



Public Safety Task Force

Thursday, April 30, 2009—10:00 a.m.

DLBA Office

100 West Broadway, Suite 120

Long Beach, CA 90802

Members Present: John Morris (DLBA Board), Rotella (Los Angeles Sheriff Department), Don Darnauer (Downtown Residential Council), Paulita Elliott (Downtown Guides), Ted Reno (Long Beach Police Department)

Members Absent: Broc Coward (2nd Council District)

Guests: Derreck Pickett (Block-by-Block)

Staff: Mary Coburn, Vanessa McCollum

1. CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS

Mary Coburn called the meeting to order at 10:03am and self introductions were made.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 26, 2009, MEETING

Don Darnauer requested a correction of the minutes, noting that page three states that the residents are unhappy about the alcohol permit for the new business, but in fact, they are unhappy about the "carry out alcohol permit." He also clarified that in regards to Cmdr. Jay Johnson being transferred, he asked if Sgt. Reno would remain in his current position, not replacing Cmdr. Johnson.

Don Darnauer made a motion to approve the minutes from March 26, 2009, as amended. Paulita Elliott seconded the motion. All in favor; none opposed

3. PROJECTS AND TIMELINES

Darnauer stated that the focus on public relations is important with upcoming summer events. Darnauer recommended that everything under Public Relations and the Entertainment District should be prioritized. Coburn stated that Cmdr. Johnson's quarterly South Division meeting is tonight, and Darnauer asked if there would be a separate meeting for the Downtown as discussed before or if Cmdr. Johnson would be incorporating the Downtown into the meeting. Coburn stated that the Downtown would be incorporated and the option of holding a separate meeting could be revisited in the future if needed. Coburn stated that the Public Safety Task Force should focus on steering information in the right direction and emphasize the positive aspects of the Downtown. John Morris added that all of the events Downtown are positive, and make people feel that the Downtown is fun, safe and clean. Coburn stated that she wanted to table discussion on the panhandling issues pending review of state laws. Morris asked for an update on the "Junk in the Trunk" campaign and Coburn stated that the campaign had been placed on hold pending review of alternate options. Morris requested that the "Junk in the Trunk" campaign be revived and reviewed at the upcoming Board of Directors meeting. Derreck Pickett said that he could bring collateral from similar campaigns as examples. Rotella stated



that people tend to feel safe where they live and get lackadaisical, therefore making subtle reminders necessary. Coburn asked if there had been any issues lately with the entertainment district and Ted Reno stated that there may have been some loud music calls lately, but no real issues. Coburn asked if the Task Force felt that visual blight should be prioritized and all were in agreement; Reno said that some of the faded regulatory signs need to be replaced. Coburn asked if the communications between entertainment district venues needed to be improved. Morris stated that most of the clubs and restaurants don't communicate much, but that there haven't been any real issues at this point. Coburn discussed having a phone tree program among the entertainment district venues, and Morris said that when the venues ask people to leave, they watch to make sure they don't just go into another venue and that the local Police patrol does a sufficient job. Coburn suggested that the phone tree be a low priority then. Darnauer stated that the residents would like to be included in the Streetscape plan. Coburn suggested placing an article in the Public Safety newsletter asking storefront businesses to leave one high efficiency bulb on as a safety precaution, so that the businesses aren't completely dark at night. Rotella stated that there is an organization in Los Angeles providing metro tickets to the homeless. Morris said that there is an issue with homeless on his patio. Paulita Elliot said that her priorities would be as follows: finding specific messages to relay to the public; putting those statements on collateral and getting them distributed; reviewing and recommending changes for entertainment district policies and controls; establishing a community watch program; improving communications among entertainment venues through quarterly meetings and radio communication. Coburn asked if anyone recommended changes to the scope of work and Darnauer requested that the Downtown Residential Council be involved in Public Relations.

Darnauer made a motion to approve the draft scope of work, and Elliott seconded the motion. All in favor; none opposed.

4. BLOCK WATCH PROGRAM OVERVIEW – Derreck Pickett, Block-by-Block

Pickett gave a general overview of the virtual block watch program. Highlighted were the capability to maintain consistent, streamlined information to the DLBA and the Police Department, and the ability to alert residents and business owners when there will be street closures and other notification. Morris stated that it could be used to distribute additional event information.

5. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

6. NEW BUSINESS

The standing meeting in June for the Public Safety Task Force will need to be rescheduled, and DLBA will contact all members with a new meeting date and time.



7. PUBLIC COMMENT (three minutes on all non-agenda items)
There were no public comments.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Coburn adjourned the meeting at 11:20am.