

Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2022
Time: 7pm
Location: Creekside Bakery, 1719 Grant Ave., Downtown Novato

7:01pm Call to Order: Steve Jordan, Chair

Roll Call: Steve Jordan, Emily Rich, Katie Chase, Mike Kuimelis, Katherine Anderson, Vincent Cheung, Tief Gibbs, Andy Podshadley, Peter Serchia, Rob Sundberg, (Stephanie Koehler, Executive Director)

Introduce Guests

Josh Wax, Novato Police Department; Alex Muller, Novato Police Department; Dan Maher, Sustainable Exchange; Mary Price, Village Child; Amy Strickling, Marin Glow House, Henry Hautau, Finnegan's & Compass Realty.

Public Comment

None.

Homelessness in Downtown

Two representatives of the Novato Police Department gave an overview of the current lawsuit regarding the homeless in Lee Gerner Park. They explained some of the limitations law enforcement and the City face in regards to managing the situation. Several business owners spoke up about issues they are facing in other parts of Downtown; sleeping in doorways and parking bays, harassing customers in outdoor dining areas, ripping up flowers planted in pots on both public and private property and defecating on sidewalks. Many businesses owners indicated they do not call the police because they don't want to "be a bother". The officers talked through the various situations with the business owners and suggested they call 415.897.1122 with every incident so the police allocate the proper resources to the Downtown area.

Novato Parklet/Streeter Program

The group reviewed proposal and some expressed concern with the "furniture specifications" siting they got too specific when telling businesses what kind of table cloths they could use. All other criteria in the proposal is objective – but this section is subjective. Steve Jordan made a motion to support the proposal, minus the "Furniture Specification" section. Emily Rich seconded the motion. Further discussion. *Vote: 10 In Favor. None Opposed. No Abstentions.* Staff was instructed to let the City know about the BID Advisory recommendations.

Assessments – Levying Methods and Basis

Steve Jordan made a motion to create an ad-hoc committee to review the method and basis for levying the BID Assessment to see if any modifications needed to be made. Emily Rich seconded the motion. Discussion led to Emily Rich, Tief Gibbs and Steve Jordan volunteering to make up the committee. *Vote: 7 In Favor. One Opposed. Two Abstentions.*

Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 18, 2021 BID Advisory Board Meeting

Vincent Cheung made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Peter Serchia seconded the motion. Discussion. *Vote: 5 In Favor. None Opposed. Five Abstentions.*

8:14pm Meeting Adjourned

Downtown Novato Business Improvement District (BID) Advisory Board created by a formal action of the Novato City Council.