

Sunnyvale Downtown Association

Minutes of the Monthly Board Meeting

March 12, 2025

Meeting held in person and via video.
192 S Murphy Ave Suite #201, Sunnyvale, CA 94086

1. Call to Order: Mike called to order a general meeting of the Sunnyvale Downtown Association on March 12, 2025 at 10:00 am. Leigh Odum took minutes.
2. Attendance:
 1. Maria Rodriguez, Gary Gold, Mike Johnson, Kristina Kawczynski, Amit Rajgarhia, Lily from Teazzi, Lt. Karin Jenks, Heather Stuart, Mayor Larry Klein, Leigh Odum, Tiffany Orsburn, Justin Breining, Mansi from Rumble
3. Amit made a motion to approve the February 12, 2025 SDA minutes. Gary seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.
4. Public Comment
 1. A vote was made by email to approve Molly McClendon's request to join the board. Leigh made a motion to approve Molly to the board. Justin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
 2. Leigh made a comment that the unhoused lady that screams has been following customers and making them feel very uncomfortable. Gary, Amit, Justin, Mike and Kristina all commented they have had similar incidents. There was an incident that occurred at Dr. Gary Gold and Associates that became aggressive and resulted in an arrest by Sunnyvale DPS.
 3. The city has been talking about hosting a 4th of July event in Redwood Square in downtown this year with possible carnival games in partnership with the SDA. The 4th of July drone show has been cancelled.
 4. Mike announce that this will be his last SDA Board meeting. Mike will be a liaison for the interim. There will be two directors. Kristina is working to continue the work of the SDA, maintaining the long-standing value the SDA brings to the city. Mike will still be available to assist.
 5. Kristina welcomed Molly McClendon to the board.
 6. Kristina announced that the SDA hosted 12 business students visiting from Japan. They were able to meet Mayor Klein, get a tour of the downtown area and learn about the work the SDA does. The students sent as a very nice email to thank us and are looking forward to making this a regular trip.
5. City Report with Mayor Klein (Linda Sell is in DC at the National League of Cities).
 1. The city is finalizing its priorities for the Strategic Session. They will be discussing the downtown and safe cities. It will be available to the public to watch.
 2. Peery Park Rides is running 7:00 am to 7:00 pm Mon-Fri. It's a free on-demand transit service for northwest Sunnyvale.
 3. The VTA strike is still happening.
 4. Waymo will be coming to Sunnyvale.
 5. July 4th. - The city is looking at alternatives to the drones. (See public comment)

6. Mike said thank you to Mayor Klein for the great introduction at the Chamber awards.
6. Safety update with Lt. Karin Jenks
 1. Karin reported that the unhoused lady started harassing one of Garry Gold's patients and tried to steal her dog. She was arrested for theft. Karin is looking into having an officer assigned to her. See public comment for more information.
 2. Mike asked about new laws regarding mentally unstable unhoused people. Larry said that the county care program is the agency that would deal with this but it is not set up yet.
 3. Lt. Jenks recommended businesses report to DPS when she is trespassing or doing something illegal. This will help process the crisis intervention. DPS needs everyone to be on this plan.
 4. Call 911 if there's any kind of threat, call the non-emergency number (408) 730-7180 for non-emergencies.
7. Old Business
 1. The SDA welcomed our newest Board member, Heather Stuart, from YogaSix!
 2. Naan N' Masala has officially opened! Visit them today at 161 S. Sunnyvale Ave., the former House of Kabobs next to Fibbar MaGee's. Garry added that we should make a point to welcome them to the neighborhood.
 3. The SDA is officially hosting the annual Halloween Pet Parade on October 26th, 2025! We have started transferring information, website access and partnerships from previous years to make this event a howlin' good time!
 4. We have replaced the Dining & Dancing series with a new line of events called "First Sunday Art Festival". These events will be held on the first Sunday of each month from May to October from 10 AM - 4 PM. The SDA is looking for vendors. Mike also wants to give downtown businesses special pricing and a chance to use this opportunity.
 5. O.M.G. Entertainment, in partnership with Cityline, hosted the Lantern Festival on February 15-16 on McKinley Avenue. Congratulations to an amazing event for that weekend, hosting about 20,000 visitors during the event!
 6. BigBang Artwork hosted the annual Lunar New Year festival at Plaza Del Sol on March 1st and 2nd. It was a great turnout for the downtown area for the weekend!
 7. Congratulations to Justin and his team at WholeFoods Market for winning the Large Business of the Year Award from the Celebrate Sunnyvale Awards, hosted by the Sunnyvale Chamber of Commerce! Well deserved and we appreciate everything WholeFoods has done for the community!
 8. Congratulations to Mike for winning the Murphy Award, equivalent to a lifetime achievement award, from the Celebrate Sunnyvale Awards! Mike has been with the SDA for 20 years and a Sunnyvale community member since 1978, congratulations on your achievements throughout the years!
8. New Business
 1. Save the date for our annual Taste of the World and Wine Stroll on Saturday, May 10th from 2:30pm-5:30pm! This annual event will host businesses throughout the downtown area, pairing wines with foods from select businesses. New this year, a VIP location in Redwood Square and Designated Driver tickets!

2. We are currently signing up businesses to participate in our annual Taste of the World and Wine Stroll! Please contact Kristina at kristina@sunnyvaledowntown.com for more information and the application. Saturday May 10th. We're adding a VIP location in redwood square with a photo booth and elevated food hosted by Kiki's. Tickets go live March 31. Kristina will have designated driver tickets for a lower priced ticket.
3. Fibbar MaGee's will be hosting their annual St. Patrick's Day event on Monday, March 17th. They will also be hosting specials and music throughout the weekend prior. Be sure to visit them beginning Saturday, March 15th! They will have dancers and festivities.
4. The SDA will be speaking at the City Council meeting on April 8th at 7pm to request the Resolution of Intent (ROI) for the renewal of the Business Improvement District (BID) for the fiscal year 2025/2026. Mike Johnson will be presenting.
5. Sip, Shop, Eat Festival will be held in Cityline's Redwood Square on Saturday, March 22nd. Find more information and how to get your tickets, visit citylinesunnyvale.com in conjunction with the Fast Lane car show.
6. Fast Lane Car Exhibition will be held on Taaffe Street, also on Saturday, March 22nd. This event will have a street closure from Washington and McKinley Avenues.
7. VINO VINO has changed their name to Blossom Cafe. Updates and more information to come soon!
8. April. 19 at Plaza Del Sol is the Harajuku Foodie Festival
9. This Friday 3/14 - Chamber webinar on digital accessibility for ADA compliance for businesses websites.
10. Mike commented that there is so much going on in downtown Sunnyvale. This is a testament to business in Sunnyvale. We continually are becoming a central location for events in the area. Mike said thank you to the board for helping to make this possible.
11. The new artwork called Redwood Bloom is up and lights up at night. We attended the unveiling of this artwork. The downtown arches are going up too.
12. Saturday, April 5, from 11- 2 is a family fun day at Redwood Square. It's a walking tour of the art in Sunnyvale. It is a free event.
13. Mike thanked everyone for all the help in making these event happen.
9. Meeting adjourned at 11:00.
10. Next meeting will be held on Wednesday April 9, 2025, 10:00 am.