



Dogpatch & Northwest Potrero Hill Green Benefit District
Board of Directors General Meeting
February 17, 2021 6:30 – 8:30 PM
Virtual via Zoom

Board Members In Attendance: Bruce Huie, Cori Chipman, George Slack, Janet Carpinelli, Jason Kelly Johnson, Jean Bogiages, Kanwar Kelly, Kat Sawyer, Katherine Doumani, Kim Tercero, Susan Eslick, Terri McFarland

Board Members Absent: John Alderman, Kristel Craven, Monique Wallace

Executive Director: Julie Christensen **City Staff:** Ramses Alvarez

Minutes

1. Meeting Opened by President Kanwar Kelley at 6:35p

2. Roll Call (Secretary Kim Tercero)

Kim Tercero called roll.

3. Approve January Minutes (Secretary Kim Tercero)

Jean Bogiages requested change to reflect John Alderman will serve until the end of board year vs fiscal year.

VOTE: motion to accept amended minutes to reflect John Alderman will serve until the end of the board year.

4. Announcements (All)

Donovan Lacy - reminder to fill out the Minnesota Slow Streets survey. Requested the GBD formally endorse the Slow Streets initiative. Survey ends April 5th.

SFMTA Minnesota Slow Street Survey -

<https://www.sfmta.com/reports/minnesota-street-slow-street-perception-survey>

Bruce Huie - shared that a magical space has been created by Jason Kelly Johnson at the corner of PierPoint Lane and 3rd street at Uber Headquarters. Area now has a sky bridge and pedestrian lane created by SurfaceDesign. There is a garden behind headquarters by Warrior Way. Art installation is 33 feet tall made up of three twisted stainless steel work made locally at the American Industrial Center. Public art piece will be completed in 6 weeks.

Katherine Doumani - formally inviting the GBD to DNA meeting in April. It will be a town hall style meeting with the Supervisor. Email Katherine Doumani if you have specific areas of interest or GBD business to address. DNA meetings are the second Tuesday of every month.

DNA Town Hall with Supervisor Walton -

<https://www.dogpatchna.org/event-info/special-april-membership-meeting>

5. Climate Action Plan update: Healthy Ecosystems (Peter Brastow, SF Dept of the Environment)

Jean Bogiages was introduced to Peter Brastow through his work in Nature in the City map. Peter Brastow is part of the SF environment project working on 2021 Climate action plan and part of the Healthy Ecosystem and Biodiversity working group. He presented to the GBD two years ago talking about the protecting the pollinators program.

Reviewed the Climate Action Plan Deck. Shared the broad overview of plan which started with the 2013 climate action strategy and deemed it was time to update in 2021. The plan was written to be a Paris compliant plan and is currently in the heart of the public engagement phase. Designed to be human and community focused.

Goals: Zero waste, 80% via sustainable modes, 100% renewable energy, roots refer to sequestration and enhance biodiversity, and zero emissions by 2050 advance racial + social equity. There are community benefits along with sector goals.

Three sectors that drove action are soil health, urban forestry, and ecosystem management and restoration. Biodiversity interagency working group that include SF Public Works. The healthy ecosystem chapter ensures equitable experience of nature in the system through resilient ecosystems. Opportunities for greening built environments that include living walls, roofs, and nature rich living neighborhoods.

Showed drawing of Treasure Island with vision for mostly open green spaces. Reviewed healthy ecosystems strategies (9). Some projects are Native Plant Production, Pollinator Mega gardens and Healthy housing landscapes.

Timeline – started in Spring 2019 and plan for Climate Action Plan to be finalized in Spring 2021. Provided link sfenvironment.org/climateplan to take survey or attend an event. Public comment phase is over on 3/26.

