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**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY AND  
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO HELD ON THE  
3<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2009**

The Commissioners of the Redevelopment Agency of the City and County of San Francisco met in a regular meeting at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 416, in the City of San Francisco, California, at 4:00 p.m. on the 3rd day of March 2009, at the place and date duly established for holding of such a meeting.

President Ramon Romero called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Romero welcomed members of the public and radio listening audience and asked that all electronic devices including pagers and cellular telephones be turned off during the meeting. Mr. Romero asked members of the public who wished to address the Commission to fill out speaker cards, and to state their names for the record, and to limit their remarks to three minutes. Mr. Romero stated that the appropriate time for members of the public to address the Commission on matters not on the current Agenda, but related to general Agency business, would be Item 6 on the agenda. This portion of the Agenda is not intended for debate or discussion with the Commission or staff, and members of the public should simply state their business or matter they wish the Commission or staff to be aware of, and if they had questions, to follow-up with staff or Commissioners during a break or after adjournment. It is not appropriate for Commissioners to engage in a debate or respond on issues not properly set in a publicly-noticed meeting agenda.

**1. RECOGNITION OF A QUORUM**

The Commission Secretary announced the presence of a quorum with the following Commissioners present:

Ramon Romero, President  
Rick Swig, Vice President  
London Breed  
Linda Cheu  
Francee Covington  
Leroy King  
Darshan Singh

Fred Blackwell, Executive Director, and staff members were also present.

**2. REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN AT PREVIOUS CLOSED SESSION MEETING, IF ANY. No Reportable Action.**

**3. MATTERS OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Continued from February 17, 2009 Commission Meeting**

- (a) Resolution No. 12-2009, Authorizing a Letter Agreement with the Mayor's Office of Community Investment for a Term of 18 Months, from March 5, 2009 to September 4, 2010, for the Development of an Inter-agency Information Management System, in an amount not to exceed \$525,000 to be paid by the Mayor's Office of Community Investment.

- (b) Resolution No. 13-2009, Authorizing a Personal Services Contract with the Board of Trustees of the Glide Foundation, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation, to provide consulting and software development services for an inter-agency Information Management System in an amount not to exceed \$525,000, for a term of 18 months, from March 5, 2009 to September 4, 2010.

Presenter: Stephen Maduli-Williams

Speakers: Randall Evans, Ace Washington

Commissioner Swig put forth a motion to move Agenda Items 3(a) and 3(b), thanked staff for their diligence in providing background information requested from the previous meeting. Mr. Swig asked what fee would be paid to Glide for their part as Fiscal Agents on behalf of Tekmeca.

Mr. Maduli-Williams stated Glide would be receiving 5 percent cash of the total contract plus 10% of services in kind, with Tekmeca providing in kind technology services to Glide.

Commissioner Swig asked Mr. Cheung who specifically would be performing the work.

Mr. Cheung stated that both Paul Winn, Chief Architect in software design, and Chief Technologist, Charlie Jerzog have 20 years experience with software design and development with Fortune 500 companies would primarily be doing the majority of the work, and provide direct supervision to the students.

Commissioner Singh seconded the motion.

Commissioner Breed asked where MOCI would be receiving the funds from, if the funds have been allocated for the current fiscal year's budget, and why the funds need to go through the Agency.

Mr. Maduli-Williams stated they would be receiving the funds from the Community Block Grant.

Ms. Tamra Dorfman stated that the majority of the \$525,000 had been allocated in the 2008/2009 budget with remaining unspent funds from the prior year that had been allocated for information systems and technology purposes. Ms. Dorfman indicated that in terms of the programmatic interest of where MOCI would like the project to go, it was important that the Agency direct the RFP process.

Commissioner Breed asked how much staff time would be required, and if the Agency has the capacity to undertake the program.

Mr. Maduli-Williams stated the Agency does have the capacity and the cost would be minimal.

