

Uptown Parking Benefit District Advisory Committee – Regular Meeting
February 17, 2022
Video Conference via Microsoft Teams
MEETING MINTUES

Members in Attendance (virtually)

John Moye, Charlie Intebi, Sammy Holaschutz, Gloria Viramontes, Mike Myers, William “Carlos” Keating, Austin Allen

Members Absent

None

Vacancies: 2

Staff Members Present/Department

Hannah A Allen (Williams)/SAM, Richard Bristol/SAM, Rene Barraza/SAM, Lt. Shields/EPPD, Roberta Brito/CAO, Paul Stresow/IB, Brian lake/IB, Appolonia Roldan/CID, Marcella Attolini/CID

Public Present:

None

1. Establishment of Quorum, Call to Order, and Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 4:06 PM.

2. Call to the Public (items not listed on the Agenda):

Call to the public made – no public comment.

3. Administrative Items:

- a. Discussion and Action:** Approval of the Minutes from January 20, 2022 regular meeting

Action: *Motion to approve January 20, 2022 meeting minutes by, Charlie Intebi seconded by Sammy Holaschutz, and unanimously passed.*

- b. Information and Discussion:** Uptown Parking Benefit District monthly budget update (to include: Financial history 2019 – present and “hot spot” meter usage)
Rene Barraza reviewed the financial summary and history/revenue comparison from 2019 to present.

Paul Stresow informed that the department is working to finalize “hot spot” analysis of meter usage within district; will present information at next meeting.

4. Discussion and Action: Security Update on Activity Within the District and Action on Staffing (to include: feedback on Sunday activity)

Lt. Shields gave presentation informing of staffing, police activity from April 2021 to present to include arrests and parking/towing initiative that started November 12, 2021.

John Moye asked for clarification on noise complaints.

Charlie Intebi brings up concern emails to Lt. Shields regarding a gunshot in the neighborhood.

John Moyer asked about other major incidents in the last month or two. Lt. Shields mentioned that the crowd is changing and there are more issues (fights and activity) in the alleys, specifically between College Dropout and G2; PD is working to coordinate responses better for alleys. Discussion prompted by Austin Allen about camera location ensues. Lt. Shields would like to use the Alley Activation project as an opportunity to review camera placement and make adjustments as necessary. John Moyer asks if there is a way to block off the alley in the evenings to prevent people from hanging around. Lt. Shields explained that PD use to block alley with a vehicle, but then you have one or two officers secluded in an alley.

Approved motion from January 20th meeting regarding OT staffing stands: *Motion to approve 10 spots (officers) for February and 20 (officers) for March, to be used at the discretion of Lt. Shields by Austin Allen and seconded by Gloria Viramontes, and unanimously passed.*

No Action Taken

Mike Myers asks for details regarding the change in the crowd. Lt. Shields informed that Rockin' Cigar had the hip-hop crowd and since they are doing things differently now, the hip-hop crowd moved from Chino Chito to Profe and now College Dropout which is why we're having those issues in the alley next to College Dropout.

John Moyer & Lt. Shields discuss prior TABC violations with Profe.

Austin Allen asks how last Friday's concert was for PD. Lt. Shields informs that it wasn't too bad; there was a lot of people that showed up between 11:30 (pm) and 1:30 (am), but people tended to leave earlier so that 2:00 o'clock crowd wasn't too bad. Lt. Shield's continues to state really curious to see what's going to happen on Saint Patrick 's Day with the Ice Cube Concert, it has her a little concerned so they are working on trying to staff that appropriately.

5. Information and Discussion: Kern Place Business Association Security & Subcommittee update (to include: working with Lost and Found)

Austin Allen states that Lt. Shields addressed security updates and plans for the upcoming month; there are some concerns from the Business Association with regards to the proposed changes to the noise ordinance, but I don't think that really falls in this meetings purview.

6. Discussion and Action: Alley Activation Project update

Appolonia Roldan apologized on behalf of the consultant who had a prior commitment and was unable to attend and presented alternative meeting dates. The board agreed to having a Special Meeting on March 1st.

Action: *Motion to schedule a Special Meeting on March 1st at 4pm to discuss the Alley Activation Project with the consultant by, Austin Allen seconded by William "Carlos" Keating, and unanimously passed.*

Appolonia Roldan informed the board of the meter and revenue funds available as of 2/17/2022 and that the Assistant Director of Construction (for the Capital Improvement Department (CID)) did an estimate and his was a little higher than the consultants, at \$404,000 using the latest bid numbers at CID.

Appolonia states that the board has paid the consultant \$7,315 and still owes \$1,000 for the Geotech survey. The board agrees to pay the Geotech survey fee. *Note: No motion was needed since the \$1,000 is included in the City Council approved \$15,000 for design.*

John Moyer asks if we should let Appolonia know what we want to see in this meeting on the first?

Hannah A Allen (Williams) states that if there's any questions that the board has regarding the plans that were sent out with the draft minutes from the last meeting, I think now would be a great time to go ahead and voice those; that way Appolonia can get them to the contractor and we're not scrambling and taking 2 hours with the consultant.

