

CVIA NEWS

COLE VALLEY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Volume XXXIV SERVING COLE VALLEY AND THE GREATER HAIGHT ASHBURY SUMMER 2020

Cannabis Store and Consumption Lounge on Stanyan?

My name is Matt Henri. My wife Marti and I have owned and operated the Free Gold Watch on Waller for ten years now. We actually live around the corner on Stanyan in the building between Kezar Pub and Avenue Cyclery. You've probably noticed that of all the ground-floor spaces on Stanyan, from Lavation down to the Stanyan Park Hotel, our building is the only one that does not have an active retail use. It used to be the garage for the two units above, and more recently we've used it as storage.



Matt Henri & Marti Brass

Marti and I want to activate this space, strengthen the Stanyan commercial corridor, attract more foot traffic, and open another locally-owned small business. We are working to convert the space to retail (which it actually was at one point in the past) and open a cannabis store and consumption lounge. We think this will improve safety on the block and reduce illegal drug sales and use in the Park and by Alford Lake. The best way to stop those activities is to activate areas—like the city is (eventually) doing with the McDonald's lot—and to provide regulated, safe places instead. In keeping with the city's social equity program, we have partnered with Damien Posey, an SF native and well-known activist and mentor for youth in the community.



764 Stanyan St.

Free Gold Watch is closed now, and we know all of us in the Haight-Ashbury and Cole Valley will need to work together to bounce back from the COVID impacts. We also want to keep reducing illegal drug sales and negative behavior in the neighborhood where we are raising our two kids. We think our dispensary can definitely help by creating jobs, providing a safe place for residents and tourists to consume cannabis, and boosting the Stanyan corridor. We're early in the process but already have support from a number of Haight and Cole Valley merchants and neighbors. We hope to earn your support as well. Contact FGWHaight@gmail.com. Thank you.

Matt Henri, Marti Brass, Damien Posey

Note: Planning Commission hearing is scheduled for June 18.

Campground at McDonald's: City Picks the Lowest Fruit

It's a done deal. In spite of all your letters to Supervisor Dean Preston, there will be a city-sanctioned tent encampment in the McDonald's parking lot. There is space for 40 tents, which means capacity in excess to the number now in the neighborhood. It will be open sometime before the end of the month.

At an online HANC meeting on May 14, Preston said it would be run by "non-profits" and follow a "harm reduction" model. That means few if any restrictions on drug/alcohol



Photo: Cathy Haller

City services arrive at McDonald's the morning after announcement.

use, but access to clean needles, toilets and showers (intermittent visits by LavaMae trucks) to keep people as safe as possible within the limits of their lifestyle.

San Francisco Fire Chief Jeanine Nicholson told ABC News, "My people are telling me there are unhoused folks coming from out of town basically trying to get themselves on a list for housing. Some are being released from jail and sent here from Stockton, from Lake County, so they're coming from all over."

The Shelter-in-Place (SIP) order necessitated the City to take more responsibility for homeless people than before.

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Since outbreaks of COVID-19 have occurred in established shelters, re-housing people has become a challenge for the Mayor. Finding rooms in now-empty hotels and providing tents are the two solutions that surfaced. The tent solution is a national policy during the pandemic. The police are ordered not to disturb them.

Allocating hotel rooms is not simple. It necessitates filtering of applicants for capability to function in a group setting, installation of in-place supportive services, management of scores of individual contracts, looming liability exposure, and significant cost (although most reimbursed by the Feds). So far approximately 1,000 people have been housed while 6,000 wait for placement. These figures change depending on the source.



There are about 30 tents on Haight Ashbury sidewalks, this on Masonic.

Supervisor Preston was being badgered by constituents who do not want these tents in front of their homes. Reports of defecation, noise and boozy fights added pressure for immediate action. The Board of Supervisors' first response was to pass legislation to force speedier hotel placement by the Mayor. But everyone cannot qualify for a room. Many of these are the tent dwellers we see on Waller, Clayton, Broderick and particularly Masonic, who will be our new neighbors on Haight and Stanyan. And that's if we're lucky. There can be no coercion or forcible movement of tents off the sidewalk, only information about the location of the Safe Sleeping encampment. So we could have both, the street tents and the McDonald's Campground.

At his virtual "Office Hours" on April 28, Supervisor Dean Preston deferred the decision to the Department of Supportive Housing (DSH), essentially removing himself from responsibility. But the site selector turned out to actually be Mary Ellen Carroll, executive director of the city's Department of Emergency Management who made the choice in conjunction with Preston himself. Preston was quoted in *The Chronicle* (5/16/20) as saying that the objecting neighbors "didn't offer any options." In fact, the residents' letters repeatedly suggested Kezar Pavilion's entry plaza, the now-empty Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) parking lot, the basketball court in the Panhandle and the playground of the Chinese Immersion DeAvila School.

At his May 13 meeting, he justified the decision by saying, "the McDonald's site was by far the easiest." And it's obvious to see why. The City owns it, There's no need for approval by Rec and Park, Planning Department or SF Unified School District—yes, it was just plain easier.