**ADOPTION:** IT WAS MOVED BY MR. SWIG, SECONDED BY MR. SINGH, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT RESOLUTION NO. 12-2009, AUTHORIZING A LETTER AGREEMENT WITH THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FOR A TERM OF 18 MONTHS, FROM MARCH 5, 2009 TO SEPTEMBER 4, 2010, FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTER-AGENCY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$525,000 TO BE PAID BY THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY INVESTMENT; AND, RESOLUTION NO. 13-2009, AUTHORIZING A PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE GLIDE FOUNDATION, A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION, TO PROVIDE CONSULTING AND SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FOR AN INTER-AGENCY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$525,000, FOR A TERM OF 18 MONTHS, FROM MARCH 5, 2009 TO SEPTEMBER 4, 2010, BE ADOPTED.

**4. MATTERS OF NEW BUSINESS:**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- (a) Approval of Minutes: Meeting of February 3, 2009
- (b) Approval of Minutes: Meeting of February 17, 2009.
- (c) Authorizing execution of a Second Amendment to the Personal Services Contract with Tom Eliot Fisch, a California corporation, to increase the Contract amount by \$57,917, plus a contingency of \$5,000 for a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$846,116, to complete construction administration services for phase two improvements to Pier 40; Rincon Point-South Beach Redevelopment Project Area. (Resolution No. 23-2009)
- (d) Authorizing a First Amendment to the Personal Services Contract with Arc Ecology, a California nonprofit corporation, to extend the contract term on a month-to-month basis for up to four months for the period March 22, 2009 through July 21, 2009, and to increase the contract amount by an amount not to exceed \$133,325, to provide environmental outreach and information services to the Bayview Hunters Point Community, for a total aggregate amount of \$1,100,325; Hunters Point Shipyard Redevelopment Project Area. (Resolution No. 24-2009)

The Commission Secretary stated there was a speaker card for Agenda Item 4(d).

President Romero stated that Agenda Item 4(d) would be pulled from the Consent Agenda for a staff presentation and public comment.

Commissioner Breed put forth a motion to continue Consent Agenda Item 4(b), Approval of Minutes: Meeting of February 17, 2009 to the next meeting, and recused herself from Consent Agenda Item 4(a), Approval of Minutes: Meeting of February 3, 2009; she was not present at that meeting.

Commissioner Cheu recused herself from Consent Agenda Item 4(a), Approval of Minutes: Meeting of February 3, 2009, she was not present at that meeting.

President Romero recused himself from Consent Agenda Item 4(a), Approval of Minutes: Meeting of February 3, 2009, he was not present at that meeting.

**MOTION:** IT WAS MOVED BY MS. BREED, SECONDED BY MR. SINGH, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 4(b), APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MEETING OF FEBRUARY 17, 2009 BE CONTINUED TO THE NEXT MEETING.

**ADOPTION:** IT WAS MOVED BY MS. BREED, SECONDED BY MR. SINGH, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED THAT APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MEETING OF FEBRUARY 3, 2009, AND RESOLUTION NO. 23-2009, AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH TOM ELIOT FISCH, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, TO INCREASE THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY \$57,917, PLUS A CONTINGENCY OF \$5,000 FOR A TOTAL AGGREGATE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$846,116, TO COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION SERVICES FOR PHASE TWO IMPROVEMENTS TO PIER 40; RINCON POINT-SOUTH BEACH REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA, BE ADOPTED.

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

- (d) Authorizing a First Amendment to the Personal Services Contract with Arc Ecology, a California nonprofit corporation, to extend the contract term on a month-to-month basis for up to four months for the period March 22, 2009 through July 21, 2009, and to increase the contract amount by an amount not to exceed \$133,325, to provide environmental outreach and information services to the Bayview Hunters Point Community, for a total aggregate amount of \$1,100,325; Hunters Point Shipyard Redevelopment Project Area. (Resolution No. 24-2009)

Presenter: Thor Kaslofsky, Agency Staff

Speakers: Oscar James, Leotis Martin, Bobby Washington, Brother Leon Muhammad, Francisco DaCosta, Jesse Mason, Saul Bloom, Rachel Russell, Randall Evans, Daniel Landry

