

Board Meeting Minutes Date: November 15, 2022 from 6:30 pm to 7:35 pm Location: Zoom platform

Present: Joseph Jung, Mike Thaler, Curt Haven, Alan Wilk, Mindy Landmark, Shakira Scott

Absent: Keun Bae Yoo, Ryan Thomas, Nick Myerhoff

Staff: Shari Godinez, Greg Harris, Courtney Russell, Ramon Hall

Guest: Briana Brown (Councilmember Fife's office)

Subject	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>
1. Welcome and Establish Quorum	Meeting began 6:34 pm Quorum established	
2. Open Discussion / Announcements	No discussions/announcements	
3. Staff Reports: Streetplus- Operations Supervisor, Ramon Hall	Ramon-stated that this month all the numbers were high. He stated that the Streetplus team removed 47 illegal dumps, collected 21 needles, performed 636 business checks, gave 94 directions, pressure washed 18 block faces, 73 homeless outreaches, removed 153 graffiti tags totalling 2,531 that were removed throughout the entire district in 2022. Ramon mentioned this was possible due to having the Hospitality Ambassador conducting graffiti sweeps 3 times a week. Ramon stated that they have also collected 11,000 pounds of garbage, and due to the fall season, they are making sure the leaves are being picked up. He also stated that there have been issues with the homeless camping out in front of Mlke's building. Ramon stated that he would make "No Loitering" signs and put them up in front of Mike's building after Mike gets permission from the management. He also stated that he spoke with Telegraph Wine and Spirits and they said they would give Ramon a call if they see anyone hanging out in front of the building. Ramon stated that he is working hard to make sure that area stays free of homeless and clean as possible. Mike-stated that the corner has gotten a lot worse and the homeless people have started threatening the residents in his building. He also stated that a lot of the issues happen after dusk and since Streetplus is gone by that time, he hopes that if we hire a security guard, they can be there until at least 8pm or come at 5am or 6am because that's when the homeless people are blocking the doorway. Joseph asked Ramon if he could answer that concern. Ramon stated that he arrives at work at 6:30 am and he would go over to the building to make sure no one is blocking the doorway or have them move if they are, so the people heading to work are as safe as possible. Joseph mentioned that Ramon isn't law enforcement and asked Mike if he calls the police at times to have them move. Mike stated that he hasn't personally called the police, however some of the residents have and it seems that the mayor doesn't want t	

move. Joseph stated that it would be good to find out what the guidelines are for property owners dealing with the homeless and trespassing because we don't want to just push the homeless out, however we need clear guidelines. Joseph asked if we have anything from the city that dictates what the guidelines are. Shari responded that if someone is blocking a doorway then they can be removed, however Shari has spoken to Rockridge district who are having the same issues, and they stated that they call MACRO and if the homeless person refuses to move, then they call the police. Shari went on to say, because a call like this is very low on the priority list for OPD to come out, the person has to block the doorway or be breaking the law and not just standing in front of someone's property or business. Joseph restated that he would then like to get the city's guidelines to understand what property/business owners and the homeless people are entitled to. Briana Brown-stated that there is a program already in place through the Homeless Encampment Management policy that the city has and that the issue is implementation of the program. She also stated that she will find out who the area captain is and see if they are able to ride through the area during that time and will also request a concrete list of what is allowed and not allowed. Briana stated furthermore that city employees are not allowed to force people to move and the campers and or cars are not allowed to be towed if it looks like someone is living in them. She also stated that the Homeless Encampment policy needs to be updated. Shari responded that our area captain is Captain Rosin. Shakira stated that hiring armed security starting at business hours until 8pm and to have signage stating not to leave valuables in cars, was talked about at the Safety Meeting. Shakira also stated that she talked about utilizing the abandoned or empty buildings in KONO as a place to house the homeless. She mentioned that in Los Angeles there are tons of resources within a miles radius for the homeless to access and utilizing the large buildings in KONO could be used as temporary housing and where some of the homeless population could go to clean themselves and their belongings. moving them from in front of our residences and businesses.

