

Little Italy Association
General Board of Directors Meeting
November 5, 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 / Domenic Brunetto / Pat Brunetto / Marianna Brunetto / Charlie Coradino / Sandi Cottrell / Dino Cresci / Jim DeSpenza / Tom Di Zinno / Pasquale Ioele / Larry Kuntz / Perry Meyer / Danny Mocerì / Lou Palestini / Jack Pecoraro / James Pieri, Jr. / Frank Stiriti / Fr. Joseph Tabigue / Luke Vinci / Catt White / Tom Zolezzi

Board Members Excused

John Contasti / Rollin Ellis / Steve Galasso

Board Members Absent (Unexcused)

Rich Gustafson

Guests

Kate Webb, Draw From Within / Joe Cordileone, guest / Diana Cordileone, guest / Louis Tommasino, Louis Tommasino, CPA / Desiree Brittain, Draw From Within / Mark Shulman, guest / Jim Hecht, HDR / Teresa Theriant, NAI / Anthony Bernal, Mayor Todd Gloria's office / Nancy Nichols, The Waterfront / Pete Molinari, guest / Julio DeGuzman, City Attorney's office / Sean Christensen, ArtWalk / Antonino Brunetto, property owner / Brijet Myers, Mercato / David Crum, Washington Elementary School / Laurie Coskey / Brian Earley, Louis Tommasino, CPA

Staff (Non-Voting)

Marco LiMandri, Rosie DeLuca

1. Introductions

Vice President Danny Mocerì called the November 2013 meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. Board as well as guest introductions were made. The meeting was turned over to the Chief Executive Administrator, Marco Li Mandri.

2. October 1, 2013 Board Minutes

Catt White moved to accept the October 1, 2013 Board minutes. Larry Kuntz seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor to accept the Board minutes.

3. Community Reports

- Luke Vinci, DCPC gave an update on Developer Impact Fees.
- Julio DeGuzman, City Attorney's Office introduced himself to the Board.
- Anthony Bernal, Interim Mayor Todd Gloria's office updated the Board on items that the Mayor is working on. He also mentioned that the City is working out details of Alcohol Railings. Marco spoke about issues that we are having with the City for charging us to water trees and for street lighting.
- Fr. Joe Tabigue, Our Lady of the Rosary reported that the Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser was a success.
- David Crum, Principal at Washington Elementary School reported that they are working on becoming a GATE School; the School name will not need to be changed as originally thought. Also, the school will celebrate its 100-year Anniversary in May 2014.

- Teresa Theriant, New Alternatives reported that the Little Italy Toy Drive will kick off within the next few weeks.
4. Non-Agenda/Public Comment, Introductions and Announcements
- Domenic Brunetto introduced Louis Tommasino and Brian Earley from the office of Louis Tommasino, CPA.
 - Nancy Nichols from The Waterfront informed the Board that they will celebrate their 80th Anniversary with a fundraiser on December 5th, 2013.
 - Kate Webb from Draw From Within introduced herself to the Board and indicated that she would like to partner with the Association with any means possible.
5. Committee Reports
(*Organization Committee*) – *Steve Galasso, Chair*
- Year to date financial report Lou Palestini, Treasurer, reported the YTD financials.
Motion: Sandi Cottrell moved to accept the Year-to-date Financial Report. Luke Vinci seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.
 - Results of Task Force of the Piazza Famiglia Marco updated the Board on the Piazza Famiglia, a 10,000 square foot piazza/plaza proposed for Date Street between India – Columbia Streets which will permanently be shut down to cars. The Fenton Company will put up the first \$500,000.00 for the project through Developer Impact Fees; Civic San Diego will allocate \$1.2 million. We will see the final drawings on the project within a month or two.
 - Update on School Property, license to Little Italy Association Marco informed the Board that we are getting close to the SD Unified School District licensing the control of the school property at Amici Park to the Association. The Agreement should come before the Board in December; it will be a two-phase process whereas our payment to them will be our Maintenance of the Park.
Motion: Luke Vinci moved that we proceed conceptually on the license plan with the SD Unified School District on the property at Amici Park. Tom Di Zinno seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.
 - Issue of increasing insurance premium for this year due to City's trip and fall wording Marco reported that effective November 1st; the Association experienced a dramatic increase in insurance premiums. This is primarily due to the verbiage in the current MAD Agreement with the City which assigns sidewalk liability to the property owner and to the Association, as well as due to pay-outs made by our previous insurance carrier on trip and fall liability claims.
 - Authorization for Chris Gomez to represent the Little Italy BID as President of the BID Council Marco reported that Chris Gomez, Executive Director of the Little Italy BID, currently serves as the Vice President to the BID Council. In the event that the current BID Council President steps down, we are seeking authorization for Chris to represent the Council as President.
Motion: Luke Vinci moved to authorize Chris Gomez (if nominated/elected) to serve as President to the BID Council. Jack Pecoraro seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.
 - Food Truck ordinance Marco reported that the City of SD is getting closer to implementing a new Food Truck ordinance.
 - Washington School as a Charter school, attendance rates A chart which shows Washington School attendance rates over the past ten years was provided to the Board in the packet.

