ATTENDEES: Alice Kawahatsu, Paul Wermer, Seiko Fujimoto, Judy Hamaguchi, David Ishida, Mark Moriguchi, Benh Nakajo, Glynis Nakahara, Beau Simon, Neal Taniguchi, Clint Taura, Rosalyn Tonai

ABSENT: Anthony Brown, Rich Hashimoto, Jon Osaki

STAFF: Greg Marutani, Kimi Fukuyama

GUESTS: Karen Kai, Sandy Mori, Tomo Hirai, Ed Ong, Bob Rusky, Mary Ann Hori

I. Call to Order

The meeting called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Alice Kawahatsu, President.

II. Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting on August 17, 2016.

It was moved by David Ishida and seconded by Paul Wermer to approve the August 17, 2016 minutes with the following revisions: made regarding notes from the Joint Committee meeting for Issei Memorial Garden and, Mary Ann Hori stated she attended the August 17, 2016 Board meeting but her name was not included.

The motion was unanimously approved.

III. GUEST SPEAKER

No guest speaker

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Land Use / Transportation Committee (Paul Wermer)
   1. Neighborhood Commercial District Zoning Changes
      No updates specifically. There is a neighborhood commercial district zone and there is no functional impact with Japantown. Question of planning code outreach was made. Planning code will notify people in general.
   2. City wide design guideline update - No new updates. Plan on inviting MINE (according to my recording) for the next Land Use meeting. (Will confirm with Glynis)

A. Economic Development / Marketing Committee (Alice Kawahatsu)
   1. Holiday Lights Update
      There is a meeting scheduled for the 28th with Craig Waterman and his contractor on Requesting no lighting divide (From David Ishida). Rich is researching how much the cost will be for market lights in Buchanan Hall. An invite was put out for individuals to join the lighting committee.

C. Cultural Heritage Committee (Rosalyn Tonai)
   1. Landmarking- Rec and Park Request Update
There is no update. Peace Plaza pagoda is being assessed. We are waiting on results.

D. Joint Committee (Ad Hoc Land Use/ Cultural Heritage)

1. Issei Memorial Garden (Action Committee)
   Set up a dual process and special discourse for the issues coming up in the community. Unanimous support for memorial and strong feelings both (pros and cons) about the design and location. There were a lot of financial questions and a need for concept/proposal. Also, the garden is not close to a final decision. A concept that needs more work. Writing a recommendation to the full board for a support letter and appreciate a design process. Rec and Park has to approve.

   It was moved by Paul Wermer and seconded by David Ishida the JTF send a letter to the SF Recreation and Park Department supporting the concept of the proposed Issei Memorial Garden at Cottage Row and that department would include additional opportunities for public comment and input.

   Karen Kai handed out a statement on her concerns about the Issei Memorial Project and her analysis (Attachment A).

   A question was raised regarding what is the role of JTF for the Issei Memorial Project?

   JTF was asked for a letter of support for the proposed Issei Memorial Garden.

   A reference was made by Bob Rusky that the synopsis presented by Paul Osaki was inaccurate and that the project is not ready for approval.

   Judy Hamaguchi requested for clarification: Letter of support will send with recommendations attached?

   Paul Wermer stated that the proposed letter of support would say JTF supports the concept of Issei Memorial Garden and JTF appreciated there will be on going public outreach meetings regarding the design.

   David Ishida stated to vote on the concept of memorial garden. He added that there was a lack of transparency about the initial design and planning of the Issei Memorial Garden. In addition, expressed his concern about the future participation of others, especially neighbors in the area if they are not informed about future meetings related to the project.

   Paul Wermer responded that it was his understanding of joint committee met to discuss the proposed project and present its recommendation to the JTF Board.

   David Ishida stated here was no clear path of what the next steps will be. Who will be able to participate?

   Paul Wermer responded that Paul Osaki stated that there would be greater outreach to the neighbors and others to inform them of public meetings related to the Issei Memorial Garden.
David questioned even further what is the issue we recommend and more communication must be made.

Rosalyn restated that there is no final design for the Issei Memorial Garden as the Recreation and Park Department has not held any meetings about the project as it is currently proposed and that there would be opportunity for public comment to raise any and all issues before a final design is approved.

Neal Taniguchi asked if there were any residents that were against the concept?

Paul Wermer noted that of those who attended the joint meeting two individuals were strongly opposed while another submitted his concerns about the concept via e-mail.

