

## **BANKERS HILL COMMUNITY GROUP MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, October 17, 2022  
Bankers Hill Clubhouse, 3030 Front Street

BHCG Steering Committee member Michael Reyes called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The following Steering Committee members were present at that time: Reyes, Co-Chairs John Percy and Pete Politzer, Treasurer Jeanne Rawlings, Secretary John Lamb, Aaron Reyes and Ben Baltic. Approximately 36 people attended the meeting.

Reyes welcomed everyone to the meeting. He noted that Uptown Planners will be holding its election in March 2023. The advisory planning board continues to lack a member from Bankers Hill, he said, adding that anyone interested in running should attend upcoming meetings.

### **Treasury Report**

Rawlings reported \$6,317 in the bank. Financials for the BHCG are in good shape, she said.

### **Featured Business — Flimzys Records**

Giuliano Ramirez, owner of Flimzys Records on Fifth Avenue north of Redwood, talked about his vinyl record store that he opened early last year. He said he was happy to have his shop in Bankers Hill, one of the cleanest communities he said he's ever seen. In addition to vinyl records, Ramirez also sells other music-related merchandise as well.

### **Uptown Community Parking District Election**

Gerrie Trussell, executive director of the UCPD, introduced the candidates for the Bankers Hill committee of the Uptown Community Parking District. Committee members Tom Fox and Doug Scott said they were seeking re-election to complete projects they had begun, including adding more trees and continuing to make Bankers Hill more walkable. Carl Domond, new owner of the Postal Annex at Laurel Street and Fourth Avenue, said he was seeking election to a business seat for the first time to help improve the neighborhood. He said he petitioned for a 15-minute parking meter in a two-hour zone to help business clients. Attendees were given the opportunity to vote during the general meeting. (At the end of the meeting, Trussell announced that all three had been elected.)

### **San Diego Pride Presentation**

Bob Leyh, programming manager for San Diego Pride, presented an oversized symbolic check for \$1,500 to BHCG Treasurer Rawlings and Steering Committee member Ben Baltic, the two who coordinated the BHCG volunteer cleanup efforts this year. Leyh again praised the relationship Pride continues to have with the Bankers Hill community, noting the neighborhood looked cleaner than ever. He said 55,000 people attended the two-day Pride Festival, resulting in grants citywide totaling more than \$200,000. Rawlings and Baltic acknowledged the 51 volunteers who signed up for cleanup duties this year, the most ever. Volunteers in attendance then posed for a photograph with the supersized check.

### **Non-Agenda Public Comment**

No comments made.

### **Government Representatives**

Emily Bonner, aide to District 3 Councilmember Stephen Whitburn, discussed the councilmember's budget priorities for the coming fiscal year, as determined by a survey of district residents: 1) homelessness/affordable housing; 2) clean and safe neighborhoods; and 3) streets, sidewalks and other infrastructure. She said his goal is to end street homelessness.

Abbey Reuter, representative for county Board of Supervisors Chairman Nathan Fletcher, discussed efforts to combat the opioid crisis with an anticipated \$100 million in settlement money from pharmaceutical firms. She also reported on an agreement between county and city leaders to build 10,000 affordable housing units by 2030 on government-owned land. Reuter was asked about plans for mental-health facilities in the county, and she noted that the former Alvarado Hospital near San Diego State University will be converted into such a facility, with 44 new beds, by the end of 2023.

**Featured Presentation: California Assemblymember Christopher M. Ward**

Ward said it was good to see everyone in person for a change. Ward highlighted the bills he had sponsored recently — he noted of the 18 he proposed, all were signed into law by Gov. Newsom. “No vetos!” he said. He praised the work of the BHCG, the “active” parking district, and the cooperative spirit emblematic of San Diego Pride. The bills he discussed touched on gun violence, community solar and storage, and community-college needs. Ward also discussed climate challenges, homelessness and the focus on Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE) Court and conservatorships, infrastructure needs including the crumbling coastal rail line, Balboa Park, and future Colorado River water challenges.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by John Lamb, Secretary.