

Little Italy Association
General Board of Directors Meeting
June 4, 2013 - 8:30 a.m.
Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Hall – State & Date Streets –
San Diego, CA 92101

Board Members Present

Vito Altieri / Jim Barone / Pat Brunetto / Charlie Coradino / Dino Cresci / Tom Di Zinno / Rollin Ellis / Steve Galasso / Rich Gustafson / Larry Kuntz / Perry Meyer / Danny Mocerri / Lou Palestini / Jack Pecoraro / James Pieri, Jr. / Frank Stiriti / Fr. Joseph Tabigue / Catt White / Tom Zolezzi

Board Members Excused

Domenic Brunetto / Marianna Brunetto / John Contasti / Sandi Cottrell / Jim DeSpenza / Luke Vinci

Guests

Larry Campitiello, Sullivan Hill / Brijet Myers, Little Italy Mercato / Marc Hamel, La Pensione Hotel / Michelle Santangelo, ArtWalk / Beverly Feldman, SPACE san diego / Nathan Stanton, Craft & Commerce / Pasquale Ioele, Cassidy Turley / Dion Akers, Council District 3 / Dani Stroud, SD City Attorney's office / Joyce Summer, Cortez Hill / Pete Molinari, guest / Ted Przybylek, Rancho Ted / Lauren Forgione, Citrus PR / Mario Garcia, Doubletree Hotel / Suzy de la Pena, SDPD

Staff (Non-Voting)

Marco Li Mandri, Chris Gomez, Rosie DeLuca

MINUTES

Introductions

Steve Galasso called the June meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. Board as well as guest introductions were made. The meeting was turned over to the Chief Executive Administrator, Marco Li Mandri.

May 7, 2013 Board Minutes

Perry Meyer moved to accept the May 7th, 2013 Board minutes. Larry Kuntz seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor to accept the Board minutes.

COMMUNITY REPORTS

Civic San Diego

Joyce Summer gave a report on current activities within Civic San Diego.

City Attorney's office

Dani Stroud gave a report on current Little Italy homeless offenders. Dani also reported that she will be off six months for maternity leave. Marco thanked Dani for systematically dealing with the homeless problems in Little Italy. Dani was given a round of applause.

Supervisor Ron Roberts

Lauren Prescott from Supervisor Ron Roberts office spoke to the Board about the current activities within the Supervisor's office. Lauren also mentioned a new App "CalWIN" which was created by County Health & Human Services that can be used to get an overview of some of the programs and services offered through the County.

SDPD

Suzy de la Pena introduced Captain Mark Jones and the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) to the Board. Suzy also spoke about current activities in Little Italy.

LIRA

Annie Eichmann reported that the recent LIRA meeting was a great success, the Mayor was in attendance.

Council Member Todd Gloria's office

Dion Akers reported on the following Little Issues:

- Parking District funds
- Alcohol Railings, upcoming meeting with the State ABC. Currently regulations are conflicting.

NON-AGENDA / PUBLIC COMMENT

Joyce Summer spoke to the Board about the U.S. Sand Sculpting Challenge & 3D Art Exposition that will take place over Labor Day Weekend at the "B" Street Cruise Ship Terminal Pier in Downtown San Diego.

Marco referred to a Notice of Public Meetings and Hearing regarding the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Subsequent Environmental Impact Report that was provided to the Board in the packet.

Marco informed the Board of the passing of Tommy Battaglia, and of a good article that was written about him that appeared in the UT.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Organization Committee:

Appointment of Nominations committee for Annual Election of Board members, President and two other members of the Board. Nominations mailed out by end of June, due in late July and nominations recommended in September

As per our Bylaws, we are allowed up to 35 Board members. There are currently 17 Board members up for reelection:

2-Year Terms

Business Directors:

1. Steve Galasso
2. Pat Brunetto
3. Larry Kuntz
4. Perry Meyer

Subtotal: 4

Property Owner Directors:

1. Vito Altieri
 2. Domenic Brunetto
 3. Marianna Brunetto
 4. Charlie Coradino
 5. Dino Cresci
 6. Jim DeSpensa
 7. Tom Zolezzi
- Subtotal: 7

1-Year Terms

Community-at-Large Representatives:

1. John Contasti
 2. Lou Palestini
 3. James Pieri, Jr.
 4. Rollin Ellis
 5. Tom Di Zinno
- Subtotal: 5

Residential Tenant Representatives:

1. Luke Vinci
- Subtotal: 1

Marco referred to the Bylaws regarding elections, which were provided to the Board in the packet.

The floor was opened for appointments to the Nominations Committee. As the Board President, Steve Galasso is automatically on the committee. Tom Di Zinno and Frank Stiriti both offered to serve on the Nominations. Marco asked if there was anyone else who wished to be appointed to the committee. Hearing none, Larry Kuntz moved to appoint Tom Di Zinno and Frank Stiriti to the Nominations Committee. Vito Altieri seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Set Annual Board meeting date for September 10th, 2013

The Org Committee has proposed to set the Annual Board meeting date for September 10th, 2013. Jim Barone moved to set the Annual Board meeting date for September 10th. Tom Zolezzi seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Year to date financial report

Lou Palestini reported on the Association's year to date financial reports for April 2013. Frank Stiriti moved to accept the reports. Vito Altieri seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

School Site update

Marco informed the Board that the issue is still in process. Dion Akers spoke about the meeting that was held six weeks ago regarding this.

