

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 21, 2018

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Tammy Maisetti, Susie Fagundes, Tom Slater, David Boring, Bart Barringer, Joe Muratore, Steve Rank, Brad Morad

BOARD MEMBER ABSENT: Lauren Trevino

MODESTO POLICE DEPARTMENT: Sergeant Mike Hammond and Officer James Shackelford

GUESTS: Brad Hawn, Ruben Imperial

The Downtown Improvement District Board of Director's Meeting was called to order by Chairman David Boring at 12:10 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Bart Barringer moved to approve the January 17, 2018, minutes of the Downtown Improvement District Board of Director's Meeting. Tom Slater seconded. Unanimous approval.

INTRODUCTIONS: Introductions were made.

CORRESPONDENCE: Staff reported that all correspondence had been delivered.

MATTERS FOR THE GOOD OF DOWNTOWN

Gallo Center for the Arts Report – David Boring stated that Gallo Center for the Arts has many good shows lined up. David also mentioned that in one (1) week the Elton John Tribute Band will be performing. They perform on Thursday, March 1st. It is a Modesto Rotary Fundraiser. Some shows have such a big demand that they have to add shows.

FOCUS ON PREVENTION – Ruben Imperial and Brad Hawn reported on Focus on Prevention, which is a ten year county-wide initiative that aims to improve the quality of life of all Stainslaus County residents and families through coordinated prevention efforts working across multiple sectors.

Ruben Imperial explained that the Outreach and Engagement Center was opened on Twelfth Street between H and I Streets.

The Stewardship Council Leadership consists of ten (10) Community Sectors working in

collaboration for change.

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An Emergency Access Center and Low Barrier Shelter is endorsed by Stewardship and Community System of Care. The Board of Supervisors have accepted the project, and it is going to the City Council for support next Tuesday.

Between 9th and 10th Streets at D Street, a temporary emergency shelter and day center with support services with a three (3) year operation plan will be created. A sixty bed, low barrier shelter allowing partners, pets, and possessions will be available for the homeless. Artificial turf will be in areas of the center. There will be showers, toilets, laundry facilities and storage areas with double lock containers for their belongings. This program is about transformation. Attendees have 120 days.

Brad Hawn explained it will look like an industrial yard with a fence around it. They are negotiating with Stanislaus Foods on the property.

The program would like to take twenty-five people and extend the program with Job Training.

Susie Fagundes asked who will be maintaining the area. It was mentioned that six (6) to eight (8) of the homeless will maintain and police themselves with staff supervision. They need to understand we are helping them.

Tom Slater asked if they can use alcohol and drugs while they are there. Brad Hawn explained that if they are using drugs or alcohol, they can dry out at the facility.

It was also mentioned that there are teams being put together to work with these groups of homeless that are in the downtown area.

Emergency shelter will have a three (3) year lease to start.

The homeless want a place to bring possessions, animals, children, partners, etc.

Sergeant Hammond explained to the Board that the homeless talk amongst themselves so they know what is going on.

Tom Slater asked how many want to walk in. Do they have a number?

Tammy Maisetti stated we have to start some where.

It was explained that they have a 2.5 million grant and a one (1) million grant to fund this program.

Rules are being developed, and the facility will be staffed 24/7.

Joe Muratore mentioned that the homeless situation seems as if it is getting worse.

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Sergeant Hammond explained that since the homeless encampments on 9th Street and Yosemite Boulevard have been cleaned out, and the buildings have been torn down where the new Courthouse will be has caused the homeless to be out on the streets more.

One-half of the unsheltered live in California. That represents 13 to 14 percent of the homeless population.

Today, there are one-third of the beds that there used to be in 1970 for mental health.

Ruben Imperial stated the County is working on strengthening Conservatorship Laws with San Francisco and Los Angeles Counties.

Brad Morad explained that we need to fix the leaks before we fix the problem. Brad Morad believes that many of the homeless are coming to Modesto from the Bay Area and San Jose.

David Boring mentioned that this group has been working for at least two (2) years on this project.

Someone suggested a homeless discussion on how they got to this point would be helpful.

Brad Hawn explained that part of the intake process will be where they are from. Their family will be contacted, but bus tickets will not be purchased for them.

Approval of 2018/2019 Downtown Improvement District Budget

Staff reported that our Downtown Improvement District Income for the 2018/2019 Budget has increased by approximately \$10,000. Our Downtown Improvement District Reserves are \$76,900.

Tom Slater moved to approve the 2018/2019 Downtown Improvement District Budget total of \$185,000. Tammy Maisetti seconded. Unanimous Approval.

Downtown Merchant Watch Group – Susie Fagundes reported that Sergeant Hammond did a great job at our February Meeting. We had a good turn out this month. Sergeant Hammond reported that the homeless situation seems to be the hot topic with downtown businesses. Staff reported that D.I.D. has followed through on the complaints that were in our district. The next Downtown Merchant Watch meeting will be Wednesday, May 2nd, at 5:30 p.m. at Modesto Police Department.

Tammy Maisetti stated that the manager of Cash and Carry was very upset that the City had sent him a notice that he had to clean up his property. Staff explained that Jeffrey had cleaned up the area numerous times, and the homeless keep coming back and making another mess. Officer Shackleford explained that he had met with the manager and explained what he needed to do.

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City Map Report – Staff reported that the City map information sheet was put in their packets and is being distributed to downtown businesses.

Kiwanis Graffiti Car Parade – Susie Fagundes explained that we are having our 2nd Meeting today. So far, the downtown parade will be the same as usual. The Police Department still doesn't have the manpower to extend the parade route to Briggsmore Avenue. The Downtown Improvement District and Visit Modesto will host the Graffiti After Party as usual. The parade will be on June 8th this year.

Family Cycling Festival – Staff reported that the Family Cycling Festival will be Saturday, May 12th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This year, the Criterium will be moved to the following Saturday, May 19th.

Tom Slater requested the Criterium people contact him regarding what streets they will be closing and the times.

MATTERS TOO LATE FOR THE AGENDA

None

Issues that need Downtown Improvement District Support

It was mentioned that Mayor Brandvold would like the Low Barrier Shelter to be at another location that is not in downtown.

Sergeant Hammond explained that his team is really concentrating and working on downtown.

Sergeant Hammond mentioned that Proposition 47 has destroyed any hope. When the

police arrest someone, he/she could be released and back on the street in eleven hours.

ADJOURN

1:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Young