Commissioner Swig indicated that he wanted to remind everyone what is being discussed is the extension of a four month contract with ArcEcology for the purpose of providing environmental services to the community, with affirmation from the CAC that they are in support of the four month extension. Mr. Swig indicated that Staff is currently reviewing proposals to either extend ArcEcology fairly, or if there were suitable persons or organizations that are better prepared than ArcEcology, they would then be before the Commission and be subject to community scrutiny and discussion, and the approval of their proposal in less than four months. Mr. Swig stated that he did not think it was appropriate to put the community at risk without environmental services, and believes that Staff heard the pros and cons and will take those comments into consideration when they evaluate all proposals that will become an alternative to the current position.

Commissioner Swig put forth a motion to approve Agenda Item 4(d).

Commissioner Covington asked for background information on the Restoration Advisory Board.

Mr. Kaslofsky stated the Restoration Advisory Board is advisory to the Navy on their clean up board. Mr. Kaslofsky invited Saul Bloom and Mike McGowan to speak on behalf of the board.

Commissioner Covington asked if the extension was brought before the PAC.

Mr. Kaslofsky stated that the CAC requested that the item be brought before them.

Commissioner Covington asked that Mr. McGowan to speak on behalf of the Restoration Advisory Board, and Brother Leon Muhammad to speak as Community Co-Chair.

Mr. McGowan stated that the Restoration Advisory Board is made up of a variable number of representatives from the community and community based organizations, serves as a two way conduit of information about the clean up, and communicator of the community between community members, organizations, and the Navy; monthly meetings are held which provides the current status of the clean up and a Q&A to the Navy. Mr. McGowan stated that the Board includes people who are interested in economic development; scientists who help review Navy documents, and citizens from the community who have an important stake in the clean up.

Commissioner Covington asked how many members serve on the Board.

Mr. McGowan stated that there are 20 members but that there have been parliamentary irregularities recently where there may be some questions as to whether some members are actual members, whereby the Navy cancelled

February's Restoration Advisory Board meeting due to confusion about the purview of the Board to make decisions and suggestions.

Brother Muhammad indicated that technically, Mr. McGowan could not speak on behalf of the Restoration Advisory Board according to the By-Laws, and stated, as a scientist on the Board, Mr. McGowan technically does not have a voice.

Commissioner Covington asked what falls under the purview of the Board, how many members are on the Board, and how many members are from the community.

Brother Muhammad stated there are 20 members on the Board which falls under the Under Secretary of Defense, 70% representing the community, the board advises the BRAC (U.S. Navy) on environmental cleanup on what should be done that is conducive to the violations and historical injustice to Bayview Hunters Point. Brother Muhammad indicated that there has been a strong voice from the Bayview Hunters Point community that is advocating for good residential cleanup. Brother Muhammad stated that Mr. Gilkey, Branch Manager of the HPSY Restoration Advisory Board and Treasure Island, is in violation of the rules and regulations to suggest dissolution of the Restoration Advisory Board without following protocol.

Commissioner Covington asked if the matter came before the Board.

Brother Muhammad stated that it did not.

Commissioner Covington asked when he was speaking earlier, if he was speaking as a private citizen.

Brother Muhammad stated that he was speaking as the Community Co-Chair for the Restoration Advisory Board ill advising the extension of ArcEcology because, in his opinion, they are not sufficient or effective as scientists on the Restoration Advisory Board.

Commissioner Covington asked if the body did not vote on the extension, how he could speak for them.

Brother Muhammad stated that he has that right according to the By-laws.

Commissioner Breed asked when staff anticipates bringing the new contract before the Commission.

Mr. Kaslofsky estimated they would be before the Commission with their recommendation in two months after the process of reviewing the proposals, conducting interviews, and presenting their selection to the CAC for their review.

