



DOWNTOWN LONG BEACH ALLIANCE

MEMBERS

Denise Carter, Chair

Pat Welch, Vice Chair

Denise Maldonado

Janice Friend

Jon Timberlake

Nick Padula

Sheila Gibbons

Terrence Krieger

STAFF

Broc Coward, COO

Steve Be Cotte, Community
Outreach Manager

Erica Beighley, Administrative
Assistant

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, March 24, 2021
4:30 pm

Voting Present: Denise Carter, Pat Welch, Janice Friend, Jon Timberlake, Nick Padula, Sheila Gibbons, Terrence Krieger

Voting Absent: Denise Maldonado

Staff: Broc Coward, Steve Be Cotte, Erica Beighley

Guests: Officer Ruvalcaba- LBPD South Division, Paul Duncan- Health and Human Services

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Self-Introductions – Denise Carter, Chair
Meeting called to order at 4:32 PM. [Meeting Presentation.](#)
2. **Action: Approve minutes from February 24, 2021 Meeting.** 1st: Welch. 2nd: Padula. No Abstentions. All in favor, motion carries.
3. Public Safety Education Series Guest Speaker – Yanira Losoya, Development and Communications Manager, U.S. Vets - Long Beach. Presented Slides 5-30.
 - Losoya informed the Committee US Vets is a National Organization that started over 25 years, and currently has 12 different sites offering residential and non-residential programs throughout the United States.
 - The Long Beach location, located in Century Villages at Cabrillo, is the 2nd location and houses the largest women's program. This is one of the few programs that allow women to live with up to 3 of their children. Losoya shared US Vets is the first in the country to address sexual trauma in female veterans.
 - Losoya told the Committee US Vets sees a lot of veterans suffering from PTSD from having served as well as those with substance abuse issues. US Vets can guide them to the correct resources. In addition, US Vets helps Veterans to find employment and transition into permanent housing helping around 230 Veterans daily. Welch asked how do Veterans find out about or enter the program? Losoya answered that there is an Outreach Team that is designed to go out to the streets and the Outreach Coordinator Lance Lindgren works with various groups within the City to identify those individuals that are most in need and can be contacted at 562-544-6465.
 - Coward asked if Us Vets works closely with the Long Beach Health and Human Services Department? Losoya answered they did as well as LA County and most recently started servicing the Wilmington area working with Mayor Garcetti.
4. Public Safety Partners Report
 - a. Department of Health and Human Services
 - Duncan responded to earlier conversation about homeless individuals coming from Los Angeles via the Metro system and stressed they did not want to imply that the homeless population is being told to come to Long Beach from Los Angeles. This issue is not having anywhere to go and the rail car or bus provides shelter allowing the individual to keep warm for a little longer.
 - Duncan updated Committee on being able to go out and perform homeless outreach the last 2 Saturdays. They were able to engage about 30 people, between 1st and Promenade and the Renaissance Inn, and place 2 into motels before connecting them with Project Home Key.
 - Duncan informed the Committee that Project Home Key opened last week, and they were able to start taking people in to shelter last Thursday. They were able to move about 50 people in and are working to assist those individuals that are more vulnerable according to the categorized risks listed by the CDC.
 - Duncan reported that a Public Health Nurse would be starting on Monday as well as additional Outreach Team Members currently hired through a temporary agency.
 - Duncan informed Committee that the Winter Shelter is off Quarantine and has been extended until the end of June. The Winter Shelter allows for more engagement.
 - Carter asked Duncan about efforts being made to vaccinate the homeless population. Duncan replied they are going out to different locations and prioritizing mobile units



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for those most vulnerable. Their Public Health Nurse will aid in administering more vaccinations.

