
**SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, February 28, 2022
4:30 P.M.

SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSIONERS

Sharky Laguana, President
Miriam Zouzounis, Vice-President;
Lawanda Dickerson; Cynthia Huie; William Ortiz-Cartagena

1. **Call to order and roll call**

Meeting called to order at 4:30pm.
Present: Laguana, Zouzounis, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena
Excused: Dickerson

Commission President requested to hear items 4,5,6 while waiting for presenters on item 1 to join.

2. **SF Compassionate Alternative Response Team Presentation (Discussion Item)**

Christin Evans, Booksmith and Vinny Eng, Safer Together
Presenters gave an overview of SF CART as a community approach to assist unhoused community members in need through warm handoffs to service providers and resources.

Commissioner comments: Zouzounis asked how would public education to businesses work? Do they have contacts for who to call in various situations? Vinny explained that this is part of a larger conversation about reimaging what police services look like. Commissioner Huie agreed on the model of compassionate care and response but wondered how this differed from SCRT. President Laguana wondered how many of the calls that Dept. of Emergency Management received triggered crisis response. They receive 1.2 million total, 65k regarding crisis. Christin mentioned a previous program "Taking it to the streets" which provided a direct line for merchants to get quick street response. She noted that when police are called for 5150 mental health crises, they do not provide resources or assistance. This proposal would be for a citywide program, ideally 24/7 but there is conversation about starting with a pilot in the western part of the city. President Laguana cautioned at going citywide without first trying a smaller pilot. He was wondering what this program looked like if it was just in one neighborhood? Christin provided estimated staffing needs. Vinny noted that the program this is modeled after, CAHOOTS in Oregon, has a direct hotline to call – not 911.

No members of the public requested to speak.

3. **Amendment to Commission Rules of Order (Discussion and Action Item)**

Commission Secretary explained that this amends the Call to Order and Roll Call to include an acknowledgement of the Ramaytush Ohlone Community (Article III, Meetings, Section 11. Regular Meetings).

No members of the public requested to speak.

President Laguana motioned to approve.

2nd: Zouzounis

Aye: Laguana, Zouzounis, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena

Motion passes.

4. **Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes (Action Item)**

No members of the public requested to speak.

President Laguana motioned to approve.

2nd: Huie

Aye: Laguana, Zouzounis, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena

Motion passes.

5. **General Public Comment (Discussion Item)**

No members of the public requested to speak.

6. **Director's Report (Discussion Item)**

Director Tang provided legislative updates on Family Friendly Workplace Ordinance, and program updates regarding the rent relief grant program. Also noted new Commissioner – Tiffany Walker Carter – was recently appointed.

Vice President Zouzounis noted there was significant confusion around mask mandates/guidance.

No members of the public requested to speak.

7. **Commissioner Discussion and New Business (Discussion Item)**

No members of the public requested to speak. No commissioners had updates.

8. **Adjournment (Action Item)**

President Laguana motioned to adjourn the meeting in honor of the people of Ukraine.

2nd: Ortiz-Cartagena

Aye: Laguana, Zouzounis, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena

Motion passes. Meeting is adjourned at 6:02pm.