



Solano Avenue Business
Improvement District Advisory Board

MINUTES

Solano Avenue Business Improvement District Advisory Board

Tuesday, July 16th, 2019

Thousand Oaks Baptist Church | 1821 Catalina Avenue | Berkeley, CA 94707

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 11:07am.

ROLL CALL - Members present: Kate Campbell King, Tom Taylor, Janet Snidow, Peggy Smith. Members absent/excused: none. City Staff: Eleanor Hollander, OED/City of Berkeley (secretary), David White Deputy City Manager. Public present: Jennifer Hansen Romero

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – The minutes of the May 21st, 2019 meeting were approved as amended on a motion by Ms. Snidow and seconded by Mr. Taylor. Amended minutes were to include under ‘discussion items’ that “a discussion was had about location for cleaning crew tools.” Motion Carries. Abstain: none.

DISCUSSION ITEMS – The group discussed how to purchase a water apparatus for cleaning/watering plants and also there was a discussion as to where these items should be stored, (i.e. in the old Hannah’s clothing store or somewhere else) – then there was a discussion about how to send a proposal to the Streets Team to purchase this item. Commissioner King is to purchase shed for tool storage and will draft a proposal and send to Downtown Streets Team. Tree wells were also discussed, the group will look into the porous pavers that are installed in Downtown on Allston and along Durant. The group confirmed that they authorized \$5,000 for labor and \$2,000 for equipment to do tree well cleaning in March of 2019. The plan is to contract Downtown Streets Team for extra work for weeding pre-Solano Stroll event.

The group talked about the upcoming art walk, and confirmed that the merchants can use up to \$150 from the event budget to hire musicians for their own spaces during the event on July 20. The goal is to have 30 participating businesses (up from 19 last year). On upper Solano there are 6 participating businesses (up from 2 last year). In 2020 Solano Ave will aim to have an art and wine walk. The group also talked about Solano Avenue’s planning study on the Albany portion of the avenue and the potential for a similar study on the Berkeley portion of the Avenue. The BID was generally supportive of said study, and was eager to hear more as the plan develops, there was discussion if the plan was about economic development, street improvements or both. The group was to look at the draft Albany study at this link:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5ac43de02714e5d504879d1a/t/5d2cb04559dc0b0001fce987/1563209830919/Final+Draft+Slano+Avenue+Plan.pdf>

Next, the group discussed commissioner recruitment which is ongoing. Jan will cycle off of the board in November 2019, and Tom’s term ends in February of 2020. There are a few strong leads at Mechanics Bank and Zachary’s Pizza. The said that the mosaic trash cans project would be “on hold” until after the events of the summer – eventually the chair is to draft a ‘creative brief’ and deliver it to the mosaic artist. The meeting schedule for the remainder of 2019 is proposed to be

third Tuesdays of the odd numbered months 11am to 12:30pm; September 17 and November 19.

PUBLIC COMMENT- Jennifer reminded everyone that the plan (no matter the topic should consider both cities and ‘plan accordingly’ – also she mentioned that a historical walking tour of Albany and Berkeley Solano was under construction by the historical society. Stay tuned for more on that.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Snidow and seconded by Mr. Taylor. (Approved unanimously).

Meeting Adjourned at 12:15 pm.