



**SAN FRANCISCO COUNCIL OF DISTRICT
MERCHANTS ASSOCIATIONS
SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT**



**SFPD SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY FORUM
MINUTES 10.02.20**

HENRY KARNILOWICZ, CO-CHAIR, 1019 HOWARD ST. SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103 415.420.8113 HENRY.KARNILOWICZ@GMAIL.COM

Date: Friday, October 2, 2020
Time: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Location: Zoom online, San Francisco

MINUTES

Present: Henry Karnilowicz (Co Chair), Deputy Chief David Lazar, Captain Juan Daniels, Vas Kiniris, Gwen Kaplan, Brandon Quan, Barbara Gratta, Bill Barnickel, Cynthia Silverstein, Janet Tarlov, Alex Mullaney, Susie McKinnon, Al Casciato, Awadalla Awadalla, Masood Samereie

Meeting commenced at 12:05 pm.

Brandon Quan hosted the meeting.

Gwen Kaplan made a motion to approve the minutes and Awadalla. Awadalla seconded and approval was unanimous.

DC Lazar advised that Captain Dangerfield could not make it to the meeting. He commenced by saying that he was quoted in an article about shots being fired which they have shot spotter data for. This data tells them where and when in real time. Only 7% of the time is 911 called and there has been an increase in shots fired. Janet Tarlov asked why such a large number are not reporting, to which DC Lazar responded that it is typical for the whole country and for many reasons such as people think they're caused by cars backfiring or fireworks, or they just decide not to report. Property crime burglaries are up 40% to 45% - 1600 to 1,700 cases more than last year. There are many garage burglaries so it is important for people to secure their garages. Auto thefts are up as are arson crimes. Re. sideshow activity: SFPD refers to them as 'stunt vehicle incidents'. DC Lazar was asked to invite the DA to field questions, such as about prosecutions. Barbara Gratta asked about shootings in the Bayview is random or gang related and is concerned now with the outdoor dining. The DA said some are related to sideshows and others are just odd single shots fired.

Vas Kiniris said with the popular shared spaces, we need to demonstrate that the streets are safe and clean streets. However, some street people are harassing diners. We need to enhance services. Taking BART he has noticed how clean and safe BART is and that there is both BART security and SFPD.

DC Lazar said we need to have officers visible and Vas Kiniris said that maybe we should have coffee with the

cops. Barbara Gratta suggested maybe doing clean up with the cops. She said there are several groups who are doing this and DC Lazar said officers could be asked to join them. He also said it's important to get to know the captains. Vas Kiniris said that supervisors are holding office hours on the corridors. Susie McKinnon said that Larkin Street recently shut down and she was delighted to see officers in the street. Vas Kiniris remarked that even on BART people were thanking officers. Cynthia Silverstein said she was pleased to see beat cops in Hayes Valley who they have been introducing themselves to the merchants and they have been a visible presence and were integrating themselves.

DC Lazar said he was pleased to see Captain Yep having his officers present in Hayes Valley. He said that Al Casciato reminded him about connecting SPFD with the Moscone Center and Officer Marty Ferrera, who is excellent at recognizing graffiti tags, such as one who is known as "Vinsky" and who is prolific in Chinatown. He suggested that we invite officer Marty Ferrera to our next meeting. Masood Samereie said that since moving homeless people from the Tenderloin, many are getting free rides to the Castro. The Manager at Walgreens said that most have hired 10B officers but the Castro Walgreens has only a security guard and their theft has gone from roughly \$1,500 per day to \$5,000 per day. He said that the manager told him that he could walk into the store load up a bag, walk out and no one will touch him. There are many mentally ill individuals who are not getting any attention. 51/50 cases are taken in but then released right away and the conservatorship policy is not effective.

Masood Samereie responding to Susie McKinnon who said that since the lawsuit there has been this influx of homeless into the Castro. He reported that Captain Gaetano Caltagirone had an encampment removed but then the occupants moved to other parts of the Castro. He is seeing open drug use such as meth right next to Eureka Valley Rec Center which is not acceptable and which occurs because we are not enforcing the laws that are on the books. Susie McKinnon said that this is also what is happening in the Tenderloin and even though they have a group called Urban Alchemy. It is not fair to allow this to continue.

DC Lazar said that he and Commander Daryl Fong will be presenting at the Police Commission about a brand new department general order on community policing and rolling out a community policing strategic plan which they are excited about. Links will be on their website.

Awadalla Awaddal said that they are having problems in the Outer Sunset with homeless people who live in the park. He has spoken with the beat officers however, as soon as they leave, the situation deteriorates. DC Lazar will intrude him to the acting captain.

Alex Mullaney said that a business owner was busted for dealing drugs and having guns and was a felon. Beat cops are missing and every day Walgreens experiences petty theft incidences. Shared Spaces is working out well but the community wants beat cops back. He is setting up a merchants walk with the Captain.

Gwen Kaplan noted there has been action with homeless encampment and she is grateful to also DPW and the homeless teams. Still has distinct problems with a homeless encampment near the Mission Health Department facility. On the whole they are working through it.

Brandon Quan said that there is an uptick with homelessness, which their ambassador has recognized from Fisherman's Wharf; there is graffiti in Japantown, which he reported, and he did get together with Officer Marty Ferrera. Their outdoor dining in the Peace Plaza was extended October 31.

We are looking forward to merchant walks in SOMA, Ingleside, Bayview and other neighborhoods so the police and merchants get to know each other and also so that the officers can give out their cards to the merchants and also provide their mobile numbers. DC Lazar said that all the police officers have cell phones and he wants them to give out their mobile numbers.

DC Lazar will create a calendar for the merchant walks so everyone is informed well in advance. Gwen Kaplan said she would love to see a schedule for merchant walks into the future.

Masood Samereie said that there has been a rise in property crime and he wanted to know if SFPD tracks early releases. DC Lazar said they do keep a track of repeat offenders. Theft is down probably because of shelter in place however burglaries are up.

Vas Kiniris spoke about closed streets and that everyone benefits from increased foot traffic. Safety and security are paramount and we need to make our streets fun.

Awadalla Awadalla said he would love to see a merchants walk in the Outer Sunset with the police. Janet Tarlov asked to send out a notice about the Police Commission meeting to everyone at SFCDMA.

DC Lazar was asked to invite the DA and if he cannot make it, to have someone else from his office attend. He was asked that Officer Marty Ferrera be scheduled to attend the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1250 pm.

Minutes presented by Co-Chair Henry Karnilowicz

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