



December 17, 2018

from The President's Desk

by Henry Karnilowicz

The following represent some of the issues and events that SFCDMA supported and participated in during November/December 2018.

Small Business Saturday & Shop and Dine in the 49 Kickoff



The kick-off to Small Business Saturday was held at the Italian Homemade Company on Union Street. Joaquin Torres, Director of the San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development, (OEWD) gave the welcoming remarks. Mayor London Breed remarked that she fully supports all the neighborhood commercial corridors, praising the unique qualities of each, and pledged to support the projects and programs created by the City to enable small business to thrive. The Mayor also recognized and thanked the CDMA for all that we do for small business.

Police Chief William Scott updated the attendees on the lessening of car break-ins by 22% due to changes made to policing and because of increased outreach to the vulnerable areas experiencing the most security problems. He encouraged the audience to be proactive: "If you see something - say something. Pay attention to your surroundings and park smart".

District 2 Supervisor Catherine Stefani gave a shout-out to the Union Street Association leadership as well as praising the Italian Homemade staff and owners for offering their delicious and authentic cuisine with 3 other locations attesting to their popularity. She applauded the efforts of all small businesses which truly make San Francisco the special city it is.

Among the many people at the kick off were San Francisco Chamber of Commerce Senior Vice President, Public Policy, Jim Lazarus, Union Street Association Executive Director Lesley Leonhardt and board member Serene Martinez.

The day's events included the Bayview Underground Food Scene, Public Glass where Marianne Mazzucco-Thompson, Project Manager at the Office of Economic and Workforce Development, welcomed me and introduced me to the vendors. It was really great to see Stephen Adams, Vice President, Small Business Commission, at the event. I also got to visit other commercial corridors including seeing David and Shlomit Heller at the Beauty Network on Geary Boulevard.

Inner Sunset Merchants Association Merchants Walk

I am so proud of Airbnb, who have been a loyal and dedicated partner in advocating for our small businesses with the merchant walks. There was an attendance of around sixty people including Airbnb event representatives, Adam Thongsavat, Mick Del Rosario and Mable Huang and Airbnb super hosts. Of course the Inner Sunset Merchants Association President Susannah Wise, VP Membership, Christian Routzen, Secretary, Mackenzie Cohan and Events Coordinator Angie Pettitt-Taylor, also took part in the walk.

Stops along the route included San Franpsycho, Hometown Creamery, Inner Fog, and more - ending at The Game Parlor where light fare and refreshments were provided.



Top Latinos of City Hall



Congratulations to The Hispanic Chambers of Commerce of San Francisco and CEO Carlos Solórzano-Cuadra for organizing and celebrating the "Top Latinos of City Hall" at Airbnb Headquarters. Mayor London Breed presented awards to Joaquin Torres, Director at OEWD (the Office of Economic and Workforce Development), Jorge Rivas Jr., Senior Project Manager, OEWD, Joshua Arce, Director at CityBuild, Diana Bernal Ponce De Leon, Project Manager, OEWD, William Ortiz-Cartagena, Commissioner, Small Business Commission and Alex Lazar, Director, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services. I am truly proud of the HCCSF for all that you do for the Latino businesses!

Holiday Fair at City Hall



I applaud Mayor London Breed for opening up City Hall to the public to celebrate the Holidays. There was face painting, great food and hot chocolate, characters dressed in Nutcracker costumes and of course Santa Claus! At the top of the stairs of the Rotunda there was a huge, beautifully decorated Christmas tree and in the South Light Court a large menorah and a Kwanzaa kinara and decorations were displayed. In the background there was festive music piped in. It was fun to be with Vas Kiniris as was running into Basem Manneh and Ronnie Rodriguez.

SFCDMA Holiday Party



Thank you to Matt Middlebrook and Adam Thongsavat at Airbnb for hosting our annual Holiday Party at their headquarters. This year it was in this really cozy yet large room with a floor plan that allowed people to mingle, meet and greet. There was delicious food courtesy of Vittorio D'Urzo, Trattoria Da Vittorio Catering and of course libations including whisky for toasting.

