



KOREATOWN NORTHGATE

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 from 6:30 pm to 7:57pm**

**Location: KONO office, 2633 Telegraph Avenue, Suite 109  
Oakland, CA 94612**

**(Meeting held over ZOOM video conference)**

**Present:** Joseph Jung, Sonja Brooks, Mike Thaler, Mindy Landmark, Matthew Ticknor, Alan Wilk

**Absent:** Elisse Douglass, Hyowan Kim, Zabrina Law, Keun Bae Yoo

**Staff:** Shari Godinez, Greg Harris (Festival Director), Kevin Paredes (Streetplus)

**Guests:** Curt Haven (Representing BJ Yoo)

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>
<b>1. Introductions:</b> <b>Call to Order</b> <b>Establish Quorum:</b> <b>Joseph Jung,</b> <b>President</b>	<p>After introductions, Quorum was established.</p>	
<b>2. <u>Public Comment</u></b> <b><u>Open Discussion</u></b>	<p>None</p>	
<b>3. <u>Staff Reports:</u></b> <b>a. Kevin Paredes</b> <b>(Streetplus)</b>	<p><b>Kevin: KONO District Stats</b>  District business checks: 108  Hospitality: 20 sets of directions given  311 Requests: 73  Trash: 1,300 pounds collected  Homeless Outreach: 63  Needles Collected: 50  <b>Noteworthy in June:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>June 18, 2020</b>-One of Streetplus' Safety Ambassadors made contact with an unidentified individual, who was striking parked vehicles with a bicycle helmet. Kevin went to assist him to monitor the situation. The unidentified individual left the district when he realized he was being monitored. OPD was notified, however no one from OPD came.</li> <li>2. <b>June 23, 2020</b>- One of Streetplus' Ambassadors found an unconscious/unresponsive individual and stayed with the individual until the ambulance arrived.</li> </ol>	

<p><b>3b. Festival Coordinator OakFF Greg Harris</b></p>	<p><b>Greg:</b> OakFF held its first virtual event and it went pretty well. Some of the KONO community voiced their anticipation for the event to come back live in the district. The virtual event was sponsored by the American Kidney Fund. There were approximately ten (10) minutes worth of paid commercials for KONO businesses during the event. Sixty five (65) people registered as “coming” to the virtual event and thirty seven (37) showed up for the virtual event. OakFF used part of its grant money to hire a business in the district to film and edit the commercials.</p>	
<p><b>3c. Executive Director Shari Godinez</b></p>	<p><b>Shari:</b> <b>KONO</b> Secretary Elisse Douglass had to resign her position due to a heavy workload and not being able to give the Board position the attention it needed. <b>Shari</b> was interviewed by the Merchants Association in Havenscourt in east Oakland by the Chair of their NCPC as they are looking to form a BID there. Shari also referred NBS to them to discuss it with them as well. Shari has also been working with NBS regarding the assessments for the 20/21 tax year, which Shari sent to the city today and shared with Board member Matthew Ticknor. KONO switched their internet and phone service to Xfinity (Comcast) from AT&amp;T. Xfinity is more affordable and more reliable overall. <b>Shari</b> generated the pro forma that Sonja had requested around the OakFF budget, and Shari also consulted a bookkeeper in the matter. <b>Sonja</b> brought in a CPA to the last Executive Committee meeting regarding the budget for KONO in the next three years. The CPA is putting together an estimate. <b>Shari</b> was interviewed by Cargo Cycles, who are looking at ways to have delivery with bicycles in the KONO district. Shari spoke to a property owner at 23rd/Telegraph who was seeking information about assistance for commercial businesses. Shari gave him a wealth of information for financial assistance. <b>Shari</b> spoke with the developer for the upcoming Moxie Hotel on W. Grand/Telegraph and the developer anticipates it being finished by the end of the year. She also spoke to him about doing a community art wall on the exterior temporary wall that is around the construction area, which should be up until October 2020. The developer seemed interested in the project. Grant money would be used to complete the art wall with the community's artistic help.</p>	

