

japantown task force, inc.

a planning, preservation, and development organization

JTF Board Meeting November 27, 2006 @ 6:00 p.m. Union Bank of California Hospitality Room Meeting minutes

Attendees: Seiko Fujimoto, Denis Henmi, Tak Matsuba, Sandy Mori (Pres.), Mark Moriguchi, Rosalyn Tonai
Staff: Darryl Abantao, Bob Hamaguchi
Guests: Sally Allen, Controllers Office, James Misener, Peter Straus, MTA, J.K. Yamamoto
Excused: Doug Dawkins, Michael Gowe, Caryl Ito, Benh Nakajo
Absent: (none)

**Recognition of Quorum established by 6 members.
Meeting called to order: 6:06 p.m. by Sandy Mori, President**

A. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of September 24, 2006 & Meeting of October 23, 2006

Board Meeting Minutes for the month of October with the following amendments; addition of "Karyn Ikeda, and JCYC California Leadership Program" to item C – WA-A2 Exit Report. Rosalyn Tonai moved and Seiko seconded a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of September 24, 2006.

B. Approval of Stephen Engblom to the Board of Directors -

The Japantown Task Force has asked 3D Investments to recommend a representative to sit on the JTF Board of Directors. Stephen Engblom is a staff member at EDAW, an urban planning company. Mark Moriguchi moved and Rosalyn Tonai seconded a motion for JTF to approve Stephen Engblom to sit on the JTF Board of Directors.

C. San Francisco Transit Effectiveness Project – Peter Straus, MTA and Sally Allen, Controllers Office -

The San Francisco Transit Effectiveness Project is a study about what services and how these services that MUNI provides. This type of study has not been completed in over twenty years and the goal of the study is to attract more people with existing resources by developing a long-term plan. The plan would cover the financial stability and future deficits to afford services provided in the next five to seven years. Major tasks that have been completed are a vision of the services and goals MUNI would like to provide and how MUNI compares to other cities. Currently, Cambridge Systematic is conducting a telephone survey to riders and non-riders and their views of MUNI. Also, the project is doing a operation review measuring reliability and a service analysis with cameras to collect information of the wait time, how many passengers per stop and the intervals between buses.

A series of community workshops will be offered on December 9, 11 and 12 in English, Spanish and Chinese. This is the first of three series of workshops. The first set in December 2006 will be to collect data, the second set in spring 2007 to

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provide special material, factual, and analytical information, and the third set in summer 2007 to present special recommendations.

D. Report from Bob Hamaguchi, Executive Director

SPUR Silver Award Luncheon – November 13– Special thanks to Caryl Ito and Sandy Mori for their participation in the SPUR Silver Award Luncheon. There was a very large showing of attendance with approximately 1800 people.

Community Benefit District Survey – due Dec. 8 – Marco Li Mandri has updated Hamaguchi that surveys are starting to be returned, but there are no results as of now. Hamaguchi has been trying to meet with as many of the property owners as possible including, local press, Steve Nakajo, NPC and others to answer any questions regarding the Community Benefit District. Common questions include if the CBD will result in double costs and if the CBD will be able to reduce the costs since it is distributed amongst everybody and not a select few.

Funding Sources - 10/31/06 – We are still awaiting the garage budget revision to be approved by the Parking Commission and Controllers Office. There are no anticipated problems since we are reallocating the same funds but to different categories.

Financial Statement - 10/31/06 – In the event that the budget revision does not get approved, we will be forced to use the unrestricted funds account.

Garage Budget Change Request Status – The garage budget in its current state is not sufficient to cover basic expenses including rent, insurance and salaries. Bob reallocated the current garage budget for 2006-2007 to cover monthly expenses. The garage approved the amended budget, but after talks with the city and possibly requesting a longer-term commitment, it is in JTF's best interest not to ask for an amendment to the budget and as well as an extension.

JTF Forward Agenda– The JTF Forward Agenda is intended to answer the goals of JTF. Some topics addressed are what is JTF trying to do today, a possible Japantown Emergency Plan, crime prevention program, community-wide wish list, and other funding sources.

Newsletter – Bob Hamaguchi and Darryl Abantao are working with Lisa Watada to produce the winter 2006 newsletter. JTF staff will work with the Communications Committee to help with the mailing list.

Shogakukan / Viz Media RDA Commission Approval – The EIR was approved on November 11, 2006. There is a 30-day appeal deadline if anyone were to appeal the approval of the draft EIR of the 1746 Post St. building. Viz media will work with NJAHS to document the history of the building. An ad-hoc committee will aid in the process to form a budget, how detailed will the historical preservation of the building and how it will be displayed.

Better Neighborhood Planning Center Request – EDAW and Bob Hamaguchi have requested a space inside the mall to exhibit some of the concepts from the

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Better Neighborhood Plan from January 2007 to June 2007. The planning concept will be kicked off with the photo essay to capture the "DNA" of Japantown.

Community Bulletin Board – Darryl Abantao – There are currently two possible locations for the Community Bulletin Board to be located at; adjacent to May's coffee shop or in front of Andersen's Bakery in Kintetsu Mall. Kaz Naganuma is currently working on a design for the bulletin board.

E. Report from the Executive Committee – Sandy Mori

Mayor's Trip to Osaka – Bob Hamaguchi, Rich Hashimoto, Sandy Mori, Benh Nakajo and Paul Osaki will meet to plan for the Mayor's trip to Osaka, Japan to promote the 50th anniversary of the San Francisco-Osaka sister city relationship.

Kintetsu Donation – Kintetsu has left a donation to form the Japantown Foundation with representatives from Jackson Hirose, Japanese Chamber of Commerce, Japantown Task Force, Merchants Association, Minami-Tamaki LLP, Mr. Miwa, and Sakura Matsuri, Inc. to be on the Board of Directors to manage this foundation. Tak Matsuba moved and Seiko Fujimoto seconded a motion to recommend Sandy Mori to be the representative of the Japantown Task Force.

F. Committee Reports

G. Other Business and Announcements

1. December Board Meeting – Monday, December 18, 2006 at 3 p.m. sit-in at Japantown Merchants Association Meeting for District Attorney Kamala Harris Presentation and rejoin at 5 p.m. for JTF Board Meeting. Both will be held at the Union Bank of California Hospitality Room.
2. Press Clippings

Meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm