CIDBIA Board Meeting Minutes
5/7/2020 8:30am
Virtual Meeting (online and via phone conference call)

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

CIDBIA Board Members Absent: Brian Jaeger, Jena McCullough, Chera Amlag

Guests Present: None

CIDBIA Executive Director: Monisha Singh

Welcome
• The meeting was officially called to order by Barry Blanton at 8:40 a.m., and a quorum was established.

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from 4/2/20 Board Meeting
• Jeff motioned to approve the minutes from the 3/5/20 CIDBIA Board Meeting;
• Alann seconded the motion with the change to correct the typo in Rahul’s name.
• Motion carried
• Tuck abstained

Approval of Paycheck Protection Program
• Jamie motioned to approve the acceptance of the Paycheck Protection Program in the amount of $40,641.00;
• Alann seconded the motion to accept the Paycheck Protection Program;
• Motion carried

Nomination of Jeff Liang as Co-Chair
• Barry motioned to approve the nomination of Jeff Liang as the Co-Chair of the CIDBIA Board;
• Rahul seconded the motion to approve the nomination of Jeff as Co-Chair;
• Motion carried
• Jeff abstained

Budget Update/COVID-19 Budget Impacts
• Grants
  • CIDBIA received a $15,000 Grant from Historic South Downtown’s Emergency Fund
  • SCIDpda received a grant from Dept of Commerce for technical assistance. The remainder of the grant will be split between the BIA, SCIDpda, and FLS.
• Budget Cuts
  • CIDBIA is cutting the cleaning contractor hours by 30% for the remainder of the year.
  • Monisha presented budget cuts to the 2020 budget, including rent, staff transportation subsidy, staff professional development, and entrances to community events.
Clean and Safe Update

- Pressure washing will begin in the alleys in Nihonmachi Alley, Maynard Alley, and 6th Ave Alley (partial). CIDBIA will coordinate with WM and businesses on pausing pickup strategically in each alley.
- Cigarette Butt Receptacle Project will be postponed until later this year when ISRD is back in session.
- Increase in graffiti and decrease in litter/scatter throughout the C-ID
- Update: City (SPU) has suspended the nuisance code enforcement and graffiti rangers during the crisis.
- Large spree of race-related stickers from a white supremacist group throughout Chinatown 3 weeks ago.
  - SPD has identified the group responsible but have not made arrests.
  - Volunteers and CIDBIA’s cleaning crew removed most of the stickers
- Rising concerns from businesses regarding an increase in illegal dumping of needles into business garbage and recycling bins. Contaminated bins incur fines back to the business.
- Homeland Patrol Division Security has generously offered to donate their services to the neighborhood.
  - CIDBIA holds the contract with them.
  - Patrols will be in a marked vehicle from 9pm to 5am 7 nights/week until the end of May.
- Continued increase in crime and incivility:
  - Total of 14 businesses broken into, 3 properties damage, 2 personal property crime, continued issue of open-air drug dealing on 12th and Jackson.
  - Major issues around the Navigation Center: growing encampment, large and small fires around encampments, property damage, multiple shootings near 12th and Weller encampment and encampment under I-5.

Events/Marketing/Communication Update

- Dragon Fest is cancelled.
  - This is the responsible thing to do for the safety of the public and C-ID businesses.
  - This gives staff the opportunity to invest in low-cost, low-management activities that are safe and creative.
  - CIDBIA will ask exhibitors who have already paid their booth fees and the one sponsor to donate their committed money if they are able to.
  - Night Market is still TBD
- In partnership with Wing Luke Museum, CIDBIA is hosting Takeout Bingo on social media.
  - This is a fun, creative way to support restaurants that are open for takeout.
- CIDBIA, SCIDpda, and FLS have created a Business Relief Fund.
  - The fund was seeded by a $100k donation from Vulcan. As of 5/4, we’ve raised over $300,000 through individual and corporate donations!
  - The first round of funding of $1,500 went to 87 restaurants.
  - Second round has identified over 135 businesses to receive $1,500 in the next couple of weeks.
- CIDBIA, FLS, and SCIDpda are working together to create a storytelling series about the impacts of the CID Business Relief Fund to businesses.
- The CIDBIA website is continuously updated with new information, orders, resources such as loans and grants, etc. There are now two pages – financial resources and business resources.

Executive Director’s Report

- Staffing Updates
  - Monica is continuing 50% split of Clean & Safe and Business Technical Assistance, with emphasis on Public Safety and Technical Assistance
  - Connie’s communication role is still 100% COVID related and starting to plan what marketing and events look like for the rest of the year.
  - Monisha’s work is financial related for Q3 and Q4, long- and short-term planning, advocacy, HR, etc.
- Advocacy
  - Monisha has signed onto letter and is coordinating testimonies to Council for the Tax on Jobs legislation being introduced in City Council. The tax wouldn’t affect most businesses but will likely have a trickle-down effect to small businesses and customers.
  - Monisha has signed onto letter to Council and the Mayor’s Office around encampments and the increase in crime in the neighborhood.
Other Comments
- Wing Luke is doing virtual tours – digitalwingluke.org
- Hing Hay Coworks/SCIDpda is moving their AAPI Arts and Crafts Fair online

Public Comment
- None.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 a.m.

Meeting Minutes Recorded by Monisha Singh