b) First Fridays Program-Greg Harris

Greg-stated that OakFF's took place on November 4th and had approx \$10k attendees due to the cold weather, however, he will confirm that number with OPD. He also stated that at this event there were more security officers in place than OPD. Greg mentioned that we extended our footprint for the 2nd month from the Moxy Hotel to 27th St which has been working out. He stated that there was a security guard on every corner and they had no issues. Greg also stated that Ramon and his crew have been amazing in cleaning the district along with the new recycling crew. Greg mentioned that a nonprofit from the Paris, France area called 93Oak, named after Oakland, came out to visit us and wants to duplicate OakFF's in France. He also mentioned that 9 students came out and stayed for a week and plan to have some students from here go there for a couple months and students from there will come a couple months learning how to run brick and mortar businesses as well as how to run OakFF's. He also stated that he feels very honored that they chose Oakland out of all the First Fridays that happen throughout the country and hopes the new mayor will help to form the bridge between us and 93Oak to send exchange students out to France. Greg stated that next month's event is Christmas themed and it will be snowing for First Fridays.

Curt-stated that he wants the record to reflect that he sent an email to Shari Godinez regarding incidents of trespassing, damaged property and illegal parking around KP Market. Joseph asked if he wanted to discuss it now and

Curt responded that Shari responded to his email. Joseph asked Greg if he knew for sure if it was going to snow and Greg responded that he knew for sure that it would be snowing on Dec.2nd. Joseph asked if vendor spaces sell out for the November event and Greg responded that it had not and that construction is taking place from 24th St to 27th St. Greg also stated that we lost one of the largest vendors OakFF's had due to retirement, which was Big Serg, who took up over 30 ft of space during the festival. Mike stated that he feels we are paying for too much security and asked if they had any problems. Greg responded that there weren't any problems and scaled the number down from 30 to 24 security officers. Mike stated that it makes no sense to have 24 people on a 5 block radius for 10,000 people. Greg responded that he would be afraid to scale back even more and then something happens and he would rather be safer than sorry, however is open to changing it if everyone believes that should happen. Joseph stated that maybe it is good to find out what the proper ratio is for a crowd and with 10,000 people and 24 security quards. that's 400 people to one security guard which isn't a lot. Shari responded that she believes it's one officer to every 500 for OPD and has asked every meeting to reduce the number of security guards and OPD says no. Mike stated that OPD decided to not have any officers for the last event even though they require so many security guards. Shari responded that it would be good for Mike to attend the next security meeting before the next event, Greg stated that the meeting takes place the Wednesday before the event. Mike asked how many people are at the event at any given time. Greg responded, approx 4000 people and it is very crowded around Sycamore and near Mike's building. Shari stated that it gets really crowded around 7 or 8pm until it closes.

c) Executive Director-Shari Godinez

Shari-stated that we are really close to setting up the retirement plan and she and Courtney have been working on the 2023 budget and will go over it with Mike soon. Shari mentioned that Kenny Choi, the accountant, finished the 2021 tax return and it was mailed off today. She stated that we lost 4 businesses in the district, CommonWealth, Classic Cars West, Roscoes Ceramic Gallery and Walgreens and her biggest concern is the Walgreens closure.

Shari mentioned she's working with the city's Economic Development Department to send us our sales tax data and since the person who used to send it retired, we haven't received that data in over a year. She also mentioned she attended a Facade and Tenant Improvement workshop that the city put on and is offering up to \$75k to businesses to improve their facades and interiors. Shari stated she is going to work with Ramon to get that information out to all the businesses in the district and the window for the businesses to apply is from Dec 1 to Jan 31st 2023. Shari stated that we completed October's newsletter and are currently working on November's newsletter. She stated that the mural at 27th and Northgate has been completed. She mentioned that she is working with Board member Nick Myerhoff on the Utility Art box project and hoping to get all the boxes