Where and how to deal with homeless people is a chronic problem for San Francisco. The SIP order, extended through May, has brought it into sharp focus. Let's hope that, in-



Helping is hard: Haight hand-washing stand trashed after three days.

stead of short-term fixes, the City will improve the homeless census, provide a safe shelter system spread across the city, compel mentally ill people living on the street to enter into residential treatment, and expand the conservatorship program. The challenge is, of course, to care for our own needy without creating a magnet for those from other areas.

—Karen Crommie

Beatrice Challiss Laws,
(August 2, 1927–March 10, 2020)

Beatrice attended the University of California at Berkeley and subsequently Stanford Law School, and in 1952 was one of the first female graduates. In 1953, she was admitted to the California Bar and clerked for Chief Justice Phil Gibson of the California Supreme Court.

Beatrice lived a life of service. Following her work at the California Supreme Court, she was a deputy city attorney in San Francisco. She later worked as an attorney at the Sierra Club, protecting wildlands throughout the United States. [In Cole Valley] she was instrumental in the effort to save Tank Hill, now a protected natural area. Similarly, she helped defeat speculative development near Mount Sutro.

Excerpted from *The Chronicle* (3-14-20)

CVIA Draws Crowd for Community Meeting

It was standing-room-only, spilling onto the sidewalk, at Wooden Coffeehouse on March 4, when over 80 neighbors came out for CVIA's Community Meeting. Park Station Captain Renee Pagano gave an update on community crime trends and took questions on everything from lighting in the Carl Street Muni Park to garage break-ins, and from front porch box theft to the recent drive-by mugging at Haight and Masonic.

SF Safe's Adam Cuadra spoke about the importance of Neighborhood Watch groups throughout the district and urged residents to request a SF Safe's residential security survey, providing a personal safety evaluation.

He was followed by Supervisor Dean Preston who encouraged residents to come to him not only for big issues but also for "small gripes." "Nothing is too trivial for my interest in this neighborhood," he assured with the smooth-



Supervisor Dean Preston addresses attendees at CVIA's community meeting held at Steve Wickwire's Wooden Coffeehouse in early March.

ness of the inveterate politician he is. Making a swipe at former opponent and ex-supervisor Vallie Brown, he said "Since she failed to pass on pending requests for supervisor intervention on neighborhood issues during her months in office" (fulfilling the term of London Breed as D-5 supervisor) he encouraged neighbors to re-submit their concerns and requests. He said he was opposing the proposed Muni fare hike and was preparing a ballot measure for November that would both increase the MTA budget and explicitly prohibit future fare raises.

On the subject of a D-5 Navigation Center he said he was looking at 15 different locations, adding that, wherever the site is, "it must be a positive net for the neighborhood." A pretty high bar, I would think. He estimated the cost at \$5 million and said it was his job to get a D-5 Navigation Center prioritized at City Hall.

Regarding the expansion of the UCSF Parnassus campus, he described a letter from his office to UCSF asking for clarification of (1) benefits to the community (2) neighborhood impact (3) the rationale for their exemption from City impact fees and (4) a transit plan to accommodate a daily increase of hundreds more patients and staff.

He ended by encouraging us to call 311 for "things," and 911 for "people."

—Karen Crommie

Park Celebration Postponed

"The 150th Anniversary of Golden Gate Park is an exciting milestone for our city, but it is important that we follow public health recommendations and postpone the community celebration at this time," said Mayor London Breed. "We look forward to celebrating Golden Gate Park later this year."

Following the Mayor's statement, the wide range of events planned for the commemoration have been postponed, but not shelved.

Drew Becher, CEO of the San Francisco Parks Alliance added, "We have a lot of excitement planned for the year-long sesquicentennial, from the 150 park improvement projects to a 150-foot observation wheel and illuminated bandshell, and will keep working to bring these to the park in the coming months."



The Apple Presser turns his back to the Skywheel installed for Golden Gate Park's 150th anniversary.

The manly figure at the press was sculpted by Thomas Shields-Clarke and cast in Paris. Thanks to Heath Massey (www.fromthethicket.com), we know that Shields-Clarke was from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where apples are no doubt much more common than grapes, especially in 1892 when this statue was made. Michael de Young and the Midwinter Fair Commission purchased and exhibited it at the Midwinter Fair in 1894. It was originally a drinking fountain, but the metal cup that used to be attached by a chain disappeared long ago, along with the water.

The park was originally created on 1013 acres of wind-swept sand dunes in an unincorporated area of the Peninsula, known as the Outside Lands, starting in 1870 by surveyor, designer, and first Superintendent William Hammond Hall. Today, with an addition, the acreage stands at 1,017 acres.

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by email, please let us know at CVIASF@aol.com

Cole Valley Merchants Supported During Virus Closures

Letter to Cole Valley Business Owners:

The Cleaning of the Cole Street commercial area continues even through these difficult COVID-19 times. We understand that your restaurants and shops have experienced an unprecedented upheaval so this year we will not be asking for a donation. You are all our neighborhood heroes! You will receive a free membership to CVIA and receive our quarterly newsletter.

