

MINUTES

JANUARY 17, 2018

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Tammy Maisetti, Susie Fagundes, Tom Slater, David Boring, Bart Barringer, Lauren Trevino, Joe Muratore

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Steve Rank, Brad Morad

MODESTO POLICE DEPARTMENT: Sergeant Michael Hammond

GUESTS: Doug Hosner, Josh Bridegroom

STAFF: Nancy Young

The Downtown Improvement District Board of Director's Meeting was called to order by Chairman David Boring at 12:07 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Bart Barringer moved to approve the December 20, 2017, minutes of the Downtown Improvement District Board of Director's Meeting. Tammy Maisetti seconded. Unanimous approval.

CORRESPONDENCE: Staff reported that all correspondence had been delivered.

MATTERS FOR THE GOOD OF DOWNTOWN

Gallo Center for the Arts Report – Doug Hosner reported that the Theresa Caputo Show on March 12th is sold out. Gallo Center for the Arts has added two (2) shows, which will be on March 13th and 14th.

The Lyle Lovett and Robert Earl Keen Show will be on February 11th.

This season is a mixed bag at the Gallo Center for the Arts. Overall, Gallo Center for the Arts is doing very well. Doug stated December was their best month ever.

Downtown Modesto Partnership – Josh Bridegroom reported the 2nd Annual State of Downtown will be March 1st at 9:00 a.m. This event is consuming most of Downtown Modesto Partnership's time right now.

There are two (2) ambassador positions available.

Josh submitted the following report:

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2016-2017 Year End Stats (December 2016 – November 2017)

Downtown Modesto Partnership Continued –

Pounds of Trash Collected: 383,542

Graffiti Spots Removed: 561

Business Interactions: 12,075

Calls for Service: 618

Homeless Engagements: 2,923

Homeless Referred to Services: 401

Anti-Social Behavior Abated: 1,097

Patron Interactions: 5,179

Patrons Referred to Businesses/Services: 1,515

Rank Security Calls Serviced: 4,211

Josh Bridegroom reported that the owners of the Ice Skating Rink are looking into bringing a Roller Skating Rink to downtown in the summertime - Roller Skating/Ice Skating from June to January. The Ice Skating Rink has proven to be an asset for downtown. It brings much positive energy to downtown.

David Boring asked about the roll of Downtown Modesto Partnership regarding downtown security issues. He was wondering how Downtown Modesto Partnership was addressing the problems.

Josh explained the Downtown Modesto Partnership is frustrated with all the vandalism and the laws that are making the problems harder to handle.

Josh Bridegroom also explained that Rank Investigation has extended its night time hours at no extra charge to Downtown Modesto Partnership. Rank Investigation and the City of Modesto have made changes to their contract.

Sgt. Hammond explained that new State Laws do not give Law Enforcement any power. When the police department arrests someone, they are out of jail right away.

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Downtown Modesto Partnership Continued – Tom Slater stated he voted for DoMo because 70% was supposed to go from curb to door. Tom stated he pays \$1,000 per year, and he is not happy.

Josh explained that Downtown Modesto Partnership is off at 9:30 p.m. Rank Investigations starts at 11:00 p.m. and has one (1) to two (2) cars patrolling.

J Street Plan – Josh Bridegroom explained that the 16th Street intersection has been eliminated from the plans. The change will start at 15th Street and continue to 9th Street. Lanes will change from four (4) to two (2) lanes. Bulb-outs will slow traffic down.

Tom Slater stated this plan would be eliminating traffic off J Street. Drivers won't be able to read signs on businesses. Tom believes this plan does not work for businesses.

Tammy Maisetti stated that traffic already backs up at 12th and J Streets. Cars wait for two (2) light changes before they can move forward through the intersection.

Tom stated business people count feet, not cars. He stated businesses won't last with this change to J Street. Tom mentioned Warden's Office at 14th and J Streets. The rent will be 60 to 75 cents lower than fifteen years ago. We must have property owners who will work with tenants.

Tom suggested Josh and others visit some of the following downtown area, such as Santa Rosa, CA, Savannah, GA, and Napa, CA.

Retail people want ease. In 100 degree summertime weather, people will not walk. We must be flexible in the Urban Environment.

Retail likes retail, restaurants like restaurants. Everything is experimental. Right now, restaurants are the focus. Josh believes we will see more restaurants with some retail.

Josh explained it will take three (3) to four (4) months to do the J Street work, four (4) to five (5) months with landscaping.

Tom Slater explained his Merced, CA store experience when Merced did their street work.

Tom explained that the J Street repair work is going to be a hardship for all the businesses on J Street.

Tom explained that if customers are inconvenienced, they will not patronize your business.

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Downtown Modesto Partnership Continued - It was explained that the City has money to complete the street repair work and install the bulb-outs. Utility money can be used also. It was explained that 20 feet of clearance is needed, and J Street has 22 feet of clearance.

Downtown Merchant Watch Group – Sgt. Hammond introduced himself and give his background. Sgt. Hammond explained he supervises Beat Health, the Heart Team that is a Homeless Engagement Response Team. This team consists of a Police Officer and Fire Fighter who is an EMT.

They work with the Go Modesto app, which allows citizens to report illegal camps, etc. This team has worked with homeless veterans, and they have had several success stories.

Vernon was discussed. Vernon is on probation and is restricted from having any rocks in his possession. If he is searched and does have rocks, he can be arrested again. Vernon has been known to throw rocks at windows of businesses. He is also known to pull the plants out of businesses' planters and the pots that are planted by the Garden Club and serviced by the Downtown Improvement District when needed.

Sgt. Hammond explained that Drug Crimes are now a misdemeanor. Property Crimes under a certain dollar amount are a misdemeanor.

Sgt. Hammond also has under his supervision eight (8) cadets who are college age. Explorers are high school age.

Downtown should have a Foot Patrol soon.

Sgt. Hammond wanted the Board to know that the Modesto Police Department supports downtown.

City Map Report – Staff reported that she has been working on a committee that is putting together a Modesto City Map. Profits go to the new Children's Hospital.

Kiwanis Graffiti Car Parade – Staff reported that today will be our first meeting for the 2018 Graffiti Car Parade.

MATTERS TOO LATE FOR THE AGENDA

None

ISSUES THAT NEED DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT SUPPORT

None

ADJOURN

1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Young