

**Downtown Residents Group
Minutes for Feb 19, 2018**

Present: Gary Smith, Ellen Hoffman, Jim Carpenter, Karen Clare, L.C. Cline, Bob Klug, Bob Link, Stan Marder, Bill Orabone, Fran Pillersdorf, David PriverMark Stephens, Joan Wojcik, LeAnna Zevely, 4 Public. Absent: Lew Baurer, Annie Eichman, Connie Madden,,,

Call to Order. 6 PM at the Sofia Hotel

Non Agenda Public Comment. (Gary Smith) Over past weekend we have several new Bike Share companies that have popped up—OFO bikes—bright yellow, Bird: Black Electric Scooters, Lime Bikes—bright green bikes and electric scooters and MOFO red bikes. This follows the City Attorney's ruling that the city's 5 year contract with Deco Bikes does not preclude other contracts. City Council needs to address issues that have already developed with regard to these bikes—bikes being left in mass in certain locations, blocking pedestrian sidewalks, helmet liability, scooters and bikes on sidewalks, bikes being left anywhere rider chooses—simply dump them. Payment for these new bikes/scooters are managed and paid for via a cell phone app and business office for all of these new bike groups located in southern CA. As of Feb. 2018 residents will be seeing Beat Cops on the streets to address Quality of Life Crimes. Brian Elliott representing Chris Ward's Office—Bike Share—Bird electric scooters started a few weeks ago in Pacific Beach before just moving downtown. OFO Bikes secured city business license and able to operate downtown now—issues include right of way, handicap access, and many others. Seattle has had OFO for 6-9 months thus far with results mixed. Lime Bikes currently operating in 20+ markets in the US. ****concerns/issues should be sent to Chris Ward's office via Brian Elliott or to Gary Smith Chinese Theatre (old Reading Movie Theatre at 5th and G. St.) had come to DRG asking for variances—most were given approval but DRG turned down their request for large signage on side of building. Now other groups are also questioning some of these variances and the developer has been directed to go back to the drawing board and bring new designs for consideration.

--Homeless Tents are filled—Alpha, Father Joe's, Veterans—when homeless are found they are entered into system, when an opening appears in a tent, those homeless deemed most vulnerable given priority placement in a vacant space. Jan.-Feb. 2018 lowest homeless count since Dec. 15, 2017 1400 down to 800—this does not include homeless count who simply moved to Little Italy, Hillcrest, Balboa Park—no housing available

--Concerns voiced by DRG members regarding increased number of homeless in Children's Park, and homeless lean-to's appearing on bike path next to tracks facing Marriott Hotel across from Children's Park pond—Gary Smith response-police are around more now and moving the homeless out of areas but the homeless are not stupid and know they have the right to lay in

parks during operating hours. They also know Clean and Safe cannot remove their belongings left on walkways, parks etc. as long as a person is sitting with those items....so to the huge piles of carts, bikes, chairs and bags noted in Children's Park—the homeless are simply pooling their junk and appoint one homeless belongings sitter so nothing can be removed. Grande North resident who was attacked by homeless at 4:00 in afternoon on West G. St. one block west of Ralph's also mentioned by member.

Approval of Minutes for Jan 22, 2018 BoD Meeting. Approved.

Treasurers Report. \$3739.75 accepted.

DCPC Report.

Information. Project Updates. Imperial Ave Bikeway Update. 17rh-18rh Street downtown Imperial Ave. Bikeway progress update, next will be 9th Ave. angle parking, then CORE, East Village, and Beech Street in Little Italy

Elections. Candidate Forum. 2.5 minutes per speaker. Monday, March 5th, 2018—4 locations for voting from 11:00-1:00 and from 5:00-7:00—locations in Cortez Hill and Little Italy are covered with staffing but volunteers requested for location at Horton Plaza Park (Sharon and Bob Klug volunteered) and Main Public Library (David Priver and Gary Smith volunteered) 19 seats from the 28 person membership will be up for election

Consent. None.

Action.

17th & G. East Village. Eastern side of 17th from F to G. G St is onramp to SR94. Abuts I-5 to East. 7 Story 83 ft building with 86 affordable units, 2 1 bdrm managers units and 6 parking spaces. All 86 units to be permanent supportive housing. DRG unanimously voted NO –it is time for developers and the city to look somewhere else rather than always Downtown to house some of these hardcore homeless who have severe mental illness and drug/alcohol addictions/habits.

Old Business.

PBID Report.

Homeless Issues Report.

New Business.

Park Equivalencies. Parks Master Plan. Master Plan will not be ready for 3 years. In a "perfect city" plan—1000 residents per park. Developer fee would be huge in old established communities like Hillcrest. Some thought to permit developers to simply provide a public nicety facility in existing parks—needs to be monitored closely

Member Comments. --Presentation at our next meeting by San Diego Symphony executives regarding proposed Permanent Structure in Embarcadero South Park (LZ)

-New Children's Museum will be coming to DRG in a few months' time to share proposed Art Works plan (GS)
--Announced that the Sky Diving Company located near old Charger's Stadium has gone bankrupt and the city was able to purchase this building – it will be used as an intake center for the housing commission.

Urgent Non Agenda Items. None

Adjournment. 7:25 PM Karen Clare Secretary

DRG upcoming meetings—Monday March 19th, Monday, April 16th