Since 2006 Clean-ScapesSF has been removing litter, pressure-washing stains, cleaning news racks, weeding tree wells and removing illegal posters. Workers are usually on Cole Street every day of the week, and twice a day on weekdays. During the Shelter-in-Place order it's once a day.

The funds for Clean Cole Street are generated from CVIA's Santa on Cole, contributions from our members and, during normal times from you, our merchants...all working together to keep Cole Valley the very special place it is.

Lena Emmery, CVIA President

Dog Poo: They Got it Half Right

Dog walking seems to be the main activity on the streets these days and thoughtful owners bring little plastic bags to clean up. But, wait. Isn't there another part to that? Like, depositing it in a garbage bin? Let's give benefit of the doubt—maybe the dog walkers have been stricken with the virus and are expending their last bit of energy to walk their dogs. Still...



Cole streetcleaners are still on the job.



Thank You For Your Support



It certainly isn't expected, but when a member sends in an extra contribution, we appreciate it greatly. Only ten Cole Valley merchants contributed to the daily cleaning of Cole Street's business district last year, which costs CVIA \$993 each month. This year we are waving the merchant contributions and providing a complimentary CVIA membership to all merchants whether past donors or not. We make up the deficit with member contributions, a discount from Clean-Scapes and proceeds from the "Santa on Cole" photo shoot. So, lacking merchant contributions this year, we are particularly grateful to the following members for their generosity during the period May 2019 through April 2020. Please notify us if your name has inadvertently been omitted.

OMG (\$2500): Tracy and Patrick Jennings

Beacons (\$501 - 1000): Michael Siliski,

Benefactors (\$250 - \$500): Karen & David Crommie,

Donors (\$100 - \$249): Cecile & Jeff Bodington, Chris Bunga, Lena Emmery & Charles Canepa, Gina Centoni, Linda Coda, Thomas Ports & Catherine Covey, Diane & Christopher Davies, Linda Erkelens, Tresa & Jim Eyers, Marianne Hesse, Randy & Rich Lavinghouse, Jenny Lee, Deborah Robbins & Henry Navas, Sandra Norberg & Richard Drake, Joanne & Bill Prieur, Kathe Traynor, Nicole Valco,

Contributors (\$50 - \$99): Kay Auciello, Travis Becker, Jennifer Braun, Megan & Bruce Bourne, Deb & Todd Frederick, Margaret & Russell Garvin, Van Hart, Robert Gordon & Bill Haskell, Shannon & Chris Hock, Mary & John Hooper, Ice Cream Bar - Juliet Pries, Lyn & Harold Isbell, Michelle & Wallis Lim, Bahereh & John Manning, Barbara Mow, Ineke Ruhland & Bill O'Such, Francine M. Prophet, Robin Ridgeway, MeMe Riordan, Catherine Bird & William Rothrum, Jay Stevens

Supporters (\$25 - \$49): Azadeh Moghtaderi & David Amiss, Molly Barry, Gail & Howard Berman, Jeanne Blamey & Rob Fram, Mary Helen Briscoe, Philip Brodey, Kay Cockerill, Warren Cockrell, Joseph Creitz, Ellen Curry, Christina Danford, Karin de Brer, Kevin Dede, Frances Dependahl, Irene Jang & Matthew DuVall, Gloria Galindo & Mari Coates, Marissa Gomes, Amy Gonser, Mike & John Greenwood, Robert Gordon & Bill Haskell, Sarah & Neema Jalali, Lynn Kormondy, Laura Lai, William Litton, Thomas Nicoll, Robert Page, Brian Presley, Helen & Allan Ridley, Shannon Riordan, Kendra & Billy Robins, William Simpson, Cynthia Smuzynska, Daniel Swangard, Conchita Toshok, Jillian & Blake Tyrrell, Cindy Morton & Peter Weiss

Boosters (\$24 and below): Shelagh Brodersen, Anne Buchanan, Beverley Epstein, Beverly Ku, David Oates, John Priest, Aisling Robins, Isabel Greenfield & Dan Selvig, Lee Shalev, Erin Shigekawa, Kira Sparks, Ken Wilcox

Food Pantries Expand Service

During the San Francisco COVID-19 Shelter-in-Place period, the Haight Ashbury Food Program is open for emergency food distribution. They will be posting more details later at www.thefoodprogram.org and have adjusted their normal shop-for-yourself format to pre-packed takeaway bags for safety and volunteer workload purposes.

In addition, the Food Bank of San Francisco and Marin is distributing food packages on Wednesdays from noon to 4 p.m. at the west of Kezar Stadium. They have 21 pop-ups,



The Food Bank is distributing at Kezar triangle.

many of them serving about 10 times more people than their regular pantries. Many are located at schools that are offering to-go meals for students. At the same place as students and parents pick up their breakfast and lunch, they will also be able to get pre-bagged groceries to take home.

St. Agnes Church (1025 Masonic) also has a food pantry on Thursdays from 1:30 to 3 p.m. As for call-response services, there is Cole Valley Cares (see article opposite).