<p><b><u>c. Continued</u></b></p>	<p><b>Shari</b> attended a virtual city council meeting, in which she voiced her opposition to the proposed Oakland business tax structure, but as of 6pm this evening there had not been a vote conducted. She also mentioned to the city council the issues with the proposed new bike lane in KONO.</p> <p>Shari spoke with <b>Randy's Donuts</b> about taking over the KFC location on Telegraph and he stated he would know more in two weeks. Shari will check in with him again because as of this meeting it has been two weeks.</p> <p>The Chamber had its annual meeting where they honored the <b>Oakland BID Alliance</b> and KONO was given the Heart of Oakland award for 2020.</p> <p>Shari has shared a lot of information to the stakeholders including info about the Oakland Indie Alliance, which is offering grant opportunities to small businesses.</p> <p>Shari worked with the Chamber who provided free posters for businesses around COVID safety.</p> <p>KONO passed out flyers to businesses about the <b>Flex Initiative</b> that gives information about outside dining on the sidewalks and streets, however it was retracted by the county this week.</p> <p>KONO's marketing person put together the KONO business directory, which can be found on the KONO website. He is working on a vacancy directory as well.</p> <p><b>Businesses Permanently Closed in KONO due to COVID:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. PHAT Matt's</li> <li>2. Black Spring Coffee</li> <li>3. Stork Club Bar</li> </ol> <p>KONO received five free (5) planters from the Temescal District.</p> <p>The <b>GoFundMe campaign</b> for OakFF is still up and running and <b>Shari asked the Board to please share it to help bring in funds for OakFF.</b></p> <p>Shari has completed the documents for the California Arts Council, which would provide almost twenty thousand dollars in grants.</p> <p><b>Councilwoman Kaplan</b> has put forth a proposal to move the <b>event permit process</b> out of OPD and is now to be handled by a civilian.</p> <p>Shari met with a startup called "<b>Keep Oakland Alive</b>" who is trying to create a grassroots online business where products from small businesses would be put on one page and when customers choose their products, they would be delivered to them. <b>This would only be available to Oakland residents.</b></p> <p>Shari was able to exchange the six yard dumpster from Waste Management to two four yard dumpsters on wheels for district trash Streetplus picks up. KONO is working on getting to use the alleyway between the KONO office and the beauty supply to house them along with the recycle dumpster.</p>	<p><b>Task:</b>  <b>Shari to contact Randy's Donuts</b></p>
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<p><b><u>c. Continued</u></b></p>	<p>The fence/gate that is there needs to be modified to open and close and we are currently getting estimates.          Shari attended a webinar for Sutter Health regarding the grant we received.          Shari worked with Kevin and Streetplus on the visual report that Shari sent to the stakeholders.  <b>Captain Bolton of OPD is holding an NCPC meeting on July 20, 2020 at 6pm if anyone is interested in joining that meeting.</b></p>	
<p><b>4. Action Item:          Approve Minutes from June 9, 2020 Board meeting</b></p>	<p>Sonja motioned to approve the minutes from June 9, 2020           Mike seconded the motion           All approved</p>	<p><b>Action:          Minutes from June 9, 2020 were approved</b></p>
<p><b>5. Action Item:          Approve Financial Reports for KONO and OakFF through May 2020</b></p>	<p>Mike motioned to approve the financials for KONO and OakFF through May 2020           Matt seconded the motion           All approved</p>	<p><b>Action:          Financial reports for KONO and OakFF through May 2020</b></p>
<p><b><u>6. Discussion:Bike Lane:Major safety issues with design. Survey results. DOT's proposed fixes, lack of analysis, impact to businesses and OakFF event</u></b></p>	<p>There is an ongoing conversation with the DOT about the bike lane proposal. The DOT has not done any surveys with the current layout or any outreach to the businesses or residents in the neighborhood. The last survey the DOT stated they conducted was from two (2) years ago. The DOT asked to set up a separate meeting outside of the Executive and Board meetings to discuss this further. Some of the big issues are the bollards they want to install to prevent people from parking or driving in the protected bike lane, which would greatly impact the OakFF events. Another is the DOT doesn't want to address the safety issues now, they want to wait until 2022. Mike Woolson stated that there are <b>construction signs saying they are starting to install the bollards and restriping this Thursday, July 16, 2020.</b> Shari brought this issue up at the city council meeting this evening. <b>DOT seems to be moving forward without further discussion on how and when they are going to implement this project. So, they are moving forward with their design without anyone in the district's input.</b>           Shari received an email from one of the engineers of the project and they stated they were only moving forward with the plans that were approved by the <b>city council in 2018.</b> Shari responded by stating that the city council instructed the DOT NOT to disregard or ignore KONO and implement the "fixes" from "lessons learned" in the Temescal district. There is nothing stating that bollards would be part of that work.</p>	

