CIDBIA Board Meeting Minutes  
1/2/20 8:30am  
Hing Hay Coworks  

CIDBIA Board Members Present: Barry Blanton (Chair), Tuck Eng, Alann Hamada, Brian Jaeger, Jena McCullough, Evan Chan  
CIDBIA Board Members Absent: Rahul Gupta, Jeff Liang, Jamie Lee (Treasurer), Jocelyn Moore  

Guests Present: Carl and Tammy – Consultants for 501 Commons  

CIDBIA Executive Director: Monisha Singh  

Welcome  

The meeting was officially called to order by Barry Blanton at 8:31 a.m., and a quorum was established. Everyone gave a self-introduction.  

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None.  

Approval of Meeting Minutes from 12/5/19 Board Meeting  

Alann motioned to approve the minutes from the 12/5/19 CIDBIA Board Meeting as presented; Evan seconded the motion; motion carried.  

CIDBIA 101 – Monisha  

Monisha gave a comprehensive overview of the CIDBIA structure, areas of responsibilities, and relationships with the various stakeholders we interact with (see PowerPoint presentation shared with the Board).  

Part of the presentation outlined the three components of the neighborhood, two of which are ratepayers into the CIDBIA (Chinatown and Japantown), and one (Little Saigon) that is supported through programs funded through outside sources (not CIDBIA assessment funds).  

The CIDBIA has a very complicated assessment model, and assessments haven’t changed since 2005 (in 15 years), even to keep pace with inflation (CPI). Explanations were given for this, but the fact that increases haven’t been implemented was evident.  

Tuck expressed his concern with the marketing and communication, specifically relative to attracting new businesses into the neighborhood that will continue to support the culture. Monisha explained that our Business development efforts (specifically relative to recruiting new businesses) is handled by Shanti, and that we work very closely with Shanti. She is contracted through SCIDPDA, not CIDBIA.
Clean and Safe Updates

On Sunday, January 19th there will be a 2-hour Community Clean-up for people to come together, get to know their neighbors, and to give the neighborhood a boost relative to cleaning, touching up painting, art installations, etc.

Events/Marketing/Communication Update

Wing Luke Museum will be holding its Lunar New Year Celebration on Saturday, January 25th. The CIDBIA Lunar New Year event will be held on Saturday, February 8th. Everyone is encouraged to come celebrate at both events welcome the Year of the Rat.

Executive Director’s Report

Sound Transit plans to close the Chinatown/International District Station, the Pioneer Square Station, and the University Street Station beginning on January 4th. These stations will be closed for up to 2 weeks, and Sound Transition will be providing temporary bus services until the light rail is back on line. This is being done as part of the East Link Extension work.

The CIDBIA Board Retreat - CIDBIA will engage in a two-part Board Retreat in late January/February for strategic planning and Board Orientation/Training. Carl and Tammy will be helping us with the retreat as consultants.

Historic South Downtown (HSD) has awarded CIDBIA two grants for 2020 amounting to $70,000 ($35,000 each). The first will be used to enhance our resources to improve cleanliness, and will be used specifically for additional power washing, cleaning up signage in the neighborhood and alleys, and other initiatives including braded CIDBIA safety vests for our team and contractors to wear for easy identification. The second grant will be used to develop a new website for CIDBIA that will be more useful in tracking, attracting, and retaining business and businesses in the neighborhood, and for helping introduce an Annual Report of the activity of the CIDBIA (which will also be available in Chinese).

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 a.m.