There is also an impressive program by Tes Welborn, president of the Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council and Mary Howe, director of the Haight Youth Alliance. They are keeping an ambitious schedule of hot meal distribution at two locations near the post office.

On Monday, Wednesday and Friday approximately 60 meals are served at 5:30 p.m. at 558 Clayton. Meat and veggie options are both popular (Chili, soup, stew, raviolis, pasta etc.). On Tuesday and Thursday 40 meals are served at 3 p.m. at 1572 Haight.

Said Tes, who does the cooking in her own kitchen, "We do have food bank access and go there a couple times a week. This means we can get food pantry items if folks need that sort of support because we know feeding this many people is expensive. There is no predictability but items like pasta, beans, canned goods are easy for us to get." For more information call Tes at 415-377-3698.



Haight Youth Alliance provides a daily food table.



Neighbors Rise to the Challenge

Erika Lenkert didn't know she was starting an essential neighborhood support group when she posted a proposition on the "Cole Valley, a not-so-secret SF Neighborhood" Facebook page. She was merely hoping to pay it forward after her mother, legendary San Francisco jazz singer and vocal coach Faith Winthrop, passed away.

"My mom lived independently in Cole Valley into her mid-80s, often with the help of neighbors," Lenkert explains. "I wanted to be that security for someone else's loved one, so I posted an offer to be a free helping hand to neighborhood elders."

The response was not as expected. More than 75 neighbors expressed the desire to be of service as well. Lenkert knew she was onto something, but she wasn't sure what.

Lenkert held the first Cole Valley Cares meeting at her house last fall. Attended by nine Cole Valley residents, the gathering included discussions about what services to offer, a website, and perhaps a booth at the next Cole Valley Fair.



Erika Lenkert Anjolie Chidambaram Jennifer Cogliandro

The second meeting never happened. Instead, Corona virus fast-tracked the initiative with a flurry of texts and calls in early March. Even before Shelter-in-Place, a ragtag group of neighbors created and distributed 2,000 flyers offering free services such as grocery and pharmacy pickup, pet help, and handy-person tasks to anyone in need. Instantly the phone started ringing.

Two months later, Cole Valley Cares is a 250-plus member volunteer group that has serviced more than 200 requests, launched a phone-buddy system to help keep spirits up, crafted a language bank with volunteers who speak a combined 32 languages to help with non-English speaking requests, and guided other communities in launching their own support groups.

Run by members themselves using a self-serve Facebook page and a steering committee that includes Lenkert, cofounding members Jennifer Cogliandro, Anjolie Chidambaram, and Amy Lightholder; and Courtney Minick, Vicky Keston, and Isabel Duffy, it's poised to be a source of support as long as there is need.

"The intention of Cole Valley Cares has always been ongoing community support," says Lenkert. "One of the few silver linings of this time is that it forced us to reach our potential overnight rather than over several years. The connections we're making now will only continue to enhance the caring, village-like spirit that makes Cole Valley such a magical place to live." To reach Cole Valley Cares, email: cvc94117@gmail.com, on facebook as Cole Valley Cares or you can call 415-754-0560.

Not Coming Back

After 17 years in Cole Valley, the longtime beauty and cosmetics shop MadKat (915 Cole St.) closed its doors. The



MadKat before



MadKat after

reason was simple: With a large proportion of their products available online, customers just weren't coming through



Leenie Rae before



Leenie Rae after

the door. To confirm how hard Cole Valley retail business has been hit, just across the street, Leenie Rae, the women's clothing boutique owned by Arlene Cook, also shuttered and moved to Clement. These are hard times.

Meanwhile on Haight Street, Marc Weinstein co-owner of Amoeba Music told the Chronicle "We couldn't pay April rent and May rents are coming up. We have no ability to pay them as well." Ambience, X Generation, Brain Drops, American Apparel, Rasputin and Haight Ashbury Music Center have all called it quits.

Annual Pot Fest Was Cancelled in No Uncertain Terms

There was no joy in Mudville on April 20th this year. Mayor London Breed formally cancelled the non-permitted (but tolerated) 4/20 event at Robin Williams Meadow. The SFPD, pulling no punches, also issued a statement. "Let us be blunt: 4/20 in Golden Gate Park and other public locations across our city are CANCELLED. Stay home this year



Hippie Hill on 4/20. The sound of one hand clapping?

and save lives. To be clear: 4/20 will not be tolerated this year. Do not come to San Francisco to celebrate. We will cite people. We will arrest people if necessary." In case they still didn't get the message, the area was isolated by police barriers.

Don't Have to Cook Every Night

If you have a favorite Cole Valley restaurant, you can support them by ordering take-out meals or, if that's not an option, consider contributing to their GoFundMe accounts. Others encourage the purchase of gift cards for later use.