The following conversation ensues:

Austin Allen: I think we all kind of felt a little underwhelmed by what was presented to us so I think we should maybe take a let's somebody kind of run with it based off some ideas and suggestions from Appolonia and her team and maybe some input from us. Have them design, something and it costs what it costs and we figure that out, but I think if we're trying to stick to a certain budget here, we're going to continue to be a bit underwhelmed and it might be hard for us to pull the trigger on anything to make some progress.

John: This (the plans) was just very basic I mean, it is essentially re-paving the alleyway in my opinion, and adding some lighting, but it didn't do anything for landscaping or arts or anything that would just really enticed people to travel in that area. It was kind of different from what we had originally did in our original charrette. It was much more engaging looking.

Austin: I agree and we need to be clear with the consulting and design team, to go for it - what would you want a neighborhood of this caliber to be represented with? Stamped concrete and a couple lights in the alley doesn't really check a whole lot of boxes for us.

Appolonia Roldan: I did reach out to El Paso Electric, Mr. Jerry Ramirez, regarding utilizing those existing power poles to put some illumination instead of putting the light posts because the space is already pretty small. So, I'm just waiting for him to reply and hopefully next time we meet I will have an answer for you.

Austin: You know, I'm kind of under the impression that we should just let the experts be the experts on it, and we just pitch some ideas. That's my idea of what we might want to see. But for example, Appolonia if you look at your background, you have a CNC

cut out there, I'd rather see a CNC cut out of a cool pattern on the side of these buildings that's going to stand the test of time and might look cool for years to come versus a mural that is going to erode away in a couple years. Yeah, and so I don't know if it's mostly us that kind of presents these ideas or if we take someone who's got more of an artistic eye in approach to this versus a civil engineering approach and we kind of let them run with it.

Appolonia: I think what we can do is start getting MCAD involved and we can probably have the mural as an option, but maybe they can suggest something else.

John and Austin: definitely – that would be great to get them involved.

Appolonia: But I do think that the priority of the alley, which is kind of the biggest chunk of money, is resurfacing. So, regardless, it's going to have to happen. Unless it (the alley) stays in the same state and you beautify it another way.

Austin: Yeah, I think that's what we're looking for Appolonia, something that is going to tell more of a long-term picture - something that's going to display some of the desires that the entire district and neighborhood want reflected. You know, so if we could ask them to take the vision a little bit further, and not just based on the budget, I think we might pacify our immediate feelings here.

John: Richard Bristol, this alley is in pretty bad shape from a paving standpoint, are there any future plans to repave it – do it now rather than later and use those funds or combine them or are there any funds available from Streets?

Richard Bristol: Let us come back and give you a presentation on our alley paving program and how it is operated/works. We can explain how we work that program and what the criteria is for it. And there may be opportunities to get this through the alley paving program should it meet the city 's criteria. Let us do it that way so that we're not out of any agenda requirement or you know, we're jumping ahead of what we should be saying. But we can obligate to come back and do that (presentation).

Appolonia: John, I am assuming that that program, if they do repave it and if you do meet the criteria, it would be asphalt not stamped concrete.

Richard: Yes ma'am, that would be us.

John: And then we pay the kind of upcharge for the stamped concrete or whatever, the pavers or whatever we happen to do. Maybe there's a collaboration that way that you know we can work out and since this isn't going to happen tomorrow anyway, we don't have the money that maybe, as we plan for this, then we can put it in as a budget item for streets through their alleyway program.

Appolonia: That would be great.

7. Discussion and Action: Maintenance of Public Areas (sidewalks, driveways, etc...)

Mike Myers stated that the purpose of this item is to set a schedule/decide on how frequently that would happen there, the cleaning and maintenance. Austin Allen asked

if there are any details on what is going on now – how often and what services are being done? Mr. Bristol answers I think that would be a good idea for me to come back and have a presentation explaining that as well, if you allow us to. But that would be Street Department. Collaboration between our own staff and 3rd party contractors. And we'd be happy to come in and provide information on that specific area and some of the maintenance activity and construction activity.

After Austin asks Mike if this is the information he was looking for, Mike responds that he would like to know what services are being provided and which ones are available. He is pretty satisfied with the collection of the garbage. I know the same contractor that empties the bins at the parks is also going down there, I think on the same days when they go to the parks in the area and I feel like it's nice that those are being removed on a regular basis or the trash is being moved out so we don't have any accumulation or odor and I was just really more concerned about how frequently we were going to be able to power wash remove gum spots and that kind of thing on the sidewalks to keep them clean and a sense such a big investment was made on redoing that street and the sidewalks and so that was really the main thing is just to try to make sure that we're on top of maintaining it properly. Mr. Bristol states that now that he has a better idea of what's being asked, if he (the board) could still allow us (Streets and Maintenance) to come back and come back with our graffiti section and we can explain how we work those things and maybe we can work out opportunities going forward.

Mike states that that sounds great, and thanked Richard.

Action: None

8. Discussion: Identification of Items for Future Agenda

In addition to staple items, include:

- Budget: "Hot spot" meter usage within district
- Security Update
- Presentations:
 - Alley Paving
 - Maintenance of public areas (sidewalks, driveways, etc...)

9. Adjournment

Meeting concluded at 5:06 PM.

Approved: _____


(signature)

Hannah Adele Allen (Williams)

(print)

Executive Recording Secretary