
Today's Hollywood Meeting

1 message

Jane Usher <jane.usher@lacity.org>

Thu, Jul 12, 2012 at 4:00 PM

To: Kerry Morrison <kerry@hollywoodbid.org>, "Joseph Mariani Jr." <joe@hollywoodbid.org>, Leron Gubler <Leron@hollywoodchamber.net>

Cc: Angela Motta <Angela.Motta@lacity.org>, Tamar Galatzan <tamar.galatzan@lacity.org>, Shaul Kuba <shaul@cimgroup.com>

Dear Kerry, Joe and Leron --

It scarcely bears saying but I was taken aback by today's meeting. The history of your efforts to protect Hollywood predates ours by years, but surely you know that our participation since we were invited to help in January 2012 is genuine and devoted only to improving the quality of life and commerce in Hollywood, your home. We have a track record of successes and are always trying to build on this legacy of good works.

Against this backdrop, your guests took turns berating Tamar, me, and the City Attorney's Office. Initially, I tried to bring the discussion back to the topic of our task force options. Later in the meeting, Captain Girmala again tried to refocus those around the table. Your guests wrongfully accused Tamar of bungling their "perfect" task force case, which I learned on my return to City Hall was instead a Hollywood & Highland shoplifting matter not assigned to Tamar. Ultimately, your guests added their final drop of fuel to the fire by stating that an absent invitee, Shaul Kuba, had just weighed in by phone to send his regrets and to add that he too wanted to express his dissatisfaction with the City Attorney's Office.

Who better to corral this out-of-control meeting than those who invited us? But it never happened. I left the gathering early, clear-headed in my sensibility that repeated kicks to the head don't advantage the bully or the victim. The ball is now squarely back in your court.

Jane

--

Jane Ellison Usher
Special Assistant City Attorney
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Re: Yesterday's Hollywood Meeting

1 message

Jane Usher <jane.usher@lacity.org>

Fri, Jul 13, 2012 at 3:52 PM

To: Cindy Chong <cchong@cimgroup.com>

Cc: Shaul Kuba <shaul@cimgroup.com>, Tamar Galatza <tamar.galatza@lacity.org>, Leron Gubler <Leron@hollywoodchamber.net>, Kerry Morrison <kerry@hollywoodbid.org>

Thanks Cindy for your email.

Yes, the meeting's guests did indeed pursue an unfortunate course, which was not corralled until after I left. I realized that my departure was necessary to bring the attacks to a close. I can assure you that the remarks were not inadvertent. They were pointed, unrelenting, and untrue.

In January, I was asked to step in to this years' old dilemma. I eagerly agreed. I currently regret my acquiescence.

Jane

On Fri, Jul 13, 2012 at 3:24 PM, Cindy Chong <cchong@cimgroup.com> wrote:

Jane-

While not in attendance at yesterday's meeting in the BID office, I want to extend my sincere apology for the tenor of the meeting. What was anticipated to be a productive discussion regarding meaningful issues in Hollywood appears to have accomplished the opposite; that was clearly not the intention of anyone present.

Let me also apologize for my staff and vendor that were present as it appears they may have inadvertently caused some of the discussion to become inflamed. I can assure you that was not their purpose as they have both spoken highly of you and your staff's efforts in the past. However, it appears the communication yesterday was misguided.

I believe some decisions were discussed at the close of the meeting that were productive in terms of next steps to be considered, and you have my assurance we **will** support any and all efforts you feel are appropriate.

Once again, please accept my sincere apologies.

Kind regards,

Cindy Chong

Cindy Chong

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