President Romero stated that there was still a need for a second to the motion, asked General Counsel's opinion if he could second the motion. General Counsel confirmed that he could; Mr. Romero seconded the motion, stated that ArcEcology has had a long good standing relationship with the Agency and the Hunters Point Shipyard and have performed an excellent job.

Commissioner Cheu asked for more information on how the CAC initiated that the extension of ArcEcology be presented to them.

Mr. Kaslofsky stated that staff was presenting the Request for Qualifications for the contract to the CAC for their consideration; the CAC asked in the event that there be a gap in services, would staff be able to extend the contract. Mr. Kaslofsky informed the CAC that they would be able to extend the contract and again made the same request at their next CAC meeting.

Commissioner Cheu asked what working relationship the CAC has with ArcEcology.

Mr. Kaslofsky stated that ArcEcology has a good working relationship with the CAC, is tasked with giving monthly reports at the full CAC meetings, monthly environmental subcommittee meetings, and other meetings as needed, review, and provide guidance on the environmental documents from the Navy.

Commissioner Covington stated that Staff should not put the Commissioners in the position of extending contracts when they should be fully aware when a contract will be expiring. She pointed out that staff has come before the Commission for several extensions within the last four or five months and should be on an occasional basis depending on the situation, but does not think it is a good way of doing business. Ms. Covington stated that there is a lot of information that needs to go out to the community in the Bayview Hunters Point and in good conscience she could not let ArcEcology go at this time. Ms. Covington made the suggestion that Staff fast track the review of the proposals.

Commissioner Cheu echoed Commissioner Cheu's comments and stated that she has been impressed with their reports, and agreed there shouldn't be a gap in services. Ms. Cheu stated that the key is going to be in dealing with the contract which will need a lot of information about the evaluation of the qualifications of the consultant that is selected and any issues that come up in the next four months. Ms. Cheu supports the extension.

**ADOPTION:** IT WAS MOVED BY MR. SWIG, SECONDED BY MR. ROMERO, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED THAT RESOLUTION NO. 24-2009, AUTHORIZING A FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH ARC ECOLOGY, A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT CORPORATION, TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT TERM ON A MONTH-TO-MONTH BASIS FOR UP TO FOUR MONTHS FOR

THE PERIOD MARCH 22, 2009 THROUGH JULY 21, 2009, AND TO INCREASE THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$133,325, TO PROVIDE ENVIRONMENTAL OUTREACH AND INFORMATION SERVICES TO THE BAYVIEW HUNTERS POINT COMMUNITY, FOR A TOTAL AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$1,100,325; HUNTERS POINT SHIPYARD REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA, BE ADOPTED.

Agenda Items 4(e) – 4(g) were presented together, but acted on separately.

- (d) Granting an exception from the height limit restriction for building signs in the Yerba Buena Center Redevelopment Plan related to tenant signage at the Metreon site located at the northeast corner of Fourth Street between Mission and Howard Streets; Yerba Buena Center Approved Redevelopment Project Area D-1. (Resolution No. 25-2009)
- (e) Granting an exception from the height limit restriction for building signs in the Yerba Buena Center Redevelopment Plan and conditionally approving the schematic design for proposed improvements to the Metreon site located at the northeast corner of Fourth Street between Mission and Howard Streets; Yerba Buena Center Approved Redevelopment Project Area D-1. (Resolution No. 26-2009)
- (f) Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with Westfield Metreon, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, FC Metreon LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and Mission Hiring Hall, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation acting through its affiliate the South of Market Employment Center, for permanent workforce program requirements at the Metreon site located at the northeast corner of Fourth Street between Mission and Howard Streets; Yerba Buena Center Approved Redevelopment Project Area D-1. (Resolution No. 27-2009)

Presenter: Amy Neches, Agency Staff

Speakers: Don Marcos, Oscar Penaranda, Marivic Bamba, John Brown, Ed Espanol, Laurie Armstrong, Carolyn Diamond, John Elberling, Randall Evans, Ace Washington

Commissioner Breed stated that she was excited about the project since it has been a long time coming, and the relationship between Westfield and the Mission Hiring Hall has been an invaluable relationship, appreciates Don Marcos and all his hard work in making sure San Francisco residents are employed in Westfield. Ms. Breed indicated that she would like to see more consideration taken in stepping up security measures at the Metreon Theatre, would like to see youth hired and have affordable retail shops for youth at the so that there will be an integrated fun area with economic development for everyone in San Francisco. Ms. Breed stated that she is very excited to see that the Filipino Cultural Center will be located in the heart of the Yerba



Buena Center which demonstrates a great partnership and collaboration in ensuring that all parties are represented. Ms. Breed put forth a motion to move all three items.