repainted soon. She mentioned that we were able to expand the FF's event down to the Moxy Hotel, however it doesn't give us that much more vendor space. Shari stated that OPD has agreed to let us expand to the Moxy for the next few months. She stated that she was informed that the OPD and fire fees will be covered for Aug, Sept and Oct 2022 but isn't 100% confirmed. Shari stated that there is a condominium on Thomas L Berkley Way that is interested in instituting the cameras on their building and the installation was

estimated at \$6.850 and the HOA is voting in December if they will pay 50% of the cost and KONO would pay the other 50% which will add to our camera project. Shari stated in regards to the vacant Walgreens, she reached out to the mayor, the head of Economic Development, and Councilmember Fife because of the concern it will be infiltrated by the homeless encampment that is already around it. Shari stated she asked them if they could find a buyer or a tenant for the property and the mayor stated that maybe we could make it an organized managed encampment site and can follow up with her regarding that. Shari mentioned that there was a fire in the dumpster behind the office and Ramon was able to look at the camera footage and identify who started it and got his name and birthdate. She mentioned that the information was shared with the building owner so they could file a police report. Shari also stated that they had a Safety Committee Meeting on November 9th and generated 5 or 6 action items from the meeting. Shari mentioned that she has been researching filing a restraining order on an extremely violent, mentally disturbed homeless woman in the district. She stated that currently she has a restraining order from the Moxy Hotel for attacking 2 of their employees and a restraining order from Econo Jam Records for breaking their windows, and received a complaint from a resident who was violently slapped and on the same day broke the window at the glass gift shop, as well as put a drill gun to an Ambassador's head and stole his jacket. Shari mentioned that OPD was recently called because the homeless woman was in front of Econo Jam which is a violation of her restraining order, however OPD decided not to arrest her because she would be taken to John George and released within 6 hours. Shari stated that she then reached out to the sergeant and the Captain and in the safety meeting it was suggested that she reach out to the DA's office. Shari stated she has been working with the city's Environment Service Division regarding the illegal dumping, mainly because of the cardboard and with the help of the cameras, been able to identify who's been dumping the cardboard onto the street. Shari stated she has done more research on a shipping container for the big illegal dumpings and Jack London stated that they are paying \$70 per month to rent their shipping container so it seems feasible for KONO. Shari stated she met with the mayor and the other BID managers for a listening session and she explained that the city has declared a state of emergency due to the crime rate. Shari mentioned that Darren Allison from OPD stated that the crime hotspots are Downtown Oakland and the Telegraph corridor and stated that we may get a walking officer but not until the 1st quarter of next year. She stated Chief Allison mentioned that video cameras don't always pick up what they may need so they need to integrate this layered approach. Shari also mentioned that OPD wants the Ambassadors and security guards to have radios connected to the Police Administration building during the holiday season to monitor the crimes that are being committed immediately.

Joseph asked if we have an update on the ribbon cutting ceremony and who owns the Walgreens building. Shari responded that the ribbon cutting ceremony is item 12 on this agenda and Walgreens corporation owns the Walgreens. Joseph stated that since Walgreens owns it that it is unlikely they will come back. Shari responded that she isn't sure if they ever lease out their properties and is hoping that someone from the city or if Briana could ask Councilmember Fife for more information on what's going to happen. Ramon stated that he is certain that Walgreens wouldn't be returning because they have removed all of their signage from the building.

