April 2019 Meeting Minutes

Board Members: Alexander Mullaney, Howard Chung, Miles Escobedo, Shirley Lima, Walee Gon, Lucia Fuentes Zarate, Maggie Smith (for Janene Summerland)

OAA Staff: Dan Weaver, Neil Ballard

Others present: Mohammed Nuru, Larry Stringer, Kimberly Kiefer, Julia Allman, Kate Favetti, Maurice Rivers, Mary Harris, Al Harris

Meeting began at 6:35 p.m.

**SF Public Works Presentation, Mohammed Nuru**

Mohammed Nuru, director of SF Public Works, spoke about SFPW’s efforts to care for street trees in San Francisco. SFPW is working toward an annual maintenance schedule for tree pruning, and is working to repair sidewalk damage caused by tree roots.

Nuru also spoke SFPW’s approach to homeless-related service calls. Mullaney asked about providing the CCSF parking lot for students to sleep in. Nuru said that centralized places of refuge are a good idea, and that those places need to have basic services available such as restrooms and showers.

Weaver asked whether the city’s urban canopy is diminishing. Nuru said San Francisco’s urban canopy is increasing, not diminishing, and that the Urban Forestry Council plans to plant 60,000 trees in five years. San Francisco’s tree canopy is low compared to other cities. Currently, San Francisco adds three to five thousand trees every year.

Mullaney asked where there have been discussions between SFPW and SFMTA to remove the pedestrian bridge. Nuru said that an Environmental Impact Report has to be done to remove the bridge, and that removal of the bridge would have to be a community-led effort.

Mary Harris said that she has a neighbor whose tree is a nuisance. Nuru said that there are tree education programs offered by SFPW.

**CleanPowerSF Presentation**

Allman presented an overview of CleanPowerSF, which provides renewable energy electricity service to San Francisco. CleanPowerSF is an auto-enroll program, and enrollees can opt out at their discretion. CleanPowerSF rates are at or below PG&E rates, and is launching widely across the city in April 2019.

Allman said that there are two options—one standard and one premium, costing roughly four dollars more per month—so that customers can select their desired mix of renewable energy in their power supply.

Escobedo asked whether large corporate customers can be charged a higher rate for the CleanPowerSF program. Allman said that corporate customers would not be charged at a higher rate, and that Escobedo could present that feedback at PUC hearings.
Rivers asked whether existing PG&E usage programs and website interface would continue to be used. Allman confirmed that they would.

Meeting called to order at 6:38 p.m. after Gon arrived.

**Minutes Review**
Escobedo moved to approve the minutes, Lima seconded. No public comment, motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Report**
Weaver said that OAA is on track to spend its budget in accordance with its goals.

Escobedo asked about the OAA’s 501(c)(3) application. Weaver said that the attorneys are requesting more information from OAA staff before a determination request can be made.

**Expansion and Renewal of Community Benefit District**
Weaver proposed a public meeting of assessment payers to be held in September. At that meeting, OAA staff would present an outline of the expansion and renewal proposal for the CBD. Mullaney said that the board should get a written strategic proposal for expansion and renewal containing expenses, timeline and resources.

Mary Harris asked whether the burden of the expense for renewal and expansion will be on the CBD, or whether OEWD will be able to provide support, and whether residential properties on Ocean near Junipero Serra will be included. Weaver said that the city will help pay for the expansion, and the proposed expansion area is still being determined through talks with Supervisor Yee’s office.

Mullaney asked when the board can expect to receive a plan for expansion and renewal. Weaver said that the timing depends on the city. Escobedo asked for an update next month as an agenda item, followed by a presentation from Chris Corgas the following month.

**Executive Director’s Report**
Weaver presented his Executive Director’s report, which can be found on the OAA’s website under About>Documents.

Lima asked whether the dead plants on the northeast corner of Miramar and Ocean will be replaced by OAA or by the building ownership at 1400 Ocean. Weaver said that the irrigation system needs to be repaired by the building owners. Mullaney said that OAA should contact the homeowners association to inquire about the watering system.

**Balboa Reservoir Community Advisory Committee Report**
Chung reported that the Environmental Impact Report will come by the fall.

**Business Committee Report**
Mullaney reported that the vacancy rate has been going down over the last few months. Randy’s Place was awarded Legacy Business status in March, and Ocean Cyclery is in the pipeline.
Mullaney provided an overview of the Ocean Avenue Business Survey. Respondents continued to express a preference for full service restaurants, and expressed a pronounced interest in having a bookstore.

**Street Life Committee Report**
Escobedo reported that the Street Life Committee discussed the Ocean Avenue Safety Project and decided to write a letter to Ed Reiskin about the Safety Project.

The Street Life Committee also discussed the OAA’s public art projects.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.