**LDA Meeting Minutes**

**September 19, 2022**

**Meeting Via Zoom**

Attending Board Members: Dorothy Okamoto, Vincent Phua, Toshia Thompson, Jain Williams, and Joanne Wong-Lam

Absent Board Members: Jonathan Evans, Alex Mountford, Richard Santana

Executive Director: Daniel Swafford

Guest: Collette Hanna

**Call to Order**: Jain Williams

Welcome and Introductions

Review of Agenda

Approve August Minutes: Motion made to approve by Jain, seconded by Zinzi, all in favor.

1. **Councilmember Sheng Thao**: District 4 Council Office update – Renia Webb

* Public Safety Meeting – Council break in August
* General Council Updates
* New DOT Dept. head – Fred Kelly. Councilmember will go over outstanding issues.
* Area Captain and CRO Johnson – working to resolve parking complaint near WingStop and bar, and double parking issues.
* Fire along 580 Freeway and damage to three properties. Fire response quick and Fire Dept. determined fire not due to homeless encampment. Affected residents need point person—direct them to Renia.
* Dorothy makes motion to create a fund up to $400, i.e. GoFundMe, for fire victims. Jain to get names of affected property owners and follow up. Joanne seconds the motion, all in favor.

2. **LDA Business**:

* Ambassador Pilot: Stop Waste grant with new team member Elaine Wong to help promote program with businesses.
* 2022 Annual Report – work in progress
* Laurel mural on Cornerstone and trash can repair making good progress.

3**. Laurel Security**:

* Man sleeping in front of ReMax has threatened folks with a knife/saw. OPD called multiple times but along with social services, not able to help, Che has also tried to deal with him. Kathleen to email Renia a brief note which will be forwarded to CRO, OPD Captain, and mental health to escalate the situation.
* Parking complaints on Masterson and 38th – Laurel Lounge has asked customers not to block driveways.
* Camper and pick up truck on Maybelle parked for days – Daniel to follow up and ask them to re-locate to safe parking.
* Robbery of Bank of America customer at ATM – OPD responded quickly.

4**. Events and Promotions:**

* ‘Live in the Laurel’ – soft launch start, live music and vendors. Next one Oct. 15th
* Halloween Trick or Treat – Sat, Oct. 29th  with Kathleen/Jain doing crafts in parking lot, Mischief event, & live music.

5. **Business Attraction and Land Use**

* High/MacArthur development plans approved – Board viewed the project from a local newsletter.
* Degrees Plato – has to readjust application and have a pre-conference with Planning point person.
* Crumble and Whisk – soft opening
* Corner of High/Mac - Thomas Kuo still having electrical box repair challenges. Losing Liberty Tax and dry cleaners.
* DaVita – ground floor remains vacant due to high rent and unfinished units.
* Bank of America still not opened, no timeline, labor challenges.

Next meeting Monday, October 17th, 6-8 PM via Zoom