



Solano Business Improvement District Board Meeting Minutes

Date: June 11, 2024

Prepared by: Vincent McCoy

Meeting Location: Solano Oriental Rug Gallery, 1849 Solano Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707

Corrections to: vmccoy@berkeleyca.gov

Meeting commenced at 11:00 am. Board Members present: Devany, Andrew and Solomon. Also present: Solano Avenue Association (SAA), Daniel Swafford of North Shattuck Association (phone), and Vincent McCoy, City of Berkeley staff.

1. Approval of Minutes for May 14, 2024, M/S/A; Solomon/Devany/Unanimous
2. Secretary's Report
 - a. New City Manager
 - b. Oaks climbing gym by Touchstone is open.
3. Financial Update
 - a. Peralta Services contract renewed M/S/A; Andrew/Solomon/Unanimous
 - b. Andrew provided update on financials –
 - i. Solano BID has outstanding invoice with City of Berkeley for \$13,549.60 which is being processed.
 - ii. Solano Avenue Association invoice for upcoming events in the amount \$10,000.00 is being processed.
4. Discussion Items:
 - a. Update on traffic safety at Solano/Colusa Intersection by Solomon; the City of Berkeley has started process for a traffic calming survey which is number 39 on the list and the position responsible is currently vacant.
 - b. Traffic safety – parking clarity was discussed with focus on making sure signage matches the pay parking requirements.
 - c. Solano Avenue Beautification – succulent planters will be suspended and focus of the BID is to come up with a list of possible projects, prioritize them, and develop budgets for each that would be used to select the projects. Tree wells with dying and Japanese maple trees will be catalogued.
5. Daniel Swafford of North Shattuck Association presented information about their ambassador program and the 'In Bloom Banner' change.
 - a. Ambassadors work four days a week for 5 hours and on a on demand basis to escort people or respond to hotspot issues. Security guards walk hot spots for ninety minutes 4 days a week. Budget is a significant consideration in the decision to deploy ambassadors and security. Depending on scope of services, the rate of \$35/hour discussed by the Board previously is too low, perhaps by half or more.

Public

- b. NSA and Solano BID discussed collaborating on the design and cost for the replacement for the In-Bloom banner change. Request for Proposals is in the works for a local artist to design the replacement.
6. Commissioner Recruitment – Ms. Hyeyoung Yoon, owner of the Korean Superette and the Bopshop, who was in attendance, submitted an application to serve. Her appointment by Councilmember Taplin for the Solano BID is pending. SAA is willing to help the Solano BID for member outreach.
7. Solano Avenue Association Services Update
 - a. Solano Stroll is awaiting decision by City of Berkeley regarding the barricades and funding for the same. Slated for Council June 25, 2024.
 - b. SAA is open to helping BID with social media and marketing. Both SAA and Solano BID see need for improved marketing of the avenue.
8. Public Comment
 - a. BID fees compliance was discussed with goal of having all fees paid.
 - b. Oaks Theater Climbing Gym is open and the potential need for lighting was discussed.
9. Adjournment motion by Devany, second by Solomon, unanimous vote, at 12:20 p.m.