Public comment - Julie Christensen commented that SF has driven major polluters out of the city, except the freeways and Caltrain. The neighborhoods that provide transportation artery get impacted the most. Caltrain is maintaining less and less (pick up trash, etc). Would like help. How can SF Dept of the Environment help? Peter Brastow is a policy guy and does not work for a land owning agency so is limited. Greening freeways is in plan. Julie Christensen went on to comment that Miami is doing better than SF in reclaiming infrastructure. Peter Brastow supports requests.

6. Executive Director Report

888 Tennessee - showed drawing of Amazon plans that reflects two of GBD's requests. The city is requiring Amazon to move truck out of right of way and must park in the loading zone area. A 15-foot sidewalk has been added and is requiring Amazon to angle parking on 20th.

Gears - 2K logs from Grizzly Peak were removed from the City of Berkeley as part of a fire break project. We took some for the Gears to build a barrier on the east side, children's nature play, etc. Iron Workers were needed to help move logs and large pieces of Oak and Redwood.

Tennessee Cut-through - posts were damaged and have since been replaced

Minnesota Grove - a Cooper's Hawk is now taking residence at Minnesota Grove

Angel Alley - lights being installed in June

Minnesota South - bulb outs are in final drawing

CCG - decisions will be made at the end of March

Esprit Park - Option V has been approved that includes artificial turf

Maintenance - consortium of Benefit Districts, which are part of the Office of Workforce Development, have negotiated with Recology to make waste disposal at no cost to all Benefit Districts. Currently, some previously paid and others did not. The GBD has invested \$750 to officially participate.

Dogpatch Neighborhood Association - made a presentation at the March meeting

300 Kansas - Spark Capital (developer) has contributed to Gateway project and promised funds for Vermont Greenway project.

Caltrains - project is under by \$32K and insisted we return the money. Presented UCSF 20th street Iowa greening, and Gears along with proposed budget and ambitions for each of the projects. Waiting on their response.

City Attorney - submitted an inquiry to combine maintenance and budget and if any new regulations may impact the GBD at time of renewal.

Annual Survey - Katherine Doumani was interested and was sent a rough draft along with Barb Fritz. Survey asks the community what they are most concerned about and what category will most improve things (sports, greening, streetscape, etc). The goal is to send the survey out next week and have results by the next board meeting.

Steam Cleaning - requested input on areas that need steam cleaning

Volunteers - recruiting talent and getting volunteers. Jason Kelly Johnson and Cori Chipman are stepping up for Woods Yard.

Public Comment - Bruce Huie inquired if UCSF gave a time frame. Julie Christensen shared they have not but that they owe the GBD \$580K for Esprit and has sent a request to transfer funds.

7. 2021-22 Board Elections Update

Cynthia Burks has withdrawn her candidacy but would like to be a volunteer. Mailers started to show up in mailboxes on March 1st. Only 72 owners have voted to date. Elections remains open until the 22nd. Six owners did not receive mailer but were fixed. Jean Bogiages is requesting an email reminder to vote be sent out. Asking for help to manage and write up process.

Concern was raised as there have been less than 100 votes submitted to date, which is only half than previous years. Need to generate more engagement. Can post on NextDoor. HOAs should be contacted. Posts are scheduled on social media. Property Owners are the target. Cori Chipman posted in her building bulletin board and put a personal note which helped a lot. Donovan Lacy requested a templated email and poster to distribute.

Katherine Doumani will share at upcoming meetings and will post on the DNA blog. Donovan Lacy will work with DNA to post on social media.

8. Annual Survey

Board Members that would like to see draft can request from Julie Christensen. Survey questions include interest in arts, events, and what talents can be offered (woodworking, etc).

9. Annual Meeting Planning

Has not progressed and board members that volunteered have not participated. Suggested to do a round robin of board members to share their goals or wishes for accomplishments.

Katherine Douman - shared a format that was used in her child's school; there were 15 minute sessions; leverage breakout rooms; embrace the technology we hate!

Barb Fritz – pair neighbors with board members in breakout room; Ask people what their favorite project is.