Commissioner Cheu seconded the motion. Ms. Cheu stated that it is a complete and comprehensive package, very enthusiastic about the retail stores, restaurants, redesign, and impressed with the support. Ms. Cheu indicated that she is happy to see the project move forward creating not only construction jobs but permanent jobs also. Ms. Cheu asked what the timeframe is and if it has shifted at all due to the economy.

Ms. Neches stated that staff has been in communications with Westfield and they understand this to be a great investment opportunity, and are certain that will get the appropriate financing. Ms. Neches stated that they hope to start the project sometime in mid 2009 with the completion date to be around mid 2010, in time for the Holiday season.

Commissioners Cheu asked how many permanent jobs would be created.

Ms. Neches stated that Westfield estimates between their own employment and sub-tenants employment, there will be about 1100 jobs with Tavern on the Green expecting to employ 300-400 people.

Commissioner Cheu stated that she is very excited to hear about the Filipino American Cultural Center, asked what the plans were for operating dollars.

Mr. Don Marcos, Executive Director of Mission Hiring Hall, and Interim Director for the San Francisco Filipino Cultural Center stated that the move is exciting because they have enough money for the build out itself, they will then begin their fund raising and development for the operations and programming immediately. Mr. Marcos stated that Center will be supported mainly by the Filipino community in the Bay Area, collaborating with Los Angeles and San Diego, with the hopes that the other centers built in those cities would constitute 80% of the Filipino population in California accessing those three centers. Mr. Marcos also stated that they will be getting support from businesses, commerce trades from the Filipino Islands as well, and that there is no competition since there is no other Filipino Cultural Center in San Francisco, let alone the Bay Area.

Commissioner Cheu stated that the cultural center has been long time coming, enthusiastically supports the project, and seconded the item.

Commissioner Covington stated that she too is very enthusiastic about the plans, very happy that the cultural aspect is going to be included, and excited that Tavern on the Green will be at the Center since they have been around for decades and have consistently done very well. Ms. Covington stated that she is happy about the 15 year agreement and a ten year extension long term employment agreement. Ms. Covington asked what the relationship would be

with the Mission Hiring Hall and other organizations such as the One Stop in the Western Addition, she wants to make sure there is outreach to those parts of the City that have been hardest hit economically, that would be the Western Addition and the Bayview.

Mr. Villacarlos stated that the Mission Hiring Hall is the construction piece of the South of Market employment center. They will also work with the One Stop Shop as well as the First Source shop of Jim Welly, they have been engaged in this process, and there are provisions in the MOU that defaults into the One Stop Shop or the First Source Hiring Agreement.

Commissioner Covington stated that she was wanted to confirm that the estimated number of 1100 of new jobs would be generated.

Ms. Neches confirmed that 1100 total permanent jobs in the Center, with some jobs already in existence.

Commissioner Covington stated that the new retail outlets coming in and the entrances off of the street would be helpful, also supports the signage for the Tavern on the Green. Ms. Covington asked what is happening for the smaller businesses in terms of signage.

Ms. Neches stated staff is working with all the businesses in ensuring that the signage maintains a comfortable park like setting and appropriate public realm.

Commissioner Singh stated that he is very satisfied with the project and very happy to see that the Filipino Cultural Center will be housed at the Metreon, and looks forward to the completion of the project under the leadership of Vicky and Don Marcos.

