City and County of San Francisco

Edwin M. Lee, Mayor

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4645

Mohammed Nuru, Chair
John Bitoff, Vice Chair

Graffiti Advisory Board

Minutes for February 10, 2011
30 Van Ness Avenue, 5th Floor
San Francisco, California

1. **Call to Order**: Vice-Chair John Bitoff called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

PRESENT	ABSENT
DPW - Mohammed Nuru	Seat 4 - Rene Ly
MAYOR - Paula Mulhall	Seat 6 - vacant
SFDA - David Burke	Seat 8 - Justin Fichelson
SFMTA - Robert Lim	Seat 9 - vacant
SFMTA - Daryl Robinson	
RecPark - Joe Padilla	
SFUSD - John Bitoff	
SFPD - Vacant	
Seat 1 - Kevin McInnis	
Seat 2 - Leonid Nakhodkin	
Seat 3 - Nafiseh Lindberg	
Seat 5 - Doug Diboll	
Seat 7 - Dan Liberthson	
Seat 10 - Joe Talmadge	
Seat 11 - Grace D'Anca	
Seat 12 - Nino Parker	
Seat 13 - David Crommie	
Seat 14 - Debbie Shea	
Seat 15 - Paul Giusti	
Seat 16 - Rebecca Delgado Rottman	
Seat 17 - Jana Lord	

- **Others present:** Alex Popovics, Got Graffiti?; Kenny Bruce, DPW; Tim Hines, DPW; Sandra Zuniga, Randy Andrade, Seicoat; Robert Finnell, resident;

2. **Welcome and Introductions:** Vice Chair John Bitoff welcomed Board members and other attendees. Each member and guest introduced themselves. The Vice Chair announced that there was a quorum.

3. **Public Comment:**

- Jeff Kitrosser from UC Berkeley introduced himself to the Board and stated he would be evaluating the Where Art Lives program. Vice Chair Bitoff suggested Jeff get acquainted with all the Committee Chairs for more information on tasks of each sub group. He also suggested Geoff review the DVD we created.
- Nafiseh Lindberg passed on information of a private property owner whose business was removing graffiti on their own; she suggested we reach out to them for the Street SmArts Program.
- Public comment closed.

4. **Approval of the draft January 2011 Graffiti Advisory Board Minutes:** The minutes were accepted and approved with no corrections.

5. **Presentation(s):**
   a) **Special Commendation for Officer Christopher Putz**
   - On January 25th, Officer Christopher Putz was honored by Supervisor Carmen Chu for his work on the Graffiti Advisory Board (GAB). The Supervisor presented a commendation to Officer Putz and Vice Chair Bitoff made comments on behalf of the GAB.
   - Board members expressed they would like the SFPD's Graffiti Advisory Board position filled as soon as possible. Chair and Vice-Chair will follow up with the appropriate City personnel to ensure that vacancy gets filled.

   b) **Paula Mulhall NBC Video Segment**
   - Mayoral GAB Appointee Paula Mulhall was featured on NBC for her work to abate graffiti around San Francisco.
   - Board Members discussed reaching out to real estate professionals to raise awareness around graffiti by having them sign the pledge or abate graffiti.
   - Rebecca Delgado-Rottman added information about how the Academy of Art has worked with their student and resident population to eradicate graffiti, noting the University has a zero-tolerance policy.

   c) **Chair's Report:**
   - Chair reported 97 notices for Blight were posted in January 2011, which is 36 more than the number of Blight notices that were posted in January 2010.
   - Public property graffiti shows a decrease, 1,200 work orders were created in January 2011, and approximately 2,400 were created in January 2010.
   - We've posted 784 notices for private property graffiti in January 2010, which is 34% more than we posted for private property graffiti in January 2011.
   - There have been several reports of corporate sidewalk graffiti. DPW is working with the City Attorney and has demanded that companies remove the graffiti immediately, which they have. The SF Examiner ran an article about the incident which was presented to the Board.

- Spruce Up by Sun Up inspection results show there have been 7,843 notices written during the early morning inspections since September, 2,819 of them are graffiti related, or 36%. Spruce Up walks end on February 24th.
- Community Clean Team for District's 2 & 3 event is Saturday, February 12th 9am-12pm. Chair invited GAB members to attend. Two murals will be created that day. Two StreetSmARTs murals (one on Ping Yuen grounds, and one at 835 Pacific at Trenton).
- The next Free Wall event is at the next Sunday Streets in March 20th on Embarcadero from Fisherman's Wharf to Mission Bay. If anyone from the Board wants to volunteer to staff the Free Wall that day, contact Greg Crump.
- Our newest Street SmArts mural completed is at Monterey and Circular. Most of the 20-25 slots for murals have been filled. Several are in development. Four are completed already. Seventeen new artists have been selected and added to the portfolio of commissioned artists that private properties can choose from. (There are now about 30.)
- The Zero Graffiti Newsletter went out on February 2nd. Next newsletter is in April. Please submit articles and ideas to greg.crump@sfdpw.org. Deadline for submissions is April 1st.

Committee Reports:

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Education Committee:

- Nafiseh Lindberg stated she is the new Chair of the Education Sub-Committee. She stated Leonid Nakhodkin provided a proposal that GAB write a grant to research why people create graffiti. The Education Sub-Committee will review Leonid's proposal and report to the full Board soon.
- The Education Sub-Committee went through the Strategic plan and will work to:
  (a). Promote the Zero Graffiti Pledge and increase signature collection to 5,000 by June 2011. They will work in their own neighborhoods and districts first, then expand to the whole City.
  (b). They will be writing letters to judges and representatives to advocate for graffiti awareness and laws.

Abatement Committee:

- Joe Talmadge
  (a). As part of the Strategic Plan the Abatement Committee will work to support the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in drafting and passing legislation to prohibit trucks and motor vehicles that display graffiti from parking in residential neighborhoods, or by having the vehicle owners clean up the graffiti vandalism. David Crommie will work on this piece of the Strategic plan.
  (b). The Abatement Committee will also continue to cultivate connections with the artist community by supporting the DPW/San Francisco Arts Commission collaborations.

(c). Joe Talmadge also would like to advocate for the Graffiti Watch program that trains and offers supplies for residents who want to remove graffiti on public property. Joe recommends everyone on the Board participate in this program.

Law Enforcement Committee:

- Did not have new items to report at this time.

Old Business

- The District Attorney's office mentioned they do not have any more pending graffiti rewards. David Burke asked that we check Merle Goldstone's documentation and make sure everyone who applied for an award was issued one.

New Business

- No new business.

Adjournment: Chair Mohammed Nuru adjourned the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: The next Graffiti Advisory Board meeting is scheduled to be held on **Thursday, March 10, 2011** at 30 Van Ness Avenue, 5th Floor, DPW's Department of Engineering Main Conference Room.