Those judged as essential businesses such as Luke's, Whole Foods, Ashbury Market, Sunny Country, Pharmaca and Cole Hardware are still open, albeit with distancing and masks. Some of restaurants open for take-out are Crepes



Crepes on Cole is just one of many restaurants open for take-out.

on Cole, Ice Cream Bar, Bacon, Bacon, Bambino's, Creola, Beit Rima, Inovino, Kamekyo, Reverie, Say Cheese, Taboun, Zazie. Cole Cleaners has limited hours as does Russ Cleaners. Cole Valley Pets is still open. Essential? Of course it is. The contact information is on the CVIA website: CVIASF.org

Happy Mother's Day, Hope Brunch Wasn't Cold

No, this is not a long line for the N bus. Or maybe free Margaritas at Padrecito? This is the line that wound around



The May 10th line to Zazie wrapped around the corner onto Carl Street.

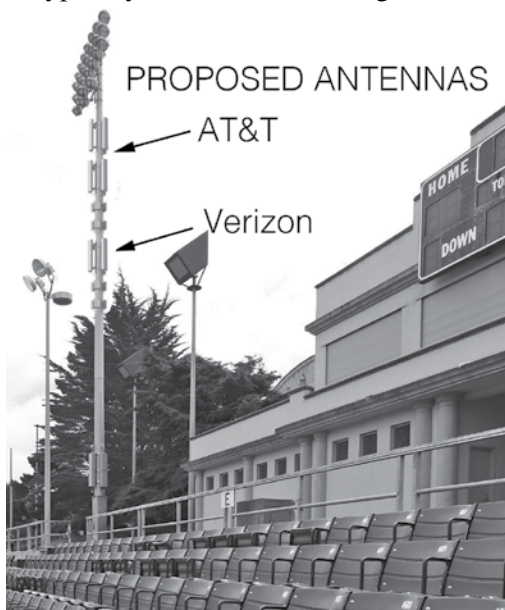
Carl Street with people waiting to purchase take-away Mother's Day brunches at Zazie. Obviously, their chefs could only do so much. It has a small kitchen. Some in line were eventually turned away and posted their disappointment on NextDoor. Good for Zazie to recognize a need and fill it during this hard time for restaurants.

—Karen Crommie

Kezar Tower Excess?

Both AT&T and Verizon have requested authorization to radically alter the look of the Kezar Stadium light poles. Together they want to add 27 new antennas, 42 remote radio units, and 2 surge suppressors to the two stadium poles. Additionally, there would be ancillary equipment including ground mounted equipment screened behind an iron fence. Each company submitted photos of their proposal; none were available that shows the total impact. From the photos provided, it looks like most of the pole will have equipment that will about double its width.

The type of facilities on street-light poles in the neighborhood are called small cells. They have two to three very small antennas and typically 2 radios. The coverage for those is anywhere between 50-100 feet. This facility proposed for Kezar is called a macro facility. It will provide gap coverage (or fill in a gap where there currently is none to very little coverage) and also provide off load capacity for other facilities in the area, according to the Verizon applicant.



AT&T and Verizon propose adding 27 new antennas to light poles at Kezar Stadium.

The AT&T applicant claimed there was a community meeting held earlier in the year where all questions the neighborhood had were answered. CVIA did not get notice of this meeting and the applicant did not respond to the question of who was invited and who attended.

If you don't want to see further encroachment on our view, let your voice be heard at the hearing on May 28. The instructions to dial into this remote planning department hearing is at <https://sfplanning.org/remotehearings>. It is strongly recommended that persons submit their comments in writing in advance of the hearing. Written comments may be submitted via email directly to the case planner, Mathew Chandler at mathew.chandler@sfgov.org.

—Joan Downey



Would you like a copy of this newsletter sent to a neighbor? Send an email to cviasf@aol.com or Leave a message at 415-431-1414 with their name and address and consider it done.

Urge to Ride Creates Boom Times for American Cyclery

American Cyclery, the 75-year-old year old bike sales, repair and rental facility on the corner of Stanyan and Frederick, is selling bikes like, well, toilet paper. Who knew that Shelter-in-Place would create the deep urge for a better bike? Maybe it's the extra time off work or the fear of boarding a bus, but Bradley Woehl, who earlier was considering selling his venerable shop, is now glowing in the demand he is experiencing—albeit six-feet away from clients.

After a three-month closure while the building was undergoing a seismic retrofit, Bradley reopened with limited optimism. Then the pandemic hit and the shop was empty. He had to let a key staffer go. Then, after a few weeks, customers started coming back—and coming and coming. He even has renewed hope of finding an “angel” to complete the funding for the elaborate parklet he had designed for the



Owner Bradley Woehl was surprised by the uptick in customers.

sidewalk frontage. He has already raised \$25,000, kept safe in a special CVIA account, as a nonprofit fiscal sponsor. He figures he'll need to double that amount.

At a young 51, Woehl is the third owner of what is considered to be San Francisco's oldest bike shop and has held several industry roles outside the shop, doing consulting for brands like Soma, Public, Raleigh and Diamondback.

At this busy time, the service department is open, but running at limited capacity and only doing flat repairs or basic adjustments to drop-ins. Tune-ups and major service are booking a week out. Email: info@americancyclery.com. Phone: 415-664-4545.

