

**Japantown Peace Plaza Committee
MINUTES**

5pm via Zoom

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

Committee Members Present:

Sandy Mori, Richard Hashimoto, George Yamasaki, Alice Kawahatsu, Jon Osaki, Glynis Nakahara

Others Present:

Masahiro Inoue, Michael DeGregorio

Staff Present:

Steve Nakajo, Brandon Quan

The meeting was called to order at 5:05pm.

Updates on Prop A Campaign

- The Prop A campaign sign was created to reach out to as many people that live in San Francisco as possible.
- Community members and the public can get a sign from Richard Hashimoto.
- Brandon informed the committee that he will send out Jon Osaki's editorial this week and Jon's video with Robert Handa next week. Jon will edit the video down to about 60-90 seconds for social media. Brandon will put out Kenta Takamori's Peace Plaza Press Conference video the following week.
- Four ads were placed in Bayspo, and three ads in Nichi Bei.
- David Ho, outreach coordinator, rescheduled the Chinatown and SOMA campaign event that was canceled due to the bad air quality.
- Jon mentioned the Chinatown campaign happened on 09/21/2020.
- The API campaign will be held at city hall for a Grand Asian Celebration.

Expansion Joint Project

- Construction will begin in October.
- A chain link a fence will be installed along the walls of East and West Mall.
- Construction will be on weekdays.
- Omar Davis is the point person or this project.
- Picnic at the Plaza has been extended through October.
- The chain link fence will be moved out of the way on weekends to not impede with the Plaza.
- Half of the malls entrances will be blocked while work is in progress then will switch to other side.

Design/Bonds

- CD = Concept design, DD = development design, SD = structural design
- 4 months, 6 months, 8 months for a total of 18 months for a complete design.

- Planning to take the design starting next month.
- There is no concrete answer to what will happen if the bond does not go through since the bond is funding the Peace Plaza project.
- 2/3rds vote is required for this bond to pass. This is a package deal that includes streets, mental health, homeless, and parks.
- It is important that to focus on campaign right now in order make sure this bond gets passed.
- A committee member commented if we can we get some peer review from a firm we hire. Timing on this design is still in the future but the committee member stressed that we want to be ready if/when the bond is passed.
- Design work could begin at end of October. The architect will be from the Public Works (PW). Private consultants will be hired for waterproof design, engineering, lighting, interpretive graphics and fountain displays.
- Masahiro Inoue from RHAA has a concern on maintaining cultural integrity. He suggested hiring a third-party company that has architects from Japan that can ensure the design is authentic.
- Jon Osaki emphasized the priority is to get bond passed. PW is not the issue, the issue is having insight/overview with what is going on. Make sure we have some of the funding that we can use how we wish for parts of the project.
- Sandy proposed to Jon that the committee should have a meeting with Phil Ginsburg and the interim PW Director.

General Public Comment

- The Human Services Commission is honoring George Yamasaki for 45 years of service on Thursday, September 24th. He has served the longest in history of San Francisco. A zoom link will be provided.

Next Meeting

- Next Peace Plaza committee meeting will be held on **October 29, 2020** 5pm via zoom.

Adjourn: 6:05 pm