4) Action Item: Approve Minutes from September 27, 2022	Mike Motioned to approve minutes Curt 2nd the Motion to approve No oppositions or abstentions Minutes are approved	Action Item: Minutes from September 27, 2022 Approved
5) Action Item: Approve financial reports October 31, 2022	Shari stated that Kenny the accountant was not able to reconcile for Oct due to it being tax season for nonprofits so the financials are not available to be approved	Action Item: Financials not available to be approved
6) Action Item: Add Courtney R to Bridge Bank signature card	Joseph stated that there was a conversation at the Executive meeting that there is a need for one more person to be added as a signer to handle daily business. Shari responded that we lost Sonja Brooks as a signer and it would be beneficial to add Courtney, due to the fact that we cut a lot of checks for FF, and will make it easier for the check signing. Joseph asked how many signatures are needed to sign checks. Shari stated that she has to inquire about it because she believes that anything over \$500 required 2 signatures and during covid we were not honoring that and prior to covid we were. Joseph stated anything over \$1000 needs 2 signatures and the other signer was Sonja Brooks. Shari responded that yes the signers have been Sonja, sometimes Mike Thaler and sometimes Joseph Jung. Joseph asked if any of the Board members had questions or concerns. Curt stated that there is no problem to add the Executive Assistant and Mike stated he has no problem with it as well. Mike Thaler motioned to approve Mindy Landmark 2nd the motion No oppositions and no abstentions Courtney Russell approved to be additional as a signer on the Bridge Bank signature card for KONO accounts.	Action Item: Courtney Russell approved to be additional signer on Bridge Bank signature card
7) Action Item: Hire Private Security for KONO District for Dec approx \$20k (may receive grant from Mayor's office)	Joseph asked what exactly is being proposed. Shari responded that the mayor and OPD suggested that we hire a private security guard for the month of December and that they would possibly provide grant money. Shari stated they requested a proposal in an email and she stated she sent it to them and is awaiting the response. She stated she asked for a total of \$40k to fund private security and funds towards the camera project. Joseph asked what time period is it for in December and Shari responded that it is for 7 days a week for the month of December. Mike asked what hours they would be working. Shari stated that in the safety meeting they decided it would be during the day because Ramon stated that there's a lot of crime during the day and understands that Mike is stating he has issues at night. Shari stated furthermore because of that she wasn't sure what hours it should be and that maybe the discussion should continue in the safety meeting and not during the Board meeting. Shakira stated that they definitely talked about having someone there until 8pm because Ramon stated the night life in the area picks up around 9pm and most businesses stay open until about 8pm. Shakira stated that she votes for	Action Item: Approved to hire Private Security for KONO District for Dec approx \$20k (may receive grant from Mayor's office)

having private security in the district until 8pm. Joseph stated that we can iron out the details later and asked if we do not get grants from the city will we still hire private security or not. Shari responded this is why it was put on as an action item to decide whether to go forward to pay for it and hope we get reimbursed by a grant or just pay for it regardless of being reimbursed. Joseph asked all Board members if they see a need to hire private security for the month of December. Mike stated that he doesn't see the benefit if it will be in the daytime and why pay for something in hopes of getting money that may not come and use money out of our budget.

Alan stated that he thinks it could be a good pilot program even if we do end up paying for it from our own budget and see if there's any difference being made with having private security compared to the other 11 months. Curt stated that the Safety Committee met on Nov 9th and decided to bring the suggestion to the Board a 6 month hiring of private security that will have radios and interact with OPD and with Ramon. Curt stated furthermore that because of the declaration being made by the city about the high crime rate, this should be the highest priority of KONO for its paying members. He stated that it would be great if a grant is given however regardless if that is received or not He proposed to have 2 private security officers monitoring KONO for 6 months. Joseph asked how much it would cost. Curt responded that Shari is supposed to get a quote and give us a number. Shari stated that 6 months would cost \$120k and we would have to look at the budget to see if that's even possible and thought it would be best as Alan suggested doing a pilot project for one month as opposed to committing to 6 months to see if it makes a difference. Joseph stated that he agrees that it would be a good test program to see what results come from having one month of private security. Joseph asked if the security guard would be armed. Shari responded that she suggests having one armed and one unarmed. Joseph stated that we should also inform our insurance company that we will be hiring private security. Curt stated that we need to have the full plan in place, radios connected to OPD etc and not just have the security guards arbitrarily walking around. Joseph stated that he understands that however he wants to test out having the private security for a month and see how it goes. Shari stated that she wanted to have the radios connected to security and ambassadors however OPD was only offering that in the month of December so she doesn't know if it will be offered ongoing. Mike stated due to the holiday we only have 5 or 6 business days to get the equipment and everything set up so he doesn't see how it can be done and is not in favor of moving forward. Shari stated that the Safety committee talked about coverage until 8pm and asked Mike if he was ok with that. Mike responded that was fine. Shakira stated that she wants to stress the urgency in getting private security and being that she has been around the KONO district all of her life she has witnessed that it has never been a good area and the fact that the recently closed Walgreens is already covered in graffiti shows that. She stated furthermore in addition to the beat cops the need for private security is an immediate need and should be approached as a long term plan.