Date Street Piazza Task Force with Fenton, 3 meetings by the end of June

With the redevelopment of Date Street between India & Columbia Streets, Date Street will become a large Piazza that will tie into Amici Park. They are currently discussing concepts. The DISI Committee will decide on a name.

Update of Piazza and Landmark Sign fundraising – all Board members must raise funds – Funds raised so far

Marco reminded the Board that all members are obligated to sell sponsorship tiles to raise money to fund the Piazza and Landmark Sign repairs and renovations. Sponsor tile support levels are:

- \$1,000
- \$5,000
- \$10,000

We are hoping to reach our goal by the end of August, the goal is \$40,000.

AB-5 Ammiano bill on Homeless rights - update

We sent a letter to Assemblywoman Toni Atkins and Senator Marty Block regarding the Association's position on AB 5, Homeless Rights Legislation. The bill has currently been suspended.

Annual Dinner

July 31st is the date for the Annual Dinner. This year we will be showing video shorts, all board members are expected to purchase tickets.

Letter to BID Council authorizing Chris Gomez as LIA rep to Council

Marco informed the Board that Chris Gomez has been the designated representative to the Association, and is also the elected VP to the BID Council. Another Executive Director on the BID Council questioned Chris' legitimacy as VP since he is presently not the official Executive Director or President to the Association. Marco wants to write a letter to the BID Council informing them that we can appoint whomever we choose to be our designated representative, and would also like to name Chris as the designated representative to the Association to avoid this type of issue in the future. Lou Palestini moved to write a letter to the BID Council informing them that we can designate a person of our choice to sit on the Council, and that we are naming Chris as our representative to the BID Council. Danny Mocerri seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Update from A.J. Magana on his review of raw parking, meetings with Councilman Gloria and Civic San Diego staff, new parking allocation for FY 13-14

A.J. Magana, previously from CCDC, was hired by the Association to analyze our raw parking data. A.J.'s best guess was that our 45% portion should be at \$345,000. The City is currently taking a 24% Admin cut of the top, then does the 45/55% split, the formula was changed without our knowledge. If you add our generated Parking District revenues, our annual income should be at approximately \$415,000.

At a recent Civic San Diego meeting, against the staff recommendation, the Board slashed our annual income to \$240,000. We were told that we did not need to be present at that meeting, so we were not there to defend our position. After explaining the issue to Councilman Gloria, he was in support of us. After several subsequent meetings and conversations, a new budget amount of \$380,000 was agreed upon, including a \$40,000 "give-back" for the Downtown funded shuttle. Jim Barone moved to proceed if we can receive the negotiated \$385,000. Tom Di Zinno seconded the motion. A discussion took place. Tom recommended that we go to City Council in mass, and endorsed staff to deal with action aggressively. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

DISI Committee

Mercato Update

Catt White updated the Board on the current activities of the Mercato.

Taste of Little Italy

This year's Taste of Little Italy will take place on Wednesday, June 19th from 5:00 – 9:00. Tickets are still on sale, but we are expected to sell out.

Update on PR RFP for FY 13-14

We have issued an RFP for FY14 PR services. The candidates will be reviewed by the DISI Committee, with its recommendations back to the Board in July.

Summer film series dates

Dates will be announced shortly.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the DISI Committee will be held on Friday, June 21st @ 9:00 am

Parking Committee

Laura Garrett, using driveways for residents

Marco is working with Laura Garrett on the use of driveways for resident parking.

Community Advisory Board

June 3rd meeting update

Discussions took place on the following projects:

- Helix Wholesale building – approved
- North End Bar – approved with conditions
- Ballast Point Brewery – approved
- Queenstown – issues with deck service

Rich Gustafson announced that CityMark is now in negotiation for the Calliber Collision property. Escrow is scheduled to close in September.

Bambini en la Strada

We have been approached about closing a street in Little Italy on Sundays for an ongoing kids playground. Steve Galasso authorized staff to move forward with the concept. Larry Kuntz seconded the motion. A brief discussion took place. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

SOBO Committee

Next fiscal year budget

We will be reviewing the FY 14 budget and will come back to the Board in July.

Neighborhood Plan/Project Review

Fenton Site review

Fenton will be presenting within the next few weeks.

County Parking Lot

The county will present the plans for their parking lot in July

Legacy Committee

Authorization for RFP's

We are seeking authorization to issue RFP's for both legal and accounting services. Danny Mocerri moved to authorize the RFP's. Jack Pecoraro seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Articles

Copies of these articles were provided to the Board in the packet:

- "Little Italy is growing up" Daily Transcript
- "Bryant Park" The New Yorker
- "Little Italy grows while parking struggles to keep up" The Daily Transcript

Presentation

County CMS Supervisor, Alfredo Aguirre and discussion of Laura's Law and other County programs

Alfredo Aguirre from the County of San Diego discussed County Programs to aid in mentally ill within the public rights of way.

Motion to adjourn

Steve Galasso moved to adjourn the June General Board meeting. Jim Barone seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Next Board meeting

The next General Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 2nd, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Hall.

Minutes for Board meeting submitted by Rosie DeLuca, staff.