Commissioner Swig echoed the same sentiments as his fellow Commissioners of the synergy of the project and very impressed with how Westfield have set the example for the big businesses as community participants by including the Mission Hiring Hall, the Filipino community. Mr. Swig stated the result of the project would assist the Convention Business Bureau in booking business, making the Moscone area more attractive, better for the Union Square Association, and the surrounding stores because it anchors solidly the attractive nature of San Francisco's retail area, right from Union Square down to Moscone Center. Mr. Swig stated it is a win, win situation and expressed his supports.

President Romero stated that he agreed with everything Commission Swig said and thanked the developers for making the investment in the City of San Francisco at a very difficult time for the City.

Commissioner Singh inquired as to what type of stores would be located at the Metreon.

Ms. Neches stated there will be restaurants, retailers, and a food court in the middle on the ground floor; the second floor will consist of mix uses; a food market and cultural uses such as the Filipino Cultural Center, and the San Francisco Museum of Craft and Design; the third floor will be the cinemas; and the fourth floor will be the Tavern on the Green.

**ADOPTION:** IT WAS MOVED BY MS. BREED, SECONDED BY MS. CHEU, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT RESOLUTION NO. 25-2009, GRANTING AN EXCEPTION FROM THE HEIGHT LIMIT RESTRICTION FOR BUILDING SIGNS IN THE YERBA BUENA CENTER REDEVELOPMENT PLAN RELATED TO TENANT SIGNAGE AT THE METREON SITE LOCATED AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF FOURTH STREET BETWEEN MISSION AND HOWARD STREETS; YERBA BUENA CENTER APPROVED REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA D-1; RESOLUTION NO. 26-2009, GRANTING AN EXCEPTION FROM THE HEIGHT LIMIT RESTRICTION FOR BUILDING SIGNS IN THE YERBA BUENA CENTER REDEVELOPMENT PLAN AND CONDITIONALLY APPROVING THE SCHEMATIC DESIGN FOR PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE METREON SITE LOCATED AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF FOURTH STREET BETWEEN MISSION AND HOWARD STREETS; YERBA BUENA CENTER APPROVED REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA D-1; RESOLUTION NO. 27-2009, AUTHORIZING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH WESTFIELD METREON, LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, FC METREON LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, AND MISSION HIRING HALL, A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION ACTING THROUGH ITS AFFILIATE THE SOUTH OF MARKET EMPLOYMENT CENTER, FOR PERMANENT WORKFORCE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AT THE METREON SITE LOCATED AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF FOURTH STREET BETWEEN MISSION AND HOWARD STREETS; YERBA BUENA CENTER APPROVED REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA D-1., BE ADOPTED.

5. **MATTERS NOT APPEARING ON AGENDA:** None
6. **PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE MEMBERS ON NON-AGENDA, BUT AGENCY RELATED MATTERS**

Speakers: Erris Edgerly, Randall Evans, Ace Washington, Dr. Raymond J. Tompkins

7. **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:**

- Thanked his fellow Commissioners and Agency staff for flowers sent to his Father's funeral who passed away a week ago, very much appreciated the two cards signed by staff.