I sincerely appreciate and am proud of our family for coming together to celebrate the Holidays and for showing support for our small business community! Private/public partnerships are essential to the vitality of small business and our diverse neighborhood merchant corridors! Thank you again to our friends at Airbnb Citizen for their ongoing support.



The guests included David Zay Latt, aide to Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Nicole Agbayani, aide to Assessor Recorder Carmen Chu, Jessica Ho, aide to Supervisor Katy Tang and Small Business Commissioners Miriam Zouzounis and Mark Dwight.

I was humbled, surprised and somewhat shocked when I was presented with a Certificate of Honor from Mayor London Breed by Emma Heiken, Community Liaison, Mayors Office of Neighborhood Services. I am particularly grateful to our Executive Administrator, Vas Kiniris who was instrumental in her awarding the certificate.

The party also included a toy drive for the San Francisco Firefighters, who were represented by Tom O'Connor, President of San Francisco Firefighters Local 798. We are grateful for all those who brought toys for the Firefighter's Toy Program and to Airbnb who donated \$10,000 for this worthy cause.

Fillmore Merchants Association Holiday Party

At this time of the year I get inundated with Holiday party invitations - sometimes three to four each day! So of course it's the small business parties that I try to make time for.

Fillmore Merchants hosted a really wonderful party with a crowd of over fifty people, delicious dishes from the many local restaurants and a fun raffle.

Vas Kiniris, their Executive Director, has made the FMA one of the top merchants associations in the city. They put on many events to draw customers and represents a very vibrant business community and bring together the merchants and community.



Glen Park Merchants Association Holiday Party



Congratulations to the Glen Park Merchants Association for hosting a really lovely and intimate Holiday party at Pebbles Café. President Aaron Esquivel, Secretary Marian Dalere and Board members including Ric Lopez, brought together around twenty of the local merchants who donated a variety of mouthwatering dishes and joined in the celebration.

I am really happy for them and applaud GPMA for getting together to celebrate the Holidays.

Valencia Corridor Merchants Association Cookie Crawl



Okay, so there are the merchant walks, wine walks and other events but then how about a cookie crawl? Yep, that's the claim to fame for the VCMA!

It was a beautiful sunny and fairly warm Saturday when I went for a stroll to check out this event and what I discovered was the variety of shops that there are on Valencia.

First of all I was pleased to see that the street was crowded and that even the new buildings were occupied with small businesses on the ground floor.

Not only did I end up with a bag full of cookies, for which I donated a few bucks, but also got to see stores that I never knew existed, like a bicycle shop, toy store, perfume shop, card shop, curiosity shop, variety shop, gift shop, shoe shop, two Ice cream shops, restaurants and so many others.

Congratulations VCMA on putting on a fabulous event and for raising OVER \$2,000 for Buena Vista Horace Mann School! This was the most successful fundraising in the four years of Cookie Crawls!

PARTICIPATING STORES

Le Point	Anthem Shoes
Munroe Motors	Aldea Home & Baby
Venga Empanadas	Smitten Ice Cream
Five & Diamond	Xanath Ice Cream
Fellow Barber	Benny Gold
Often Wander	Tigerlily Perfumery
Paxton Gate Curiosities	Gravel & Gold
Mission Bicycle Co.	Ritual Coffee Roasters
Betabrand	Love & Luxe
Serendipity	Curator/ Needles & Pens
Paxton Gate	Wallflower
826 Valencia	Colleen Mauer Designs

Tastes of Inner Sunset Holiday Party



The Inner Sunset Holiday Party, promoted and supported by the Inner Sunset Merchants Association, thanks to President Susannah Wise, VP Communications Craig Dawson and Events Coordinator Angie Petit-Taylor, was held at the County Fair Building in Golden Gate Park.

There was a really good turnout with neighbors, friends and locals, a great selection of food donated by some of the Inner Sunset's renowned restaurants, live music, a raffle and lots of children's activities.

To top it off there was a surprise visit by Mayor London Breed and District 5 Supervisor Vallie Brown.

Mayor Small Business Group Meeting

Scott Hauge, Small Business California, called this meeting to discuss continuing quarterly meetings we had with the late Mayor Lee.