—Karen Crommie

CVIA Officers	
President.....	Lena Emmery
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CVIA Board Minutes

The following is a summary of what took place at the CVIA board meetings the last three months. Those wishing to bring a neighborhood issue before the Board are welcome to do so. Meetings take place on the first Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the home of a member. There is no meeting in December. Call 415-661-0681 or email cviasf@aol.com to learn the location.

Every meeting begins with a reading of the minutes of the last meeting and reports from delegates to the Kezar Stadium Advisory Committee (KSAC), Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB), UCSF Long Range Planning Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) and Waller Center Advisory Committee.

March

Location: Home of Lena Emmery and Chuck Canepa – March 2, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

■ Treasurer Joan Downey submitted a bank balance of \$53,779.44 out of which \$15,843.49 is being presently held in the Clean Cole Street fund and \$24,767.20 is being held in the account (as fiscal sponsor) for the Stanyan Parklet.

■ Steven Madrid reported that the response to the new CVIA website was favorable, with 112 hits in ten days, mostly from a link posted on Cole Valley a Not So Secret Neighborhood. He also noted sending two separate notices of the upcoming March 4 meeting to CVIA members using Mail Chimp.

■ President Lena Emmery described the Coalition of Golden Gate Park stakeholders, who have been meeting to discuss the Westside Transportation Study, investigating traffic patterns and congestion south of the Park. The museums, as well as other interests are wary of any plan that might radically reduce vehicle access. Joan Downey volunteered to attend future meetings (in place of Lena) and report to the Board.

■ Steven confirmed appearance of Supervisor Dean Preston, Captain Renee Pagano and SF Safe's Adam Cuadra at CVIA's community meeting on March 4 at Wooden Coffeeshouse.

■ Discussed plans for that meeting. Tasks were determined, allocated and refined: CVIA banner, refreshments, handouts (next meeting notice and Street Soccer's proposal for interim use of 730 Stanyan), sound system, sign-in sheets, chairs, newsletters, agenda, etc.

■ Motion: To authorize \$100 for refreshments over and above donations from Trader Joe's and Luke's Local approved unanimously.

■ Steven reminded group of Supervisor Preston's meeting on March 9 at Park Branch Library in which interim use of 730 Stanyan will be discussed. Contrary to a statement issued by the Mayor's Office of Housing that this determination will be made by the two developers (Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation and the Chinatown Community Development Center), it appears that the decision will come out of Preston's office.

■ Shannon Cooper recommended CVIA's Clean Cole Street project be included on Luke's Local list of charities for contributions by customers accumulating customer benefit points. She also recommended that the Board use Slack.com to communicate and offered to create an account for all of us that evening, which she did.

■ Discussed the wisdom of proposed ground floor commercial use of the 730 Stanyan affordable building in a time when retail is dying.

Adjourned 9:00 p.m.

April

Virtual Meeting on Zoom – April 6, 2020, 7:00 p.m.
(Absent: Steve Madrid, David Oakes, Ed Walls)

■ Treasurer Joan Downey reported a bank balance of \$54,168.99, out of which \$15,296.70 is presently held in the Clean Cole Street fund and \$24,767.20 held in the account (as fiscal sponsor) for the Stanyan Parklet. She also submitted a budget for FY 2020-21 which was approved unanimously.

■ Motion passed unanimously: In support of our Cole Valley merchants, who are experiencing a loss of income, Board decided to comp all businesses for street cleaning this year. All Cole Valley merchants will also receive a one-year membership to CVIA.

■ After a long discussion regarding division of CVIA Board labor and general file access, topic was acknowledged to be an incremental process to be continued at next meeting

■ Joan described safety problems with locations of two bike racks: The Arguello slip lane to Frederick, and the clover-leaf turn, off Stanyan, to Fell/JFK Drive. She agreed to write a letter to Jeffrey Tumlin, SFMTA's Director of Transportation, with copies to Adrian Leung (Bikeshare and Bike Parking Program Manager, the MTA Citizens Advisory Council, and Supervisor Dean Preston.

■ Miscellaneous: Marianne Hesse reported long lines at the Saturday Haight Ashbury Food Program at the Waller Center. Will include NERT Corona virus information provided by Jon Wurfl, in the next newsletter. Will also include article about Cole Valley Cares and add them to our website.

■ Agreed to publish Erica Kajdasz's March 5 letter correcting our report on the CVIA member discount to Lavation studio.

■ Joan reported numerous complaints about Recology's waste pick-up as early as 3:30 am, disturbing the sleep of residents. By law they are not permitted to service residential customers before 6:30 a.m.

■ Motion to dispense with paper copies of CVIA NEWS Summer edition (May) in favor of on-line distribution. The approximately 100 members whose emails we do not have on file will be sent usual paper version by mail. Carole Glosenger has generously volunteered to do mailing (sealing, stamping, addressing, mailing) alone in her home to avoid contact with others of the mailing committee.

Adjourned 8:10 p.m.