Greg Marutani added that some of the opposition centered around the fact that the history of the cottage row mini-park had a broader history than Issei of Japantown that included African Americans and the Gay communities as well.

Glynnis Nakahara asked how many people are opposed to the project?

Karen Kai said that after the joint committee meeting some individuals expressed their opposition and others were looking at possible alternatives for the Issei Memorial.

David Ishida recommended JTF support the concept as it was presented.

Paul Wermer withdrew his motion with approval of the seconder.

It was moved by Rosalyn Tonai and seconded by David Ishida to write a letter of support for the concept for Issei Memorial Garden at Cottage Row.

The motion passed with nine aye votes one nay vote and one abs (Rosalyn) abstain pass for the support letter.

It was moved by Rosalyn Tonai and seconded by David Ishida that JTF send a letter to Paul Osaki to keep an open and transparent process regarding the concept of Issei Memorial Garden as it under goes further refinement. Also to include notification to those by the Issei Memorial Garden “committee” and the meetings of the SF Recreation and Park Department be disseminated as broadly as possible to the neighbors adjacent to the Cottage Row Mini-Park and that the JTF be included on the distribution list.

The motion was unanimously approved.

E. Steering Committee CBD

1. First meeting will be Wednesday, September 28, 2016 starting at 6:00 p.m. in the JACL Headquarters located at 1765 Sutter Street to review the Request For Proposal (RFP) as well as hear a presentation from Tracy Everwine, executive director of the Central Market CBD, explaining what is involved in operating a CBD both benefits and challenges.
F. Finance Committee
   1. Contract was signed and approved.

G. Ad Hoc Digital Access Committee (Paul Wermer)
   A. Update: Clint Taura suggested using website designing programs such as Weebly and Squarespace. Linking the JTF website to social media outlets such as Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat, etc.

   Ed Ong also suggested using Code 4 America: support solutions for public notices.

V. NEW BUSINESS
   A. Landmarking of 1830 Sutter Julia Morgan building (NLF)
      Scheduled for the cultural heritage meeting in October. Let Cathy Inamasu or Karen know. Landmark proceed we will proceed. No because there is no package has been seen regarding the property.

VI. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**
   Assessment of the Peace Plaza has been completed and the report should be available in 8-12 weeks.

VII. STAFF REPORTS
   A. Crime Report (Greg Marutani)
      Greg highlighted that referred to advance folder. Crime in August was up from the prior month.

   B. Japantown Observations (Greg Marutani)
      Greg highlighted that Kinokuniya Building has a number of changes that include Beque taking over the former Juban Restaurant space on the first floor; JC Beauty Salon has closed and will become Chato, a tea shop with unique gifts; and a new owner has taken over Sapporoya.

VIII. PRESIDENT’S REPORT
   Alice highlighted that referred to advanced folder.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS
   ❖ Greg reported that Officer Shawn Fulgado is the new partner for Yuka Nagamine. His father, Max is the caretaker of the Buchanan Mall.

   ❖ The Business Watch Group has scheduled a meeting on Monday, September 26, 2016 that will take place at 3:00 p.m. in the Community Room of Union Bank and two of the foot patrol. Updating our email lists and for the look out notice and get the new merchants

   ❖ The Hotel Kabuki and the Buchanan management staff will be hosting a clean up on Friday September 30, 2016 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

   ❖ The Japantown Youth Leadership (JYL) students from JCYC will be cleaning up Japantown on October 12 and 13, 2016 beginning at 4:30 p.m.

   ❖ Nichi Bei Foundation will host the Angel Island Pilgrimage on Saturday, October 1, 2016.
- Judy announced 110th anniversary picnic at Old Speedway Meadows on Saturday, September 25, 2016 starting at 11:00 a.m.
- Kimochi, Inc. will be hosting a fundraising event for Steve Nakajo who is retiring. The luncheon will be at the Hotel Kabuki at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 15, 2016
- Sand Mori handout- Dignity fund and JTF is on the brochure
- 75th anniversary of the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) at Building 640 located in the Presidio starting at 10:00 - 5:00 p.m. November 12, 2016.

David Ishida requested that the JTF by-laws be reviewed to clarify the matter of membership of the JTF committee structure, in particular voting.

The next Board meeting will be Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at the Union Bank Hospitality Room

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalyn Tonai
Secretary