

JAPANTOWN PEACE PLAZA COMMITTEE
MINUTES
VIA ZOOM

Tuesday, November 24, 2020

Committee Members Present: Jon Osaki, Richard Hashimoto, Sandy Mori,

Others Present: David Ishida, Michael DeGregorio, Mas Inoue, Doug Nelson, George Yamasaki

Staff Present: Steve Nakajo, Brandon Quan

The meeting was called to order at 5:05p.m.

1. Design

- a. Sandy, Steve, Jon and Rich met with SFRPD General Manager, Phil Ginsberg and Michael DeGregorio. Phil was surprised by the overwhelming voter support of Proposition A, and thanked everyone that worked so hard on the campaign.
- b. Phil has stated that Michael will be assigned to us for the duration of the project. Phil also said he is aware of the history and importance of this project to the community. Acknowledges that the old design had many things go wrong and says this one will have cultural competence required.
- c. The project will most likely be designed and constructed by S.F. Public Works.
- d. Phil was supportive of a community design consultant and encouraged we select someone that the community wants to work with Public Works architects.
- e. We need to be strategic with setting up check ins with the community design consultant and Public Works.
- f. The community design consultant does not have to be a competitive bidding process. Potentially, we won't need to get commission approval which could help speed up the process.
- g. Jon suggested updating the community by having at least two town hall meetings which everyone agreed after the holidays.
- h. First bond sale will be in April 2021. Currently, we are funded through an old bond but advise that we are funded until April. The project from start to finish could essentially take up to two or more years.
- i. Steve thanked everyone that worked so hard on this project leading to the passage of Proposition A, including Michael and Steve Nakajima and looks forward continuing to work with city departments on the design and construction.

2. Expansion Joint Installation

- a. The dust created from the concrete grinding has caused a bit of an issue due to the fact the dust ended up inside the mall.
- b. Starting next week they will shut down one entrance of the mall and start the construction on the entrance.

A. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

- David Ishida asked if the Peace Pagoda was included in the project. Michael stated to some extent, Yes. A seismic study was performed recently to determine the structural integrity of the pagoda. The results have not yet been released. The pagoda may include aesthetic upgrades that he included in the Peace Plaza cost estimate.

B. NEXT MEETING

- Due to the holidays, there will be no meeting in December. Next Peace Plaza committee meeting will be held on January 23, 2021 via Zoom.

ADJOURN: 5:43PM