Alan made a motion to approve moving forward to institute private security Curt 2nd the motion

1 opposition by Mike Thaler No abstentions

Approved to hire private security

Joseph stated to Shari to make sure that the security hired is well insured

8) Action Item; Approve new Streetplus Contract

and Shari responded that she would make sure.

Shari- started sharing her screen and stated that the Streetplus contract is coming up for renewal in Jan 2023 and asked Streetplus to give her a quote ahead of time. Shari went over the previous 3 years and stated that the yearly increase was 2%. Shari pointed out that the Capital Equipment was the cost for the Taylor Dunn and the power washing machine which was on a 3 year contract and the \$19k cost for those will be removed next year so only the baseline services and management fees remain. Shari stated the new proposal total comes to \$302,401.00. She stated that she requested a large increase in wages for the ambassador team so that we can remain competitive which caused the baseline services cost to increase by \$27k, however the total remains within the budget that she and Courtney are creating for 2023. Shari also mentioned that the last few years we have come in under budget mainly due to the large turnovers on the ambassador team and didn't have a full staff for periods of time. Shari also stated that she requested that Streetplus make an amendment to the contract and not draw up a whole new one and they would write an amendment based on the proposal if approved. Joseph asked if we were voting on a 1 year contract and Shari responded, an amendment to the 3 year contract. Joseph stated that based on the previous contract the baseline services have gone up about \$5k (2%) per year and with the new contract will go up \$27k. He asked Shari to clarify the reason for the large increase. Shari responded the increase is due to the wage increase for the ambassadors. Joseph asked if she could break down exactly what the change will be. Shari stated that she did share the exact salary amounts in an email prior to the meeting and didn't want to blast out anyones income during a public meeting.

Curt asked if the contract was shared with the rest of the Board and Shari responded that she shared the details of the contract with the Executive Committee. Shari asked if the Board wanted her to disclose each individual ambassador's pay rate and Joseph stated, he didn't need to know names associated with the pay rate, however break down the change for each position to justify the jump in the pay rate. Joseph asked if the increased proposal came from Shari or Streetplus and Shari stated from Streetplus. Ramon stated the current pay rate for Operations Supervisor is \$22.50 hr, Hospitality Ambassador \$19.50 hr, and Cleaning Ambassador \$18 hr. Shari stated that they are proposing that Cleaning Ambassador goes up to \$19 hr, Hospitality Ambassador to \$21 hr and Operations Supervisor \$26 hr. Joseph stated that he doesn't believe those are huge jumps and asked if there is something else accounting for the \$27k a year increase. Shari responded that there is a billing rate so for example the Hospitality Ambassador is getting paid \$19.50 we are being billed \$30.33 per hour since we are not direct hire. Joseph asked if the Board had any questions or concerns. Curt stated he will defer to Joseph since the proposal was not shared with the whole Board, how can it be voted on.

Mike stated what's missing is how much each ambassador is being paid and everyone's living wage has gone up and the cost is roughly the same after removing the cost of the equipment. Joseph stated the concern the Curt raised is valid and that the entire Board should have received the proposal to be reviewed prior to voting on it. Mike asked if we could have a special meeting before the end of the year to vote on it. Joseph stated that if we don't renew the contract then it will go from month to month until we decide to renew it. Curt stated that we only meet every other month with the full Board and he's a huge supporter of Streetplus and thanked Ramon for all his help. He stated

