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Notes from Chatsworth BID In-Person Meeting

5/15/2024

Note: I was unexpectedly delayed in joining the meeting so notes will be missing some early stuff.

Current Board Executive are: Nick Mantano, Todd Drootin, Martina Turner, Laura Lichter and Ingrid Castro

Attendees: Martina Turner, Nick Mantano, Ingrid Castro, Erik Pampalone, Todd Drootin, Laura Lichter, Kathleen Misko, , Lynne Seta , Malila Davalos, Phil

Guest Speaker: David Bright from Mayor Bass's office & Kathy Lettieri

Lynne's Notes:

- Nick brought up the seemingly lack of concern by the City for the Valley in general and poor treatment by City Inspectors. He expressed the lack of cooperation from CD12. Also trying to work with the City to make bank changes has caused unnecessary work and angst for BID members
- Nick discussed the lack of payment by BID members causing shortage of money for the BID projects. David Bight said he could look into the nonpayment and hopefully contact government and large merchants
- A good deal of discussion over the speeding issues on Devonshire and wishes for signal or pedestrian signal. Guest related that unfortunately without lots of evidence of this need it is hard to get anything like this. He suggested pushing for a pedestrian crossing light which he felt would have a better chance. Local drivers were cooperative and demonstrated the speeding issue for the Guest to hear/see. Guest Kathy Lettiere from the State Senator's Office said slowing down traffic on Devonshire will be difficult without changing its alternate route for the 118 to some other east-west commercial based street/blvd
- David Bright affirmed help with art murals can be obtained through City and County and there are art mural grants available
- A suggestion that Mayor Bass attend one of the First Fridays or invited to holiday parade. David Bright said he would walk in invites into her.
- Told David Bright about the next door neighbor living in his commercial unit. It is a code violation.
- Brought up converting BID to Arts District designation. He said to approach CD12 Planning
- Guests said CD12 can be asked for police presence during First Fridays. Person to contact is Ben Pack at CD12

After guests left the meeting:

- Martina covered the amount of money the BID has in the bank, the amount of debt. Martina has been working with Yurida to get all paperwork up to date. Yurida has made it clear that

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the BID cannot continue to wrack up debt. Currently the BID only has enough money to make a partial payment to the security company

- Question was raised as to whether the security company should be dismissed due to cost and lack of funds
- Laura suggested a group discussion chat room for monitoring what is going on in the BID neighborhood
- Featured business for the next newsletter will be EMS Hair
- Need for a Welcome Package for new tenants of the BID
- Shall another attempt be made for a Scarecrow Contest this Fall?
- Lots of returned newsletters. Discussion led to the labels being too small for the Post Office. This needs to be corrected and the font needs to be bigger
- Nick brought up that there are 19 planters and how shall they be repurposed to beautify the area. He is attending a Chatsworth Neighborhood Council meeting and will bring up the need to have them repaired. Phil said re-paint, grants were suggested again for funds to pay for this
  - This brought up the issue of needing to keep track of volunteer hours to help in the grant application process
- Meeting adjourned-Next BID meeting June 19th