City staff participating in the meeting included Marjan Philhour, Senior Advisor to the Mayor, Joaquin Torres, Director, Office of Economic and Workforce Development, Regina Dick-Endrizzi, Director, Office of Small Business, Jorge Rivas, Acting Deputy Director, Invest In Neighborhood and Dominica Donovan, Senior Policy Analyst, Office of Small Business.



Business representative included:

Stephen Cornell, LBE, 12B Compliant Business
Mark Dwight, Founder, SFMade, Dogpatch Merchants, Small Business Commission
Stacy Jeb, Board member of GGRA
Gwen Kaplan, LBE, Non-Construction
Henry Karnilowicz, President of the Council of District Merchants
Jose Pecho, SF Filipino American Chamber of Commerce
Mathew Thomas, African American Chamber of Commerce
Carlos Solorzano, The Hispanic Chambers of Commerce of SF
Al Williams, Bayview Merchants Association
Miriam Zouzounis, Arab American Grocers, Small Business Commission

The questions to be presented to Mayor London Breed will include her plan to work with the recommendations on Small Business and Jobs from the July 14, 2018 Mayor Breed Transition Summit:

- Will there a role for the Small Business Leaders in responding to the recommendations?
- Increase the City and County of Son Francisco's spending with small businesses and LBE's.
- Will the Mayor issue an Executive Directive to departments and include the requirement for the Controller to annually report on each Department's spending with SF small businesses and LBE's.
- Bring the Prop Q, \$10.000 purchasing limit to its current dollar value and have it CPI increase annually.
- During the Holiday Season send an announcement to City and County of San Francisco Employees to buy locally in San Francisco.
- Seat at the Mayor's Table on all legislative and policy items that affect small business.

CleanSafe365: Is the Mayor's office working with CleanSafe365 to find and support sustainable solutions for clean and safe street in the SF business districts? How does the Mayor's Clean and Safe Streets Imitative align with CleanSafe365?

Requesting the establishing regular meetings and setting expectations for the meetings with the Mayor and small business and consideration for a Small Business Summit and setting expectations.

North Beach Business Association Meeting

Daniel Macchiarini, President of the NBBA, chaired the meeting. The issues and concerns raised included construction mitigation for which DPW is responsible, possible compensation also vacant store fronts.

Rachel Gorden from DPW and her associates said that they would collaborate with the NBBA to reduce the impact of the construction which has to be done because of the age of utility systems that have to be replaced, including temporarily removing parking. Lee Hepner, District 3 Supervisor Aaron Peskin's aide, said that he would make himself available whenever the need arises and that he would see that DPW reduces the impact of construction on the businesses.



Another item raised was the time it currently takes for permitting when new stores want to open and Lee Hepner said Supervisor Peskin is looking into how to expedite issuance of permits. There was also a question about the Go Ford bikes for which parking is taken away and he said that NBBA will have a say in this.

Lee Hepner also said that there is a moratorium for construction during the Holiday Season.

Daniel Macchiarini asked that there be signage about abuse of garbage dumping and he wants surveillance. Lee Hepner responded this is a matter for Recology.

City Hall Pop-Up



San Francisco celebrates SFMade Week at the fourth City Hall Pop-Up Shop.

This unique opportunity celebrates local manufacturers, their products and the skilled people who make them. This event has proven to be a very popular and successful bi-annual event, orchestrated by the Office of Economic and Workforce Development, and the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, and supported by Mayor London Breed.

More than 40 makers, artisans and merchants from every district showcased their locally made items, at this event that was held in the north light court, including Rickshaw Bagworks whose owner, Small Business Commissioner Mark Dwight, was manning the table and selling his custom-made bags. It provided the opportunity to find a one-of-a-kind gift for Mother's Day, Father's Day, weddings, for graduates and more.

Among the many people shopping I spied many who work at City Hall, including Supervisors Katy Tang and Catherine Stefani, Joaquin Torres, Marianne Mazzucco-Thompson, Jorge Rivas from the Office of Economic and Workforce Development, Emma Heiken and Alex Lazar from the Office of Neighborhood Services and of course Mayor London Breed and her aides.

