



Oakland Chinatown Improvement Council
Interim Board of Directors Meeting # 8
Thursday, January 27th, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.
388 9th St, #290, Oakland Asian Culture Center
(Conducted in present and via Zoom video webinar)

Present: Kim Carim, Stewart Chen, Ener Chiu, Carl Chan, Rick Da Silva, Kam Davies, Karen Dea, Weng Kee Fu, Kin Gee, Hal G gin, Anderson Gin, Esther Hsu, Josephine Hui, Corinne Jan, Stephen Lam, Victor Kuang, Suzie Lee, Jennifer Li, Sky Liang, Carol Liao, Ning Liu, Mike Lok, Joe Ma, Michael Moon, Elaine Peng, Raymond Tan, Kenneth Tang, Tony Trinh, Chiaki Ueyama, Albert Wong, Jimmy Zhao (Quorum met)

Absence: Peter Yee, Howard Lee, Douglas Wong, Ann Fok

Staff member, Marco Li Mandri, New City America

MINUTES:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
Introductions	The meeting was called together at 6:40 p.m. by President Stewart Chen. Secretary Ken Tang called for a verbal roll call from the Board members present both within the room and on the zoom video. A quorum was met. The new quorum for the OCIC is 50 per cent of 35 members based upon the removal of various Board members due to their lack of participation in Board meetings or Committee meetings.	<i>No action taken</i>
Minutes of the January 6th, 2022, Board of Directors Meeting	The minutes of the January 6th, 2022, Interim Board meeting were reviewed. Josephine requested that Kin Gee should have been marked as an excused absence because he previously had informed Josephine regarding his attendance.	<i>Jennifer Li moved, and Kenneth Tang seconded approval of the amended minutes as presented, the motion was approved unanimously with one abstention by Carl Chan</i>

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MINUTES:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
Introductions	The meeting was called together at 6:40 p.m. by President Stewart Chen. Secretary Ken Tang called for a verbal roll call from the Board members present both within the room and on the zoom video. A quorum was met. The new quorum for the OCIC is 50 per cent of 37 members based upon the removal of various Board members due to their lack of participation in Board meetings or Committee meetings.	<i>No action taken</i>
Minutes of the January 6th, 2022, Board of Directors Meeting	The minutes of the January 6th, 2022, Interim Board meeting were reviewed. Josephine requested that Kin Gee should have been marked as an excused absence because he previously had informed Josephine regarding his attendance.	<i>Jennifer Li moved, and Kenneth Tang seconded approval of the amended minutes as presented, the motion was approved unanimously with one abstention by Carl Chan</i>
Public Comment	Taylor Chow raised questions to Marco Li Mandri regarding who gave the power to the	<i>No action taken</i>

	interim board and How current interim board connect to CBD base in Chinatown. Marco responded that the background can be found in the Board minutes from September 2021. Frances Lam inquired there are vacancy in the interim board, will there be a process for interested parties to join or apply to the interim board? What's the process to join the permanent board and where could he find the information. Stewart responded that currently the Board membership is frozen due to a decision of the Interim Board. However that process will be open again once the first nominations process is implemented, probably sometime this summer. Ed Collaco asked Is OCIC registered in the state of California as a 501c6 or 501c3 non-profit. Are the bylaws of OCIC submitted to the state, he also requested to see a copy of the document. Marco responded that the copy of the incorporation was submitted to the Board and that the OCIC is preparing to operate as a 501c3. Carl Chan questioned the legitimacy of the interim board member and shared his reasons. Clarence Yee shared he has never received a ballot for the approval of CBD and questioned who was in the charge of the voting. He would like a clear understanding of how the assessments are allocated. Marco stated that the City conducted by balloting process and that the allocation of funds is listed in the Management District plan, which was approved by the property owners within the district. Discussion followed.	
Presidents report	President Chen shared that OCIC has officially received the signed and approved city contract, hopefully with this status, it will clear up the illegibility claim. The City Attorney and Economic Development Dept. did not respond to Mr. Cheng's request to withhold funds and the funds would be transferred by Feb 4th. Stewart stated that the	<i>No action taken</i>