Action Item:Not voted on and will be put on January's Board meeting agenda

9) Action Item: Vote Alan Wilk as Vice President of KONO Board	furthermore if most have read the proposal and understand it then he would abstain from voting so that it can be moved forward and not hold up the contract. Joseph stated we should give the whole Board the opportunity to review the proposal and Curt said it should be 48 to 72 hours prior, to properly review anything being voted on. Joseph asked if the other Board members had any questions about the proposal. Mindy asked what would be the benefit to signing a 3 year contract opposed to a one year. Shari responded that she's been extremely happy with Streetplus and comfortable signing a 3 year contract. Shari stated that she is ok carrying this over to the January Board meeting because the contract doesn't expire until mid January. Joseph responded even if a new contract isn't signed that the ambassadors will continue to work. Ramon responded that he is here and will continue to work for KONO and loves the district. Mike stated that he believes we should vote on the contract today. Curt agreed. Joseph asked in addition to the change in the contract will there be an annual increase and Shari responded that it should be 2% but to be sure we should wait to vote on the amendment. Joseph responded that we have lots of unanswered questions so we should wait until January for the amendment. Joseph asked Alan if he has been the Secretary for 2 or 3 years. Alan responded that is about right. Joseph stated that Alan has volunteered to be Vice President since Sonja Brooks has stepped down and wants to know how Alan feels about taking the position. Alan stated that he has been with the Board for some years and stepped into the position of Secretary before the pandemic. Alan stated he is sorry to see Sonja go because she provided a lot of input to the Board and he will do his best to fill that void. Alan stated he wants to continue doing the good work that KONO is doing and Oakland First Friday and beatification in the district as well. Mike motioned to approve Mindy 2nd the motion to approve No oppositions/no abstentions	Action Item: Approved Alan Wilk as Vice President of KONO Board
10) Action Item: Vote Curt	Joseph stated that Curt has volunteered to be the new Secretary of the KONO Board and Curt responded that he was asked by Shari but had not responded	Action Item: No vote or
Haven as	to the request. He also stated he needed to have a conversation with his	action taken on this item
Secretary of KONO Board	employer and also requested a job description from Shari of what it entailed to be Secretary and has not gotten that information yet and because of that	on uns item
AONO BOATU	would like his name to be withdrawn as the new Secretary. Joseph asked	
	Shari to provide the information to Curt before the next meeting and Shari	
	responded that she would. Curt stated that is fair however he still needs to talk	
11)	to his employer. Joseph stated that there is no vote on this item at this time. Courtney-stated based off of vacation times and schedules Thursday,	
Discussion:	December 8th would be the best date to have the Christmas dinner. Courtney	
Christmas	stated we were looking at 2 locations, Skates in Berkeley and Scott's Seafood	
Board Dinner	in Jack London Square and the location that is likely to accommodate us is	
date &	Scott's. Courtney stated that the cost should be close to what it was last year,	
location:	however due to the increase in Board members it may be somewhat higher.	
Skates, Dec	She also stated she is still waiting for a call back from Skates but due to a large party being booked for that same day we more than likely won't be able	
	to do it on that date. Joseph asked the Board if that date works for them.	
	Joseph stated that he prefers Skates. Mindy stated either one is fine. Joseph	
	stated that it is fine for Shari and Courtney to decide which restaurant. Joseph	
	also mentioned that once that is confirmed that Courtney will distribute the	

	information and menu choices if needed. Joseph asked Courtney to invite Sonja Brooks, Phil Porter and Alex Hahn. Mike stated that he will not be able to make it.	
12) Discussion: Postpone ribbon cutting ceremony upon Jay Murphy's (Kaiser) return	Shari stated that we originally planned to have the ribbon cutting in November or December however Jay Murphy is out for an undetermined time due to medical leave and is it ok to wait until he comes back. Joseph agreed that we should wait and wished Jay well and will pick a date once he returns. Joseph asked Ramon if the mural had been tagged. Ramon responded that it hasn't and that a protective coating was put over it. Joseph stated that he looks forward to seeing everyone next year, and at the holiday dinner on December 8th.	
13) Next Board Meeting:	Meeting adjourned: 7:55pm Next Board Meeting: January 10, 2023 6:30 pm	

By Courtney Russell and Edited by Shari Godinez