

japantown task force, inc.

a planning, preservation, and development organization

JTF Board Meeting
Monday February 2, 2010 @ 5:00 p.m.
Union Bank Community Room
Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Caryl Ito, Rosalyn Tonai, Doug Dawkins, Lisa Watada
Staff: Bob Hamaguchi
Guests: Dawn Shaloup, Watsunya Ferreira (NJAHS intern)
Absent: Sandy Mori, Tak Matsuba, Benh Nakajo, Denis Henmi, Seiko Fujimoto, Mark Moriguchi

- A. Recognition of Quorum established by 8 members. There was not a quorum.

Meeting called to order: 6:15 p.m. by Caryl Ito, Vice President

- B. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of April 27 and June 1 and Nov 2 meetings will have to be approved at the next meeting.
- C. Susan King, Sunday Streets - Susan King, passed out a newspaper advertisement of September 6, 2009 Sunday Streets event to show the breadth of sponsors and participants involved. She is planning the Sunday Streets for the Western Addition Sunday September 19, 2010. The map shows the event will run through the Panhandle to the Peace Plaza in Japantown. This should be very good for local merchants. Sunday Streets is a coalition of Bicycle Coalition and Livable City (fiscal sponsor). All funding is from corporate and funding sources other than the City. It was recommended that a presentation be made to the Japantown Merchants Association (contact Richard Hashimoto). Susan should contact Bob Hamaguchi and confirm there are no conflicts with the Community Calendar.
- D. Report from Bob Hamaguchi, Executive Director

Financials/Funding Sources – The financial statements for December 31, 2009 were in the board package.

Better Neighborhood Plan Update – The next Organizing Committee meeting is scheduled for Wed February 17 3:00 in the Union Bank Community Room. There will be presentation by Zabe Bent of SFCTA on the status of the Geary BRT EIR. There will be a need to conclude the discussion of the format and schedule for the community review of the draft plan. The Planning Department has committed to provide the ½ staff person for 12 months beginning June 1. In the meantime, they will allow the community to lead the review and will attend the meetings to answer questions and offer clarifications. There is a difference of opinion of the time it will take to complete the review; however, there is a committee working on the proposed schedule. The Planning Department believes there is a possibility of pursuing enactment of the plan within a year. It is studying the idea of taking the heights recommended in the draft for Japan Center out and pursuing a negative declaration of the EIR.

JEDM – The Japantown Economic Development and Marketing Committee has had six meetings to develop a plan for marketing Japantown. A feasibility and marketing plan was presented by Dawn Shaloup at the last JTF board meeting. There was a similar presentation at the Merchants Association meeting on January 21. The association

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approved funding \$18,000 towards the contract with Potion Consulting. Meetings will be held with the Mayor's Office of Economic and Workforce Development to pursue funding for the JEDM marketing program.

MOH/OEWD Business Assistance Grant - Bob reported that he has obtained four clients for business assistance. He hopes to obtain at least six more clients before the end of the contract on Jun 30. Under this contract, we will be hosting a Social Networking Workshop on Monday February 22, and a Customer Service Workshop in March.

E. Other Business and Announcements

There was no other new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

The board went into Closed Session and guests were dismissed.