POPS Mural Unveiling

The latest mural in the Sunset Parkside neighborhood was unveiled outside a long-time San Francisco small business, Footprint, at the corner of 27th Avenue and Taraval Street. This really beautiful and colorful mural was painted by Sunset artist, Jeff Canham and helps to activate and spur economic activity along the Taraval commercial corridor. Thank you and congratulations to POPS (People Of Parkside Sunset) President Albert Chow and Secretary Jen Lee who had the vision and a thank-you also to Supervisor



Katy Tang, Supervisor-elect Gordon Mar, so many City officials, and Sunset community members for coming out for the event despite the rain. I also want to mention that among the crowd there was also the President of the Outer Sunset Merchants and Professional Association Bill Barnickel.

The mural was funded by the SF Shines small business façade improvement program.

Saucy Awards



This was the GGRA's (Golden Gate Restaurant Association) 3rd Annual Saucy Awards Ceremony & Gala with Liam Mayclem as MC, at the historic Herbst Theater.

The keynote speaker was the GGRA Executive Director Gwyneth Borden whose inspiration speech including how the restaurant industry embraces people no matter what creed, color or sex.

Congratulations to Alex Hong for winning Chef of the Year and to Alicia Villanueva for being nominated for Exceptional Non-brick and Mortar Restaurant of the year.

Really enjoyed being at this event together with my friends, Chhavi Sahni, Yuka Ioroi, Betty Louie, Eva Lee, Sandy Schulze, Keith Freedman and of course Vas Kiniris and many others

Castro Tree Lighting

There are Christmas tree lightings all around the city but one of the best and fun is the Castro Street Tree Lighting, which the Castro Merchants contribute to and of course the President of Castro Merchants Daniel Bergerac was present.

The 28-foot lighted, decorated community Holiday Tree lighting was emceed by the First Lady of The Castro, Donna Sachet.

To celebrate the occasion, there was holiday music and sing-alongs with:

S.F. Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band
S.F. Gay Men's Chorus

Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco
Golden Gate Men's Chorus



There was a brief greeting from Senator Scott Wiener and District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman and special guests. Then Santa and his elf lit the tree!

Bits and Pieces

I was invited to the ceremony commemorating the anniversary of San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee's death at City Hall which included City leaders, city hall employees and Ed Lee's family who gathered to remember him.

His daughter Brianna spoke at the service. "It's a really beautiful thing that we can all be here at City Hall to remember him today because he poured so much blood and sweat and tears here for so many years," she said.

Brianna acknowledged that it has been a tough year for the family as relatives dealt with the pure shock of how suddenly he was gone and also as their personal pain became public. "The outpouring of love and support from our family members, friends and the community at large in San Francisco has been absolutely unforgettable," Lee said.

"Unforgettable" was one of the songs in a medley of songs performed at the ceremony by one of Ed Lee's favorite musical groups, Pure Ecstasy. While some attendees wiped away tears, the speakers made sure to keep the tone light and upbeat.

"It is with a great degree of pride that we celebrate this man's life. We don't mourn him, we celebrate his life. And believe me this city would never be what it is without the standard established by Ed Lee," said Former San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown.

The best comment though was from the City Administrator, Naomi Kelly. She said how when Prince died she asked Mayor Lee if it would be okay to light up City hall with purple lights and he said no as the Warriors were playing that evening and he wanted it to be lit up with blue and gold lights. Well, at the end of the day she the whispered to the technicians to turn on the purple lights. In no time the Sydney Opera House was lit up with purple lights and so was the Eiffel Tower.

Next morning Naomi gets an order to see Mayor Lee so she sheepishly walks in and he is sitting at his desk with his arms crossed, a frown on his face and says "so, I heard you lit up City Hall with purple lights? You know the Warriors lost!" Thinking he was about to fire her but no he just brushed it off.

Mayor London Breed concluded the ceremony with the words of Ed Lee: "Now. Let's get to work!"

World Premiere of "The People's Mayor, Ed Lee"

Monday, February 11, 2019 at 6 PM

Herbst Theater in San Francisco, California

CAL OSHA is apparently doing random visits to businesses regarding compliance with CAL OSHA regulations.

FULL DETAILS

Lastly, at the close of another year, I gratefully pause to first of all thank everyone for supporting small business and wish you all a Warm, Healthy and Happy Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year!

I raise a toast to you all!



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SFCDMA