**6. Continued**

**Mike Woolson:** Did two surveys, (survey monkey) which showed “soft support” for bike lanes in concept. Out of the two hundred (200) responses to the survey, Mike pulled twenty eight (28), who identified themselves as KONO merchants. **These KONO merchants surveyed that seventy one percent (71%) stated that the protected bike lane has had a negative impact for them.** Only fourteen percent (14%) were positive, **sixty one percent (61%) stated it has made cycling in the district less safe.** Twenty five percent (25%) stated it is more safe and another **thirty three percent (33%) stated it has negatively impacted their sales.** Mike conducted a second survey where he physically went to each business in the KONO district who would be affected by the bike lane change. The overall consensus is that the new bike lane has had a negative impact on the KONO district. **Nineteen businesses were interviewed by Mike of which two (2) were neutral about the bike lane and one (1) Gogi Time said it did not affect them because they have a parking lot for customers.** The remaining sixteen (16) **businesses stated they do not support or like the protected bike lane project.**

The four main factors repeated by those businesses who oppose the new bike lane are:

- 1. They are unsafe (Cars making a right or left turn can't see what is coming and the bikes and scooters are riding very fast in the bike lane, which makes seeing someone in time almost impossible.)**
- 2. It is a negative impact on their businesses**
- 3. Lack of lighting and signage**
- 4. Delivery trucks have to block traffic**

Mike spoke to a **hair salon owner** who is coming into the district **who is a bike rider** and they stated they **don't “trust” the new bike lane and it is a poor design.**

Most of the business were emphatic about their dislike of the protected bike lane project. Most of the businesses stated that the solution should be to move the parking back to the curb and the bike lane put back on the outside (buffered) of the parked vehicles. It would eliminate the visibility safety issue and give more room for traffic to negotiate in the street.

**Alan Wilk** stated that at a DOT meeting he attended, the DOT's focus was not on current/experienced riders, but for future riders in order to make Oakland a more “green” city. The DOT felt their design was safer than the current one at the time.

**Shari** stated that one of the DOT's solution's is to stop cars from going down side streets is to create **NO LEFT TURNS** in the district. **This will also greatly negatively impact the businesses down those side streets.**

<p><b><u>6. Continued</u></b></p>	<p>Shari stated that the <b>DOT said to her that the Bike Coalition would not be in support</b> of the bollards if it negatively impacted the <b>OakFF event</b>.</p> <p>Shari stated that this bike lane was only supposed to be a Pilot Project where it could be approved or disapproved and any changes would be taken into consideration and implemented. <b>It is clear now, that was not the intention of the DOT to honor this.</b></p> <p>It was suggested by Joseph to <b>contact Dave Campbell as well for his opinion and the bike group he represents.</b></p>	<p><b>Task:</b> Email Mayor and Council-woman's office of the district's position opposing the new bike lane.</p>
<p><b><u>7.Discussion: KONO to hire financial planner</u></b></p>	<p>Sonja brought a CPA to the last Executive Committee meeting to have her make suggestions on how to move forward with KONO's budget. How to be more effective as a nonprofit. How to strengthen our sustainability. The CPA would put together a summary of services and cost of services. Shari and Mike Thaler had a meeting with the CPA and she is going to put something together by the end of the week as far as an estimate for her services.</p>	
<p><b><u>8. Meeting Adjourned</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Next Board Meeting:</u></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Meeting adjourned @ 7:57pm</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>August 11, 2020 @ 6:30pm</u></b></p>	<p><b>Task:</b> Board to email Shari with Board agenda items</p>

**Minutes by:** Shellae Ruffin & Edited by Shari Godinez