**8. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: None.**

**9. COMMISSIONERS' QUESTIONS AND MATTERS:**

- Commissioner Singh made a motion to adjourn the meeting in memory of Ramon Romero, Sr.
- Commissioner Covington stated that she was glad the meeting would be adjourned in Ramon Romero, Sr.'s honor.
  - Ms. Covington stated that she received calls from Western Addition residents concerned that some people in the community are talking to various branches of city government in the name of the community. Ms. Covington stated that the concerned residents are requesting that there be a group that is empowered to speak for the community during the transition since there is no longer a CAC. Ms. Covington stated that the residents as well as merchants are concerned that those who are meeting with the Mayor and others are not representing their viewpoint. Ms. Covington stated that she would like to discuss the matter at some point and would like the Executive Director to brainstorm with staff on how to make the transition a smooth transition so all voices are heard.
  - Ms. Covington stated, in reference to the first cycle of the grant awards, she was distressed because before she got the information as a Commissioner, the names were leaked as to who had received the grants which caused a lot of turmoil and should not have happened. She stated that there should have been a roll out process that was fair and equitable to everyone so that the people who were not awarded grants would have been notified prior to the information being released, and a press release should have been prepared. Ms. Covington stressed that the second round and any other grants that will be awarded be given all due consideration.
- Commissioner Swig stated, as a member of the Grant Committee, that the goal of the Grant Program is to attract new businesses and to encourage retail activity that provides a needed/desired service within the district in order to increase foot traffic and to create a viable commercial core by providing retail services, jobs, and a safe environment. Mr. Swig indicated that the reason he stated this was because that is the fundamental ground rule that a very hard working committee understood when first entering into the process. Mr. Swig thanked the Grant Selection Committee on behalf of Commissioner Breed and himself, and thanked staff who participated, they kept the Committee focused and on track, provided the support and facilitated their needs when they were trying to get extra information to make good decisions about who should be awarded the grants; he also thanked Urban Solutions for their support. Mr. Swig stated that the Grant Selection Committee was very rigorous in the way they went about selecting the beneficiaries of the grants, and expressed how enriching it was that two of the grant recipients are starting from the grass roots; enriching and entertaining young people who want to make a business for themselves, and stated that was the core value of why the grant program was started. Mr. Swig stated that there is a second round, no applicant thus far has been dismissed

from receiving a grant, all of the remaining applications which were not awarded any funds in the first cycle are being carried over into the second round, if in the second round there are better recipients that are from the first round, those first round recipients will not be precluded from reconsideration of their grant proposals. Mr. Swig echoed Commissioner Covington's identification of the one flaw and stated that it was very clear when they ended their Committee meeting that results were very confidential and would be released in a very direct fashion with a proper protocol being followed. Mr. Swig stated that someone wanted to be a big guy and leak the names and hopes that they recognize the harm that they did to an otherwise very well executed process. Mr. Swig stated that he hopes the protocol is followed next time because it created unnecessary challenges in what he believes was a flawless exercise. He looks forward to round two and asked the Community who are interested to attend the public orientation dates which are scheduled for March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>, and participate in the workshops and go forward.

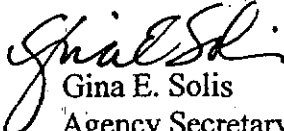
- President Romero thanked both Commissioners Swig and Breed for doing all the extra work and effort which was very time consuming, spoke for all Commissioners in how much they appreciated their hard work.
- Commissioner Breed added that it was a very time consuming process and could not express how much she appreciated the members of the Grant Committee who took so much time out of their schedules, believes she was comfortable with the diverse group of people that represented the Community on the Committee. She also added that they did not always agree on a lot of different issues but all were very passionate about their support for the Western Addition though no one walked away completely satisfied with all of the selections but were satisfied with the process by which they made the selections. Ms. Breed stated that she was very excited about the well deserving recipients of the Grants, there were many great applications from the community and disappointed that she could not support everyone that was on the list. She stated that they did not base their decisions on how well a grant application was written, but on many factors that came into play since ultimately what they wanted was to make sure that the Jazz District receives the support it needs and people who represent what the district signifies based on the significant amount of community input over the years. Ms. Breed stated that she too was disappointed about receiving phone calls prior to making it public and hopes in moving forward that they can come together as a committee and not make the same mistake.
- Commissioner Covington stated that when she was President she asked Commissioner Breed and Commissioner Swig to serve knowing that it would be an argues task to give each proposal due consideration, and to attend the meetings and orientation sessions so they would know what the potential grantees have heard. Ms. Covington expressed her appreciation for their efforts on behalf of the Commission, the Western Addition, and the City.

10. **CLOSED SESSION:** None.

11. **ADJOURNMENT:**

It was moved by Commissioner Singh, seconded by Commissioner King, and unanimously carried that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Ramon E. Romero, Sr., at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Gina E. Solis  
Agency Secretary

**ADOPTED:**