

Committee Notes – Joint Meeting

Security Committee- Hollywood Entertainment District, Sunset and Vine BID

August 9, 2017

6562 Hollywood Blvd

Attendance: **HED Committee Members present:** John Tronson, Monica Yamada and Manny Rojas. Not present: George Younan, Carol Massie. Chad Lewis **SVBID Committee Members present:** Fred Rosenthal. Not present: Bill Humphrey, Arthur Stroyman, Leah Clement. Fabio Conti, Stacey Levine. **Liaisons:** Steve Seyler, James Bunch. Andrews International. **Staff:** Kerry Morrison, Joseph Mariani. **LAPD:**SLO Irv Isabella. Guests: Mike Harkins, Hollywood & Highland. Michael Bezerra, Mike Gomez and Lauren Twisselman, Cabo Cantina; Blake Robin, 6904 Hollywood Blvd.

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by John Tronson at 10:05 a.m.
- II. Public Comment: There was no public comment.
- III. Meeting Notes: Meeting notes from June 14, 2017 were distributed to the committee for review.
- IV. Reports
 - A. Staff Report:
 - a. Homeless Issues: Morrison reported on the work she has been doing, working with the Mayor's office, and staff from Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, CD 13 and CD 4 and PATH to try to identify a shelter location for Hollywood. At present, one strategy involves re-opening the PATH Fernwood shelter, but that is contingent upon finding an alternative work space for about 30 admin staff that are currently working on the premises there. The committee is taking a tour of the Dream Center on Friday to see if some space they have offered might work. Additionally, Morrison reported that the so-called "E-6" outreach teams are going to be contracted through a Skid Row Agency, LAMP. They are going to be headquartered at Arlington and the 10 Freeway. She is advocating that the team assigned to Hollywood be located at The Center at Blessed Sacrament. She also reported that until The Center is in a position to create a reserve fund, The Center will have a hard time competing for government grants (such as the E-6 outreach team) because it needs to have the financial wherewithal to withstand months of delayed payments.
 - b. Public Safety Survey: Morrison reminded committee members that the current survey is being circulated, and according to our researcher, there have been close to 600 responses. The goal is 1000 by Labor Day. At next month's meeting, the committee will review the results and discuss next steps.
 - B. Andrews International Report: Steve Seyler presented a report for the period July 3, 2017 to July 30. He presented some highlights, and then introduced the two new unarmed patrol officers to share their routine with the committee and share trends or issues they are noticing. Gustavo took the lead and described their daily rounds and what they do when they encounter incidents that are beyond their ability to handle. Stefan, the outreach worker for the BID Patrol, described some of the trends he is noticing with people who are homeless in Hollywood at present. He said there is a big need for detox beds and access to drug treatment services. When asked, he indicated that between 60 – 80 percent of the homeless population in the two BIDs is likely involved with substance abuse. He talked about a recent success story of a person, Avedon, who had been homeless for many years in Hollywood and particularly frightening to businesses near Sunset & Vine. After a recent incident, he was placed into a psychiatric hospital for treatment.

This led to a robust conversation amongst the committee members and Andrews regarding the advisability of moving toward a hybrid system in the new BID – a combination of armed and unarmed.

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C. LAPD – Senior Lead Officer Irv Isabella provided a brief report from LAPD. He had been detained having to respond to an incident that coincided with the meeting.

V. New Business: Morrison mentioned that in the new Management Plan for the BID, there will be language included that will give the committee and board in the new BID the ability to consider an alternative to armed security. She said the flexibility will be created because with the decline in private persons arrests, and the desire expressed by some to see a more visible BID Patrol, this is an option that could be discussed. Steve said that in the interim, he is looking to try a pilot whereby a few unarmed bike patrol officers could be deployed, to increase visibility.

VI. Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2017.

VII. Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.