

# DVP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

January 26, 2023, 8:30am in the Board conference room  
on the first floor at Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach Hotel

**Call to Order.** President David Armstrong called the meeting to order at 8:36am.

DVP Directors present: Armstrong, Yvonne Besvold, Hutton Becker, Eddie Melendez, Whitney Riles, Emily DeArkland, City Councilman Doug Halter. Others: E.D. Kevin Clerici, Police Cmdr. Matt Cain, Sgt. Mike Anselmo, Crpl. Art Gonzales, City E.D. Cary Glenn.

**Approval of December Minutes.** Motion made by Emily DeArkland, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mark Hartley. Passed unanimously. Newly appointed member Halter abstained as January was his first meeting.

**Approval of December Financials.** Motion made by Hutton Becker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Debbie Fox. Passed unanimously. Highlights of 2022 Budget includes record revenues of \$1.85 million, with \$888,000 in non-PBID contract funds and contributions, and a year-end surplus of \$43,000. Solid staff retention. Enter 2023 with providing pay raises to all staff, enhanced services in expansion areas, budgeted funds for continued advocacy and partnerships.

**Formation of Board Election Nominating Committee.** Volunteers included Hutton Becker, Debbie Fox and Emily DeArkland. Committee will review all candidates and return with 2023 Election slate at February meeting.

**Direction on Block By Block contract.** Board directed ED to continue research and to develop cost and responsibilities analysis on possible shift to having DVP employ all workers. Motion by Mark Hartley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Debbie Fox. Passed unanimously.

**Board Retreat.** Board supported scheduling a retreat in April, after the March election is completed. ED will send out summary of past Board subcommittees for review and feedback before a retreat date is set.

**Police Update:** Cmdr. Cain introduced PTF Sgt. Anselmo and Crpl Gonzales. 2 additional officers still slated to be added to PTF later this year (once Patrol is fully staffed). Crime stats over past 28 days should relatively few incidents. No stolen vehicles, some stolen e-bikes. Cain said newly elected Sheriff Fryhoff has met with Chief Schindler and expressed willingness to help better return individuals brought to Ventura's main jail back to the city of arrest.

**City Update:** Cary Glenn shared updates, including changes to Council ED Subcommittee, which has new members. City is under contract with firm to produce a new ED Strategy. That work is getting started, and City/firm will engage with stakeholders citywide.

**MSM Update:** City is under contact with RRM Design for the design guidelines, including "fortified" parklets. City also under contact with Rincon Consultant to conduct CEQA analysis. City consultant Jim Cogan, who is helping to oversee MSM and these contracts, will be at February Board meeting to present more details.

**E.D. Updates.** ED provided printed copies of report. DVP to continue advocacy on General Plan Update, Downtown Specific Plan & Local Coastal Program and will continue to look for ways to communicate with City staff to present and discuss the affirmed position. 1 of 2 new Clean & Safe Ambassador positions has been filled. The 2<sup>nd</sup> position is awaiting outcome of whether a current employee out on medical leave can return to work in February. These positions are for enhanced services along West end of district and Front Street areas. Staff continues work with restaurant owners to improve and upgrade their patio spaces and provide updated insurance. Staff continues efforts with Public Works staff and Dixon consultants on parking garage project at Palm & Santa Clara. Next steps include completing financial analysis and demand study. City looking at adding meters in 700 block of Main Street. DVP staff in Jan going door-to-door to engage retail owners on current concerns, MSM, solicit input on priorities.

**Public comments.** None.

Meeting adjourned at 10:22am.

Minutes prepared by Kevin Clerici