	OCIC would then be in a position to hire staff and service providers. President Chen shared his appreciation to those who were involved in the early stage of forming a CBD for Chinatown. President Chen shared that the official document of the city contract will be shared to the public to review. Lastly, President Chen continues his appreciation to CP Bas's office, city staff, OPD, steering committee, and to everyone who sacrifice their time. Discussion followed.	
Committee reports: a. Civil Sidewalks b. District Identity and Placemaking	a. Ener, the Civil Sidewalks Chair, reported that the RFP has been finalized and should go out soon. The total amount allocated in the RFP is \$800k which includes a security component, walking patrols and cleaning services. The Committee continues to meet to fine tune the expectations of the OCIC in the implementation of the services. Ener gave an update since January 1st, the Committee has produced a draft ambassador and security budget. It has been reviewed by the Executive committee but haven't finalized yet with the civil sidewalk committee. The Committee did meet on Jan. 14 and scheduled a follow-up meeting on Jan. 25th, but it was postponed. In Jan. 14, the note of the meeting was translated into Vietnamese and Chinese. The Committee learned about the ambassadors on how to deal with public safety. The 3 patrol groups (Orange Vest, Compassionate Oakland, and Blue Angels) shared remarks at the Jan. 14 meeting. Discussion followed. b. Hal Gin, the Committee Chair, reported that the Logo RFP has been responded to and passed out copies and posted on the video, the three final logos recommended by the Committee. OCIC hosted the logo contest and we received 7 submissions, the Committee narrowed down to 3 for the members of the	<i>a. No action taken</i> <i>b. The roll call vote determined that option Logo A would be the selected logo for the OCIC.</i>

c. Bylaws Task Force – Jennifer Li	Board to vote on. The Board casted their vote by roll call voting their favorite among Logo A, logo B, and logo C. Elaine raised the question if OCIC can give out awards to contestants who participated in the logo contest. Three distinct logos were presented and voted upon by the Interim Board members present. The Board members were presented with Option A, Option B and Option C. The vote for the three options were as follows: Option A: 18 in support Option B: 2 in support Option C: 6 in support The clear winner was option A. The logo will be incorporated in all of the material, letterhead and products produced by the OCIC. Hal was thanked for facilitating the RFP for the logo. c. The Bylaws Task Force, authorized at the November 18th Interim Board meeting has authorized the creation of this Task Force, which is not subject to the Brown Act and would be chaired by Jennifer Li. Jennifer gave an update two meetings held for review of Articles 1 – 4. She said once the Task Force has completed its work, it will submit its recommendations to the Executive Committee and then to the Board for review and consideration. Discussion followed	<i>c. No action taken</i>
City Auditor Present	The Oakland City Auditor Courtney Ruby addressed the inappropriateness of having agenda item C.1 Pending response to Isaac Cheng's letter to the board into closed session. President Cheng adopted City Auditor Courtney Ruby's suggestion to pull out agenda item C.1 to open session. No objections were raised by the board. Agenda item C.1 moved to open session Albert Wong raised the concern about the qualification of the interim board members. President Chen addressed the conditions to be qualified as an interim board member.	

	President Chen addressed Isaac Cheng's letter on Brown's Act. OCIC has notified the public regarding the December OCIC meeting within the 72 hours of notice. A letter of response from OCIC's lawyer will be sent out to the city council and Courtney Ruby once it has been completed. Marco added the reason OCIC has retained an attorney was because Mr. Isaac Cheng had made a series of allegations. Mr. Cheng also requested that the City hold up all funds to the OCIC. Marco stated that this request was rejected by both the City Attorney's office as well as the Economic Development Dept. A response will be made to the letter by Mr. Cheng by the OCIC's attorney and will be available early next week for the board to see. Courtney Ruby will provide a further request to OCIC	
CLOSED SESSION TO INTERVIEW CANDIDATES FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS POSITION	Three candidates submitted responses to the RFP for Administration. Under the Brown Act, Boards are allowed to conduct business within a Closed session if it has to do with Personnel issues, which this issue clearly falls under. Each candidate gave a presentation on why they believed they would be the best candidate for the position. The Board deliberated and made a recommendation after a roll call vote of the members. This will be reported when the Board leaves closed session.	Action taken to select Jennifer Li as the Executive Director based upon the roll call vote of the Interim Board members present. The terms and conditions of employment must be worked out by the Executive Committee which will report back to the Board at the next meeting.
Board meeting re-opened after the action taken on the recommended	President Chen informed the public that Jennifer Li was the candidate selected by the Interim Board however the conditions of employment must still be worked out by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will make the recommendation to the Board at the next meeting after speaking with Ms. Li.	

Executive Director.		
Next Meeting	The next meeting of the Interim Board will take place on Thursday evening, February 17 th , 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at a location to be determined.	<i>The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. sharp</i>

Minutes taken by Ken Tang, Secretary and Marco Li Mandri, New City America