

JAPANTOWN PEACE PLAZA COMMITTEE
MINUTES
VIA ZOOM

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

Committee Members Present: Jon Osaki, Richard Hashimoto, Sandy Mori, Alice Kawahatsu,

Others Present: David Ishida, Michael DeGregorio, Mas Inoue, Doug Nelson, George Yamasaki, Kenzo Tokunaga, Adrienne Woo, Glynis Nakahara, Rosalyn Tonai

Staff Present: Steve Nakajo, Brandon Quan

The meeting was called to order at 5:04p.m.

I. Introductions

- There were some new people who attended this meeting that haven't before so we started by going around and giving brief introductions.

II. Update on Design Process

- In the next 2-3 weeks Michael will be leaving Rec & Park due to accepting a new position elsewhere.
- Marien Coss will take over the project after Michael. She has worked on a lot of complex parks projects within the department. She worked on Margaret Hayward Playground that is near Japantown.
- The goal is to not make things complicated and help the design team. We could discuss things internally first then give the design team the feedback together. This way they are not overwhelmed with many different voices and the ideas are thought out already.
- The (RHAA) contract has been signed by DPW, it just has to be processed.

III. Review and Discussion on Japantown Foundations Funds

- The first group to come forward and lend support was the Japantown Foundation. They provided initial funding so Bob Hamaguchi and JTF could spend time on this.
- They have provided grants to the JTF when this idea was in its infant stages.
- This grant funding and Proposition A was a huge victory for Japantown so we should think about how we can share this story with the community.
- The total amount from the Japantown Foundation grant (\$15,000) and remaining funds from JTF consultant/advisor (\$24,000) is \$39,000.
- One idea is to hire someone to be the single point person to be a liaison with city departments and RHAA to update the committee.
- Another idea is to use the funds to supplement the fees or help with the cost for RHAA.
- Using the funds to document the process. There is a lot of value in showing/sharing with the community about the history of this project.

IV. Other Business

A. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

- Adrienne Woo asked if any of the Prop A funds would include a structural analysis on the Pagoda. Michael responded that there will be some funds allocated for this study.

B. NEXT MEETING

- Next Peace Plaza committee meeting will be held on February 23, 2021 via zoom.

ADJOURN: 6:00PM