Bruce – wants to host a danceathon!

Kat – can include at the events committee. Board members to email Kim to be added to meeting invite.

10. Diversity + Inclusion Governance

Kanwar Kelley read D+I statement aloud. Julie Christensen inquired where the statement belonged. Suggested possibility of putting in ByLaws (more formal) or as a Policy Statement. If in ByLaws, must state what “the GBD will do”. May need expertise to advise. First step is to get board indication if should be in documentation.

Kanwar Kelley recommends the language be added to Article 4 - Membership of ByLaws and in About Us section of the website.

Susan Eslick supports that it goes in ByLaws under Membership. Kat Sawyer and Cori Chipman agree. Will work on language with Julie Christensen and Bruce Huie and will bring to board for vote. This is Bruce Huie's last act as board member. No objections from board or public comment.

11. Fund + Donation Allocations (VOTE)

UCSF balance of \$32K from Caltrain Station budget - if can get Iowa greening grant then will need matching funds. That will decide where the money goes.

Spear Street Capital \$10K donation for Potrero Hill - will pitch Vermont Street Greenway which is what we need the most funding for. It is adjacent to Potrero Gateway.

Will review budget in May.

12. Project Updates: Woods Yard seating

Reviewed deck. Seating conversation inspired by last month's meeting. There is incredible history that includes SF Muni project from mid 70s and much displacement. Area is viewed as a key asset in Waterfront/Dogpatch public realm plan and 22nd street Masterplan. Folks want more places to sit, play and use the bathroom. Site is 50'x200'/¼ acre which sits adjacent to Muni public parking lot and has

grown in importance in the last year. Proposing movable seating and tables to activate space. Explored all sorts of materials, sizes and options. Instead of heavy fixed furniture, introducing inexpensive moveable chairs and small tables. People will be in control of public space.

Scope of proposal: 36 new outdoor moveable chairs, (6) moveable tables, (3) permanent that were donated by Fletcher studio, and resurfacing of existing concrete blocks/replace beams.

Discussion – why red, community involvement and rollout, maintenance and replacement costs, storage of extra chairs, assessment and feedback.

Costing - \$3K for chairs, \$1,800 for tables, \$500 for misc expense for project total \$5,180 proposal. Jason Kelly Johnson, Cori Chipman, Susan Eslick, Kristel Craven are GBD board sponsors with Mike Spain as neighborhood advisor.

Cori Chipman is reaching out to local surrounding businesses to garner involvement. Former board member, Mark of Rickshaw bags shared that the Dogpatch and Potrero Hill Business Association received \$50K from the City of San Francisco and looking for ideas on how to spend. Cori Chipman also requested \$5K from CNBC for maintenance (MBC - the Johnson and Johnson office).

Mike Spain, Barb Fritz and Janet Carpinelli all shared concerned about theft. Cori Chipman noted permanent vs moveable was evaluated at length. Mike Spain agreed to move forward and test how project goes.

Board agreed to move forward and allocated \$6K from Iowa greening budget which may be replenished later. Next round based on where moveables get moved and can then explore permanency. This will be an experiment. Jason Kelly Johnson noted that there are a number of tables that have been donated which can be used from permanency.

13. Project Updates: Gears update

Great interest from board and adjacent neighbors. April event date has garnered over 20 responses. New fence installed around parcel. Entry gates are now locked. Julie Christensen has been instrumental in guiding progress. Sisters, who own Rams building, have paid to clean out trench and are interested in getting their work program folks involved. Rams has been instrumental in the maintenance of Progress Park. They train folks to re-enter work space. A dump truck load of trash was taken from property. Bruce Huie has been great at getting people excited to activate the space.

14. Committee Updates: Events Committee

No update.

15. Adjourn (Kanwar Kelley)

Kanwar Kelley adjourned the meeting at 8:24p

Guests: Donovan Lacy, Barb Fritz, Michael Spain, Susan, Jigar Mehta