



BEVERLY HILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

9400 Santa Monica Blvd.
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
2nd Floor Board Room

Beverly Hills City Council Liaison/Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee

SPECIAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Thursday, November 29, 2018
8:30 AM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date / Time: November 29, 2018 / 8:36 AM

IN ATTENDANCE:

Julian Gold, Mayor; Lili Bosse, Councilmember, Mahdi Aluzri, City Manager; Laura Biery, Marketing and Economic Sustainability Manager, Todd Johnson, President and CEO; Blair Schlechter, Vice President of Economic Development and Government Affairs; Alexandria Anderson, Director of Marketing and Events

Task Force Members:

Jeff Tilem, Pioneer Hardware; Susan Andriacchi, Massage Envy Beverly Hills; Shawn Saeedian, Beverly Hills Market and Deli; James Anderton, West; Sabba Kamal, Kamal Beverly Hills; Chris Bonbright, Gratitude; Jay Nehouray, Caravan Rug; Jodie Robinson, Anne Michelle; Shahe & Lena Basmajian, Robert Burns Wine; Douglas Newton, Bedford & Burns Restaurant

1. Public Comment

Members of the public will be given the opportunity to directly address the Committee on any item listed on the agenda.

Speakers: None

2. Welcome and Introductions

Each attendee introduced themselves.

3. History of the Task Force

T. Johnson discussed the history and formation of the Task Force and the reason for reconstituting the Task Force.

4. Purpose of the Task Force

The purpose of the Task Force is to attract and retain small businesses in Beverly Hills and to continue to ensure that Beverly Hills provides a favorable business climate for small business.

5. Format/Frequency of Meetings

The plan is for the Task Force to meet approximately once a month at the Chamber of Commerce. The Task Force members were agreeable to schedule the next meeting for Thursday, December 13 at 8:30am.

6. Open Discussion of Small Business Issues and Potential Resources to Utilize

The Task Force engaged in an open discussion of important small business issues. Areas to address include: concerns over foot traffic, adequate parking for patrons, the rise in storefront vacancies, planning for the LA Metro subway, and several other individual concerns by particular business owners.

The Task Force agreed that hearing from landlords and commercial brokers regarding the state of the market and their concerns would be helpful at a future meeting.

7. Potential Areas of Focus

The Task Force touched on the need to narrow down potential areas of focus and make sure the group gets results. Two areas of particular interest are increasing foot traffic and addressing the increasing number of vacancies.

ADJOURNMENT

Date /Time:

November 29, 2018 / 9:40 AM