

Minutes of the Meeting
Board of Directors
San Jose Downtown Association

September 11, 2020

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the San Jose Downtown Association, a non-profit California organization, was held via teleconference (Zoom Webinar) and broadcasted to the public via Facebook Live.

The following directors were present at the meeting: Bates, Bartl, Burroughs, Calais, Cirone, Corbett, Jenkins, Lambert, Mahood, McClain, Marques, Nguyen, Nichols, Perez, Serpa, Summers, Truong, Vuckovich and Wong.

The following directors were absent from the meeting: De Bernardo, Gilbert, Goddard, Lituchy, Matsushima, Neale, Pulcrano, Ramirez, Randall, Rewkiewicz and Tabatabaie.

Also present were over 80 members of the public via Zoom and others viewing via FacebookLive; SJDA guests Lan Diep, David Cohen, Devora "Dev" Davis and Jake Tonkel; and SJDA staff Julie Carlson, Archana Dalglish, Corinna Dixon, Rick Jensen, Scott Knies, Marie Millares, Chloe Shipp, Jessica Vuong, Autumn Young and Dennis Yu.

McClain called the Zoom and Facebook Live meeting to order at 830 a.m.

McClain welcomed attendees and recognized today as the 19th anniversary of the 2001 "9/11" World Trade Center tragedy and encouraged others to take a moment to reflect upon the past and present struggles.

McClain reminded attendees that SJDA will host its Annual Membership Meeting on Friday, October 9.

City Council Candidate Forum

District 4 : Lan Diep and David Cohen

District 6 : Devora "Dev" Davis and Jake Tonkel

McClain provided introductions of each candidate and served as moderator. Candidates each provided one-minute answers to 10 questions pertaining to City Council service and issues of interest to downtown and the city. Candidates each provided one-minute ending statements.

1. How has San Jose done the past six months responding to the COVID crisis and how are conditions in your district?
2. What is your position on defunding/reforming/reimagining the San Jose Police Department?
3. How do you support the creation of affordable housing in your district when many of your residents oppose it?
4. Homelessness is increasing in San Jose. How would you work with the County to ensure that our most vulnerable unsheltered population receive mental and behavioral health services?

5. Do you support the so-called "split role" property tax initiative, Proposition 15? Why or why not?
6. Small business, the backbone of the City's tax base, has been decimated by the pandemic. What initiatives would you support for the recovery of San Jose's small business community?
7. The San Jose City Council has experienced many close votes the past year. Some call this the "business vs. labor union" divide; others describe it "moderate vs. progressive." Where do you see yourself in this trend and how it shapes policy for the city?
8. The city's development agreement with Google for Downtown West will be voted on in Spring 2021. What is your position on the project and what it means for the future of the city?
9. San Jose is establishing a Racial Equity Office. What is your equity focus and where does the city need to most improve?
10. Three-part question: When was the last time you were downtown? How did you feel during that last visit? If you dined when you were downtown, where did you go?

President McClain adjourned the meeting at 9:43 a.m.