



District 8 Community Round Table – D8CRT

Meeting Minutes **June 4, 2020 @ 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM** **Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Jeremy Barousse.

President's report – Dues are \$20 for the year. If you would like to join and be able to vote on D8CRT decisions, the fee is \$20 per year. Send your check to D8CRT at 5655 Silver Creek Valley Road, #731, San Jose, CA 95138.

Janice Rombeck, SCC Councilmember Dave Cortese's office. – With the warmer weather, the COVID numbers have been declining a bit and some of the restrictions will be eased. We have had 2350 cases, 44 deaths, 49 currently hospitalized and 3% testing positive.

San Jose Library – They are adding enrichment programs for K-8. They are adding programs in various languages – Chinese, Vietnamese and Spanish in addition to English. They are developing summer learning programs. They will continue the free lunch programs (5 days a week but it will be a grab and go – not in the facility. In April, they will bring out 86 additional virtual learning programs – online activities, fitness, story times, classes, workshops, and virtual library visits.

SJPD – Captain Ta – Due to the pandemic and more people at home, we have had less home burglaries, DUI arrests, robberies and traffic accidents. There have been more break-ins at closed businesses and school vandalism (mostly by teens). However, sexual assaults, domestic violence and child abuse have been up slightly. They have requested mutual aid from neighboring forces during the BLM protests. There is a continuing problem with sideshows - cars doing donuts and other stunts for an audience – and arrests and ticketing are up.

Small businesses impacted by COVID -Marie Ortiz, SuperSlow Zone. One on one fitness studio to build strength and flexibility for their clients. They work one on one but cannot get the County to relax the restrictions. She has been able to continue with some clients who have doctor's notes stating that the strength workouts are necessary for their conditions. She has spent thousands of dollars in extra sanitizing, UV lights, masks, gloves, etc She had to lay off staff and cannot afford rent or to pay herself. She is dipping into her retirement to stay afloat.

Sherry Gilmore from the D8CRT Steering Committee spoke to several local small business owners – nail salons, delis, hair salons – and found that most of their businesses were down 60-95%. However, even during the pandemic, the landlords are not necessarily giving their tenants a break. Two of them told her they needed to sign new leases and the landlords raised the future rents.

Hearts & Minds – They do adult day care and treatment for those with dementia and Alzheimer's. They are trying to do what they can online, but that is usually not sufficient in this population. They are struggling to take care of their clients and their caregivers.

Nancy Le – Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas's office – She recently signed an Equity Pledge to work on combating racism. She is pushing for increased community Wi-Fi in areas of District 8 that are lacking. It is difficult for children to work remotely without the equipment. They have had many laptops donated to assist in this effort. She is also pushing against rate increases in our area for water and garbage.

Jim Zito – Evergreen Elementary School District – They are working to figure out the best ways to incorporate in house learning and virtual learning for maximum safety. Distance learning is especially difficult for younger children and for those with special needs. They have sent out surveys to staff, the community and to students to garner their views and suggestions on how this needs to be handled.

The next meeting will be Thursday, July 2nd at 7:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.