b. Long Beach Police Department

- Ruvalcaba reported LBPD is currently working on 3 major issues.
 - First, there have been reports of a homeless female hanging out near 1st Place on the Promenade. PD has spoken with the businesses currently enrolled in the 602 program, which allows officers to warn, cite or arrest trespassers without resident being on site.
 - Second, it seems the homeless population is being pushed from the Promenade to Harvey Milk Park, so LBPD are currently working to control that situation as well.
 - Lastly, there has been an influx of homeless individuals using the Metro from Los Angeles. These individuals are using the busses as a form of shelter and ride them until the end of the night where they are let out at the end of the line. Individuals are given the opportunity to go back to Los Angeles as well. Coward added DLBA is working with Metro to address this issue. Homeless individuals are directed to exit the rail car at the end of the line when bus service has already ended. Carter asked if there is a destination for these individuals when they are sent back? Ruvalcaba answered he was not sure; they provide 4-5 busses back to Los Angeles and that most volunteer to go back but for those that choose to stay police have no way to force them to leave.

5. Staff Report – Steve Be Cotte. Presented slides 33-35.

a. Update on Clean and Safe Team Activities

- Be Cotte shared with Committee that US Vets Veterans Peer Access Network will be partnering with Block by Block's Outreach Ambassador Anisel who has been keeping notes on homeless veterans in DTLB. Losoya added VPAN was recently implemented to utilize a peer team approach to connect veterans and their families to resources and can contact Christopher Ehling at (562) 743-1461 for further assistance.
- Be Cotte told Committee BBB quarterly meeting will be held next week, BBB is the provider of DLBA's Safety Ambassadors, Clean Team and other contracted services. Both parties will be discussing the initiatives they will be focusing on over the next 3 months.
- Be Cotte shared DLBA's website had changed and pressure washing now has its own page with pressure washing schedule.
- Be Cotte shared DLBA has updated its technology and has purchased cameras to be installed in more active locations to track how to best use resources.
- Pine Patrol has resumed and has responded to issues at restaurants regarding altercations. Coward explained there had been an uptick with the restrictions being lifted. Be Cotte added Pine Patrol will continue since it helps keep control.
- Welch asked if there is a midnight transit center bus to the Winter Shelter? Be Cotte informed buses run on a schedule to the Winter Schedule in the afternoon with persons being situated by 6:30-7 PM. Estrada shared a link for information on the Winter Shelter, <https://www.lahsa.org/documents?id=2626-lahsa-winter-shelter-program-list-english->
- Krieger asked if the bringing of people on the bus adds to the conflict issues on Pine Ave. Coward answered they are seeing new faces, which is resulting in an interesting mix of the anchor population with the new population leading to conflict.

6. Chairperson Report – Carter. Presented slides 38-47.

a. Review of Committee Goal Strategies and Milestones

i. Fresh Start

- Carter shared 3 possible logos with the Committee, and all agreed a new tag line would be created to go with the Logo. Coward invited Sheila and the rest of the Committee who would like to join in on the call with the logo designer to look at other options, including combining logos 1 and 3.

ii. Go Long Beach App



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- Carter told the Committee that the app is more geared for residents than businesses and explaining what you can do on the app might help to engage more users.
 - The Committee agreed on Option 2 for the Go Long Beach App tag line.
- iii. Mystery Shopper Program
- Be Cotte shared survey that Timberlake and Welch helped create. Survey lets you make basic observations as well as an are to evaluate Team Member based on interaction. Be Cotte will provide Committee Members with more information on how to do observations regarding each role of the Clean and Safety Team. Carter encouraged Committee to give feedback and not be handcuffed by what the survey says.
 - Coward shared that Block by Block and DLBA worked together in developing the employee handbook for the Clean and Safe Team. Coward added that currently they are reevaluating the grooming standards, currently no facial hair is allowed.
7. Public Comment (Three minutes on all non-agenda items)
 8. Old Business
 9. New Business
 10. Adjournment
- Meeting adjourned at 6:08 PM.

**Next Public Safety Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 28, 2021
4:30 PM**

Mission: Cultivate, preserve and promote a healthy, safe and prosperous Downtown.

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