



A nonprofit organization promoting Uptown businesses since 2013

UPCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 25, 2023
9:00 am via Zoom

2022-2023

Board of Directors

President

Pasha Darvishian

Darvishian Group

Vice President

Steven Neal

Economic Policy Impact Center

Treasurer

Doris Felix

Community Member

Secretary

Ismael Elias

Villa Park Mobile Estates

Past President

Yanki Greenspan

Westland Realty Group

Aaron Blackburn

Business

Tom Carpenter

Frontier Real Estate Investments

Dr. Joni Ricks-Oddie

Deforest Park Association

Michelle Greene

Jordan High School

Executive Director

Tasha W. Hunter, MFA

WELCOME

Public Comments/Presentation

P. Darvishian called the meeting to order at: 9:??am

1. Roll Call/Attendees:

UPCA:

P. Darvishian, D. Felix, T. Hunter, I. Elias, A. Blackburn

Other Attendees:

Alcira Dominguez, Darlene Broom, Manny Buckiet, Anjelica Vargas, Forest Osbourn, Lynette Johnson, Bryan Martinez, Counsilmember Joni Ricks-Oddie, Tina ?

Excused:

Y. Greenspan, S. Neal

Not Present:

M. Greene

2. Approval of November 16, 2022 Minutes

Motioned: S. Neal

Seconded: D. Felix

3. Approval of resignation of Yanki Grenspan

Motioned: A. Blackburn

Seconded: D. Felix

4. Approval of Manny Buliet as Board Member to replace Yanki Greenspan

Motioned: A. Blackburn

Seconded: D. Felix

5. Approval of Ismael Elias as Board Treasurer

Motioned: A. Blackburn

Seconded: D. Felix

6. Executive Director Report **T. Hunter**

- Transition team has met three times; training planned with Ismael Elias and Shameka Walker
- Putting together hiring committee and Relief Grant Committee
- Recommendation of Councilmember Ricks-Oddie - Tasha to put together paragraph with “who to contact”
- Susan Cooper to finish with W2s before ending term with Uptown BID
- Will hand over keys to the office at Conservation Corps
- Need physical address for PO Box
- Will submit reimbursement for Board website, \$588 for 1-year
- Recommend update Board Bylaws Best Practices every 5-years; Uptown BID going into 6th year, and review compliance guidelines
- Mayor Richardson to implement funds to help with boarded windows and start-up business assistance
- CBDG Grant was \$2,000 for facade improvements coming back mid-2023 and to be \$25,000 (Councilmember Ricks-Oddie to research)
- Push to have LB Commons Chase Bank require security; bank manager has previously shared that he is security
- Recommend to send signature document to I. Elias to begin release of grant funds (per A. Dominguez - process can take about 4-weeks); Pasha to share document

7. Council Report **District 8 & 9**

CD8, per L. Johnson

- Staffing changes coming; looking for Community Affairs Deputy; share recommendations
- Would like to know how much information should be shared at meetings, i.e. only BID replated information

CD9, per A. Vargas

- Would like to know how much information should be shared at meetings, i.e. only BID replated information
- Background - community development and nonprofits; volunteer Ramona Park area

8. Comment **Councilmember Ricks-Oddie**

- Looking forward to partnering with CD8 to move the BID forward
- Rebuilding all classrooms on Jordan High School campus (Councilmember Ricks-Oddie to research)
- Tina has three security teams interviewed and in running; suggests P.

- Darvishian to reach out before final decision is made; maybe can have the same security team
- Suggest to solidify next two board meeting and retreat dates

9. Report

A. Dominguez

- Economic Development Department, Business Development Bureau
- Recently assigned Business Improvement District Program Manager
- Uptown BID to received LBRA Grant will help for obtaining security
- City manager, under Mayor Richardson, has allocated an amount to the BIDs, \$100,000 to divided; focus on security, clean and safe and homelessness issues
- Another grant opportunity to business to assist with impact of homelessness and crime

10. Assemblyperson Gipson Report

B. Martinez

- Thank you for attending Swearing-in
- Now covers all of North Long Beach
- Will provide more legislative updates in the future, since back in session

11. Development Property Report

M. Buckiet

- At final stages of signing lease with larger tenants for new development
- To share their security team contact information

12. President's Report

P. Darvishian

- Unarmed robbery at LB Commons Starbucks
- Dainty Disco Pop-up Event at Long Beach BID February 4th; variety of items
- Pop-ups are growing; contact owner Marissa
- Planning an Uptown BID retreat for March 2023; possible location at Laguna Beach Bungalows (fits 12-13)
- COBA meeting - heard from a lot of business
- Street vending issues - state law - cannot tell street vendors that they cannot vend on the streets
- Request to expand the reach of the board; invite them to meetings
- Grant funds need one more signature
- Would like to set-up Grant Funds Committee

13. Multi-family Report

I. Elias

- Damaged chain link fence at property line and Artesia bridge is still an issue
- Suggest for city to redo the entire fence

- Pictures to be provided to CD9 (Councilmember Ricks-Oddie will Research; Angelica to follow-up)
- Would board consider hiring an inhouse security guard, hired through board not company; T. Hunter - possible, however, other components come in to play, i.e. insurance

14. Community Report

D. Felix

- Nothing to report

15.. Community Report

D. Broom

- Nothing to report

16. Old Business

- Hiring of a new security team - Pasha to contact different security teams
- Can we put together a Security Committee to research and hire security Team?
- A. Blackburn to chair committee
- A. Blackburn to invite security teams to present at next board meeting; T. Hunter advise not to wait for next board meeting; try to find within the next week; P. Darvishian agrees
- Invite community members to be a part of security team hiring

17. New Business

MEETING ADJOURNED by P. Darvishian at ???AM

NEXT MEETING:

April 20, 2023