May

Virtual Meeting on Zoom – May 4, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

■ Treasurer Joan Downey submitted a bank balance of \$53,660.03 out of which \$14,373.91 is being presently held in the Clean Cole Street fund and \$24,767.20 is being held in the account (as fiscal sponsor) for the Stanyan Parklet.

■ David Oates discussed tweaks to the CVIA webpage including adding the 501c(3) document and by-laws. Breana Wheeler will take over all on-line communication: MailChimp (email blasts to members), Squarespace (website), Facebook and Google email, with the assistance of Steven Madrid.

■ Chuck Canepa reported on the last UCSF community meeting regarding its proposed new hospital on Parnassus: Residents of Edgewood Avenue expressed strong concerns about the expanded site's impingement on the well-known peace and quiet of their street. UCSF representatives were unmoved.

■ Following up on complaints from Carl Street residents on the Recology pick-ups as early as 3 a.m., Joan Downey reported that, due to fewer workers available during the Corona virus, Recology has had to space their pick-ups over longer hours be

ginning as early as 1 a.m.

■ Steve Madrid reported on an ad hoc meeting with Supervisor Dean Preston and the residents of Masonic Avenue who are protesting the tent encampment near the corner of Haight. He said he could do little but urge the Healthy Streets Operation Center (Jeff Kositsky) to find a location for a tent site.

■ Discussed process for issuing Board policy to public. Getting a quick response for approval is a problem. David Oates suggested sending the proposal to Google Docs and giving Board members a link where they can make short comments. A more formal criteria for an issue requiring a full Board approval, versus that only needing that of a committee, will be taken up at a future meeting.

■ Board nominated the following members for officers during the August 2020-2021 term:

President-Carole Glosenger, Vice president-Steven Madrid, Treasurer-Joan Downey, Recording Secretary-Karen Crommie, Online Communications Officer-Breana Wheeler

■ Because of SIP order, President Lena Emmery will pick up newsletter from printer, divide and deliver to five different board members for sealing, stamping and mailing: Cathy Haller, Carole Glosenger, Marianne Hesse and Joan Downey in addition to herself.

■ Lena closed the meeting with a heartfelt thanks to David Oates, who will be moving out of the neighborhood and leaving the Board after having contributed enormously to revamping the CVIA website and providing intelligent and informative insights to issues considered at our monthly meetings. He will be greatly missed by all.

Adjourned 8:50 p.m.

CVIA Executive Board: Chuck Canepa, Shannon Cooper Hock, David Crommie, Karen Crommie, Joan Downey, Lena Emmery, Carole Glosenger, Cathy Haller, Marianne Hesse, Chris Hock, Steven Madrid, Edward Walls, Breana Wheeler

Cole Valley Fair Scrubbed

After careful consideration, extensive conversations and the amount of uncertainty as we move forward, we believe the right thing to do for all of our vendors, volunteers, local businesses, musicians and attendees is to skip this year's Cole Valley Fair.

We want you to know we did not make this decision lightly or quickly. We believe it is in the best interest of everyone involved to wait until 2021 to hold such a large scale gathering in person to ensure the Fair is safe and successful for everyone involved.

But don't be too sad just yet, we are hard at work on finding ways to still connect in a virtual way. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months.

We are so grateful for everyone who supports the Fair each and every year and we cannot wait to be back wandering down Cole Street, seeing all of the amazing artists creations, eating delicious food, listening to the incredible musicians and checking out the unique cars of our neighbors.

We hope everyone stays safe and healthy and here's to an outstanding Cole Valley Fair in 2021. We can't wait to see you!

—Erica Kajdasz

*Cole Valley Fair Organizer
Co-owner Lavation & MIDLINE*

The City's "Slow Streets" Program Has Begun

The SFMTA announced in late April that service would be temporarily reduced during the COVID-19 health crisis. "Many San Francisco residents need to walk and take other modes of transportation to make essential trips. However, sometimes it is difficult to maintain 6 feet of social distance on many sidewalks, park paths, and bikeways. Because of this, many pedestrians are choosing to walk in the street, exposing themselves to swiftly moving vehicle traffic. The SFMTA is implementing a new program, Slow Streets, to limit through traffic on certain residential streets and allow them to be used more as a shared space for foot and bicycle traffic."

What does a Slow Street look like?

Simple tools such as temporary signs and cones will be used to divert and slow down traffic. Access to driveways and deliveries will be maintained for local residents and businesses.

Page Street Closed

There were some 13 miles of city streets considered for closure but not all made the cut. So far there is only one in our neighborhood: Page Street between Stanyan and Octavia. Earlier, the Mayor authorized the temporary prohibition of cars on JFK Drive (from Kezar Drive to Transverse Drive) seven days a week, in-



stead of the Sunday-only closure.



