

DOWNTOWN MANAGEMENT CORPORATION OF SANTA CRUZ
A CALIFORNIA NON-PROFIT BENEFIT CORPORATION
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 19, 2023
Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Scott Newsome, Bonnie Lipscomb, Renee Culver, Ian McRae, Chris Murphy, Shebreh Kalantari-Johnson, Kris Reyes

Members Absent: Ryan Coonerty

Others Present: Rebecca Unitt, Carter Jones, Aasha Abbott, Sonja Brunner, Jorian Wilkins

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Bonnie Lipscomb at 8:31am.

1. **Additions to the Agenda:** None.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes approved unanimously with a motion by McRae and second by Kalantari-Johnson.
3. **Downtown Outreach Worker:** Aasha Abbott reported. New hire is in progress to expand from two-person team to three. They are still able to achieve their outreach goals even with the staff vacancy. They have struggled to be able to offer shelter to people sleeping downtown due to lack of shelter space and homeward bound tickets have been under utilized due to lack of interest from individuals offered the service.
4. **SC Police Report:** Lt. Jones reported that the Benchlands encampment has been closed for over two and a half months now. They have seen a lot of activity in the parking garages downtown and the CVS and Trader Joes parking lot. PD will be working with Public Works, DOW, and homeless response case workers to offer services and move people out of the parking garages. PD has also been monitoring the vacant buildings on Front Street to deter issues there. They have new hires for CSOs who are completing onboarding and will be dedicated to patrolling downtown.
5. **Downtown Ambassador Program:** Sonja Brunner reported the holiday season was good but not as good as last year. They had a lot of Downtown Dollars sales with more sales this year than the prior year. The visitor flow over the year was up 22% compared to 2021.
6. **Financial Report:** Rebecca Unitt reported the second round of assessment bills went out. The budget is on track and operating as normal at this time.
7. **Meeting Adjourned:** 9:30 am

Dated: 1/19/23

Rebecca Unitt, DMC Staff