

japantown task force, inc.
a planning, preservation, and development organization

JTF Board Meeting
August 23, 2004 @ 6:00 p.m.
1765 Sutter St.
Minutes

Attendees: Scott Belser, Seiko Fujimoto, Caryl Ito, Tak Matsuba, Sandy Mori, Mark Moriguchi, Rosalyn Tonai, Tetsuya Yoshida

Staff: Darryl Abantao, Linda Jofuku, Young Kim

Guests: Keiko Fukuma, Scott Hague, Niel Homsey, Don Langley, Bernadine Lim, Bette Landis, Tys Sniffen, Lisa Watada, Shirley Wysinger,

Excused Absences: Michael Gowe

Absent: Doug Dawkins, David Ishida, Benh Nakajo, Bob Otsuka, Pat Shiono

A. Recognition of Quorum:

B. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of July 26, 2004

C. Chair's Report:

1. Meeting with Dwayne Jones, Director, MOCD
Postponed – date t.b.a.

D. Director's Report:

1. Signage Update
 - i. We would like to thank all of those who showed up for the unveiling of the 132 bilingual signs in and around Japantown. We had great coverage from local newspaper and television media. Benh Nakajo and Junko Nakagawa did an excellent job as MC's as well. However, some corrections need to be made with some of the Japanese script on a few signs. Linda will contact DPW regarding these signs.
2. Buchanan Mall – Crime Issues
 - i. We have yet to schedule a meeting with the Police Department about the shootings of automatic weapons on July 4, 2004. There are now three victims that have been identified and not two, as stated in the previous meeting. Vandalism and graffiti are also issues in the Buchanan Mall. Before cleaning the graffiti off walls and buildings, DPW is urging the community to take pictures and keep records of when and where these acts of vandalism are occurring. Daniel Homsey, Manager of Constituent Relations, Mayor's Office stated that he would like to bring in the gang investigation and identify if it is a local group or a skateboard based group that sweeps an area with their graffiti.
3. SB307 Update
 - i. As of now, the preliminary draft of Senate Bill 307 has been submitted to Gerry Takano, contractor, CAJA Leadership Council including the data sheets and methodology. On Wednesday, August 25, 2004 at 6 p.m., there will be a meeting for the SB307 Committee at the Japantown Task Force on the 1st Floor.

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4. Peace Plaza Update – Prop. B
 - i. Proposition B is a bond measure that is set at \$60 million and provides financial support of the city and school district owned historic resources; not more than 20% of the bond funds to be allocated to any one project. There was discussion as to whether the Peace Plaza/ Peace Pagoda would fit into the ballot measure to take care of its increased infrastructure problems.

5. Prop. K
 - i. Proposition K involves payroll taxes of all business with gross receipts over \$500,000 to balance the city budget. Scott Hague (No on K) gave reasons to vote against Prop K. According to Hague, it does not take into consideration the effect on small businesses and there would be double taxation on payroll and gross receipts over \$500,000.

6. Nihonmachi Street Fair
 - i. We would like to thank all of the members who volunteered at our information table at the 31st Annual Nihonmachi Street Fair. Although the weather on Saturday was foggy and cold, Sunday proved to be a more successful day. More people attended the fair and we were able to outreach to many of them with the help of clear, sunny skies.

E. Committee Reports:

1. Finance Committee
None

2. Business and Economic Development Committee
On Wednesday, September 1, 2004 at 4 p.m. there will be a Business and Economic Development meeting that will address the Geary Corridor Transit Plan. There is a meeting scheduled to approve the plan on September 7, however there has not been any opportunity for the community to provide any feedback.

3. Health and Safety Committee
None

4. Cultural and Historical Preservation Committee
The past meeting was postponed to the 3rd Wednesday of the month, which is September 15, 2004 at noon due to the passing of Cliff Uyeda.

5. Communications & Marketing Committee
None

6. Personnel Committee Evaluation
There will be a meeting with the Executive committee in the near future.

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F. Other Business and Announcements:

1. On September 18 there will be a San Francisco YMCA Reunion located at the Buchanan YMCA Gym and the Radisson Miyako Hotel

\$35 Reunion Ceremony (includes Bento Lunch)

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. @ Buchanan YMCA Gym

Location: 1530 Buchanan St., San Francisco

\$50 Social Gathering (includes Hors D'oeuvres and a no host bar)

Time: 5 p.m. – 10 p.m. @ Radisson Miyako Hotel

Location: 1625 Post St., San Francisco

2. From September 27 to July 29, NJAHS will be showing an exhibit: "Back In the Day – Japantown Exhibit"
3. The next board meeting will be on September 27, 2004 at 6 p.m.