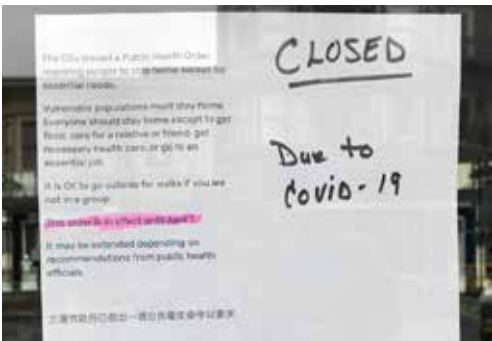
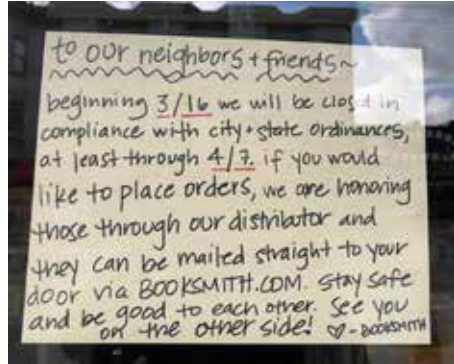
Walkers, cyclists, children and dogs move unhindered past the Library.

Not All Happy

Disabled, elderly, and others confined to car use for mobility are not thrilled. For some it's just another anti-car move that may not be rescinded when the Shelter-in-Place order is lifted.

Karen Crommie

Sign (noun) 1. Object Indicating the Presence or Existence of Something Else 2. Conveys Information or Instruction



CVIA Hopes Everyone Stays Safe

It Wasn't All Bad News



Photo: Joan Downey

After a year of waiting, DPW finally installed the missing glass wind-screens at the Cole and Carl Streets N Judah transit stop, completing the handsome streetscape improvements. We weren't prepared for sea foam green but, hey, why not? Now if only the trains come back.

Letters

Dear CVIA

A quick note about our **Lavation Neighborhood Deal**. I noticed in the last CVIA newsletter in the minutes, it was talked about as a deal that was ending, or a deal that was only an 18% discount. Neither are true! We might not have explained it very well before.

The Neighborhood Deal is still in full effect. What we needed to do was lessen the 50% discount as it was just not sustainable for our business. So what we changed, is now **people can get either 32% off of our regular unlimited monthly membership (normally \$220/mo) for \$150/mo or they can receive \$18 classes for our 10 class series.** Our standard rates range from \$20-\$30/class so the Neighborhood Deal per class rate is still the lowest we offer. We want to ensure that we are continuing our great partnership, honoring people investing within the community and still getting our lowest rates. So instead of using "50%" off, we just use "lowest rates"

Erica Kajdasz

**Visit our website at
CVIASF.org**

CVIANEWS is published quarterly as a forum for residents of the greater Haight Ashbury neighborhood. The views expressed reflect those of the writers. Contributions for the Fall edition should be sent before August 1, 2020 to CVIASF@aol.com. We encourage submissions from anyone interested in our neighborhood. Send questions or comments to the above address or call 415-431-1414.

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Production.....David Crommie
Editorial AssistanceJoan Downey

Help

- Emergency911
- Disturbance (415) 553-0123
- Blocked Driveways..... (415) 553-1200
- Abandoned Vehicles (415) 781-5865
- Health Department (415) 255-3610
- Litter Patrol (sofas, mattresses, etc.).....311
- Graffiti and Illegal Sign Removal.....311
- NextBus311
- Street Lighting..... (415) 554-0730

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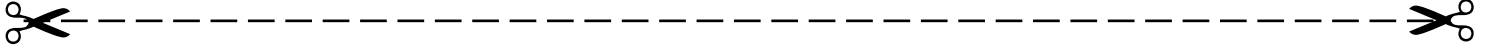
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11. Ahsha Safai Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org	(415) 554-6975

BECOME A CVIA MEMBER

Membership in the Cole Valley Improvement Association is open to anyone interested in the greater Haight Ashbury. CVIA's mission is to promote a sense of responsibility and mutual respect throughout the district; preserve the character of its architecture; support the police in law enforcement efforts; encourage neighborhood-serving business; and be

constructively involved in San Francisco's governmental process. Annual dues are \$25.00. Membership provides contact with other responsible neighbors, a quarterly newsletter and participation in an active forum for effecting change. If you would like to become a member, please send in your dues with the form below.

Please clip and mail the coupon below to CVIA, P.O. Box 170611, San Francisco, CA 94117



Yes! I'd like to become a CVIA member!

Here's my check for \$25.00 made payable to: COLE VALLEY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION Renewal

NAME _____ E-MAIL _____

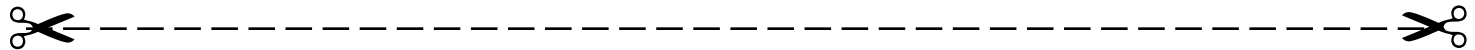
ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

What I like about the neighborhood: _____

What I dislike about the neighborhood: _____

Optional contribution to Cole sidewalk cleaning \$_____ Do NOT acknowledge my contribution in the newsletter

Dues and contributions to Clean Cole Street may be taken as charitable deductions. Contact your accountant regarding the tax law.



Cole Valley Improvement Association
P.O. Box 170611
San Francisco, CA 94117

CVIA is on Facebook
www.facebook.com/CVIASF
Please "like" us ASAP

