ziebell. Note the election and seating of new Board member Tom Owens during the meeting.

Directors Absent and Excused: Joel Bubeck, Scott Cataffa, President Dominic Campodonico, Vice President Tim Patriarca, Pat Sahagun, Ken Wingard.

Director Absent and Not Excused: Secretary Pauline Scholten

Staff, Guests: Executive Director Andrea Aiello; Richard Magary (taking Minutes); and three (3) members of the public including Board applicant Tom Owens.

An agenda was distributed to Board members and guests.

Introductions

The Board members publicly introduced themselves and noted any current, potential conflicts of interest. Guests were invited (but not required) to introduce themselves.

Brown Act Notice

Andrea 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 and are open to the public; for public comment on each agenda item, and before any vote is taken; and for General Public Comment, scheduled as Item VII on the Agenda for this meeting, to be called in order but no later than 7:25pm. Guests who interrupt or are otherwise disruptive of the meeting will be given a verbal warning. If a second interruption or disruption by the individual(s) occurs at the meeting, they will be asked to leave.

Minutes from October 13, 2011

Those minutes were adopted by general consent, with the understanding that minor typo and grammatical corrections will be made.

Executive Director's Report

Andrea presented her Executive Director's Report. As directed at the October Board meeting, Andrea is contacting other Castro-area groups regarding the public nudity issue. Most contacted to date report that the topic is not a pressing issue with their Board or Members.

Halloween weekend (October 29-31) was mostly peaceful, thanks to efforts of the community, SFPD, SFDPW and other City agencies.

A proposal for a one-day "Sunday Streets" celebration next spring (probably on 18th Street from Valencia to Castro, and on the 400 and 500 blocks of Castro Street) will be discussed at the next Streetscape Committee meeting.

Sufficient money has been raised for the plaque at Jane Warner Plaza. It is being manufactured and will be installed soon.

The unrestricted \$5,000 contribution from *Starbucks* which was discussed at the October 13 meeting has been received. The funds will be used for replacement planters and other improvements at Jane Warner Plaza.

Andrea is sending a “thank you” letter to *Starbucks*.

Lighting at Harvey Milk Plaza has been fixed, thanks to efforts of Bruce Smith and SFDPW. In the process, lighting issues at Pink Triangle Memorial Park across Market at 17th Street were also addressed.

Supervisor Wiener’s office is working on legislation to help sort out management and maintenance issues for Jane Warner and Harvey Milk Plazas, to help clarify roles of SFDPW, the CBD and others.

The *Imperial Court of San Francisco* has requested table space in Jane Warner Plaza for some weekend dates during the Holidays, for a gift wrapping fundraiser. Andrea advised them that the CBD has no authority to approve their request, but she was willing to give them some advice about where to locate, etc.

There was no Board discussion of the report. Public Comment was invited on the Executive Director’s report; there was none.

Treasurer’s Report

Herb gave the Treasurer’s Report for September 2011.

September beginning of month cash balances were \$321,060.21.

During the month of September 2011, the CBD had interest earned of \$63.87.

Expenses for September were \$28,321.13 for our maintenance contract, administration costs, and ongoing programs.

September end of the month cash balances were \$292,802.95.

Herb also presented and briefly discussed the latest financial statements, including Profit & Loss statements for September and for July-September 2011, and the Balance Sheet at September 30, 2011.

There were no Board questions about the Treasurer’s Report. Public Comment was invited on the Treasurer’s Report; there was none.

Committee Reports

Board Development Committee

Board applicant Tom Owens was introduced and talked about his experience and interests which are relevant to serving on the CastroCBD Board, and answered Board member questions. He then left the room while the Board discussed his application and voted. After Board discussion:

- A Motion was made (M-GS, 2nd JL) to elect Tom Owens to the Board for a term ending December 2012. After a call for Public Comment on the Motion (there was none), the Motion *passed unanimously* using written ballots.

Newly-elected Director Owens then returned to the room, was congratulated and took his seat as a Board member for the remainder of the meeting. Andrea indicated that Board applicant Greg Zhovreboff has withdrawn his name because he does not have time to serve.

Streetscape Committee

Gustavo presented the Committee’s report. He summarized past CBD discussions and current Streetscape Committee efforts to develop additional, appropriate public art to help enliven and upgrade Harvey Milk Plaza. No specific work or type of art, location in the Plaza, etc. have yet been determined. Those and other specifics would be subject to a future public process, overseen by the SF Arts Commission. First, however, Committee members agreed that outside funding is needed. After Board discussion,

- A Motion was made by the Streetscape Committee (no second required) to pursue funding for artwork at Harvey Milk Plaza. After further Board discussion and a call for public comment (there was none) the Motion *passed unanimously*.

Andrea gave an update about the previously-approved public art proposed as part of SFMTA’s Church-Duboce Rail Improvement Project at the NE corner of Market-Church near the “*Safeway* steps.” *Safeway* has made several contingencies to the Arts Commission for placing the artwork on their property. The Arts Commission is not comfortable meeting these contingencies. ; it will be re-located to the SE corner of Market-14th Streets, in

a new bulbout to be constructed adjacent to the *Art Shade Shop*. Some board members were not comfortable with this and asked the Streetscape Committee to review this and work with the Arts Commission.

- A Motion was made by the Streetscape Committee (no second required) to contract with *Ground Cover Landscaping* for an amount not to exceed \$1,200 for landscaping, maintenance, and gardening volunteer training in Harvey Milk and Jane Warner Plazas. The amount is available within the \$3,000 current-year budget for plaza maintenance. Work will include, but is not limited to, pruning, repairing damages in irrigation system, and training volunteer gardeners. After Board discussion and a call for public comment (there was none), the Motion *passed unanimously*
- A Motion was made (M-GS, 2nd-BISm) to spend an amount not to exceed \$500 from available and budgeted plaza maintenance funds, to identify and install different plants in Harvey Milk Plaza, which would align with efforts to address quality of life issues there. After Board discussion and a call for public comment (there was none) the Motion *passed unanimously*

Services Committee

Dennis presented the report. The Committee is discussing development of a template to 1) create a baseline of existing crime/quality of life issues and build a database from this baseline, and 2) to present information on trends to the Board, to allow the Board to more appropriately allocate resources and better inform property owners on the need for services and how this need is being addressed. The Committee will continue with development of this project and report further at a future Board meeting.

Andrea reported that the RFP for Cleaning and Maintenance Services in 2012 has been sent to 10 prospective bidders.

- A Motion was made by the Services Committee (no second required) that the CBD write a letter to the S.F. Police Commission urgently requesting that access to all SFPD radio frequencies be reinstated to *S.F. Patrol Special Police* officers. After Board discussion, the Motion was tabled. Herb Cohn offered to call senior SFPD officials, to assure that all relevant information is available before further consideration of the item.

Land Use Committee

Tom Owens reported that the Committee met with the architect for the proposed mixed-use project at 376 Castro Street (currently *RC Gas Station*).

Following a call for Public Comment on the Committee Reports, there was one comment.

Presidents Report

On Dominic's behalf, Andrea reminded Board members that annual Board elections will be held at the Board meeting scheduled for December 8. Elections include those Board members whose staggered terms expire in December 2011 and Officers for 2012.

Andrea distributed copies of a November 7 email from a local resident, commenting on the benches at Harvey Milk Plaza.

General Public Comment


At this point in the meeting General Public Comment was invited, pursuant to the Agenda. There were two comments.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.

Minutes taken and prepared by Richard Magary

Approved December 8, 2011


Pauline Scholten, Secretary