(DISI Committee) – Marianna Brunetto, Chair

- Mercato Update Catt White updated the Board on the current activities of the Mercato.
- Festa Update Sandi Cottrell reported that the Festa received positive feedback; we are still waiting for the final numbers. A wrap-up meeting will be taking place within the next month.
- Trick or Treat on India Street Marco reported that this year's Trick or Treat event took place on the Friday before Thanksgiving to coincide with the school's Fall Festival. Next year it will take place on Halloween to avoid confusion.
- Hairy & Merry Dog Wash label Marco reported that Hairy & Merry, a new dog grooming business in Little Italy, has approached us regarding sponsorship on the Doggie Bag Stations. Once finalized, a Hairy & Merry label will be installed on each of the bag dispensers in the district.
- Balboa Park Centennial banners Marco informed the Board that we have been approached by Balboa Park to rent our banner poles to hang their Centennial banners.
- Christmas Tree Lighting – December 7th Marco reported that this year's Christmas Tree Lighting would take place on Saturday, December 7th. Local dignitaries have been invited.
- Olive PR Marco reported that the Little Italy PR is going very well, Olive is focusing on National PR. This year's Festa received great media coverage.

(Parking Committee) – Luke Vinci, Chair

- Update on concept of In-Sourcing with the City Marco briefly reiterated the concept of In-Sourcing, where we would pay the City for services such as curb painting, restriping of parking spaces, replace street blades, etc. A copy of a letter on this issue that was sent to Jennifer Badgley from Interim Mayor Todd Gloria's office was provided to the Board in the packet.
- BRT bus yard update Marco reported that there has been no progress from SANDAG on this issue.

(Community Advisory Board) – Jack Pecoraro, Chair

- Outdoor railing status – update Marco informed the Board that he has been meeting with City agencies on this issue. We now need to meet with the ABC to get their approval.
- Queenstown Public House response to extension of NUP, Task Force meeting held A copy of a letter sent to Lorena Cordova from Civic San Diego regarding the Queenstown Public House's request for expansion of NUP was provided to the Board in the packet. To summarize, the Association and residents seek to have the owners of Queenstown succeed in their location, however they must conform to the conditions of the existing NUP and respond appropriately to neighbor's concerns.

(Sidewalk Operations, Beautification and Order (SOBO)) – Rich Gustafson, Chair

- Budget for Fiscal Year Still working on a few last items, and then we will be able to call a meeting to get the budget together.
- Review of contractors for lawn mowing and maintenance at WES We are currently in the process of reviewing contractors to mow the lawn and maintain the Amici Park area.

(Neighborhood Plan/Project Review) – Jim Barone, Chair

- County Parking Structure at Kettner and Cedar – Dedication on Dec 2nd Marco reported that the County will be presenting plans to the committee on their proposed parking structure.
- Action on ALUCP, and response to letter from DCPC Marco reviewed correspondence provided in the packet, and spoke about the proposed Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP). The proposed Safety Zone will create a dead zone on the West side of Kettner, and will suppress property values.

Motion: *Jim Barone moved that we endorse the existing land use under the Downtown Community Planning Council that allows for a 2.0 FAR and a 36' height restriction. Also, Jim moved to support Civic San Diego, in contrast of the Airport Authority Plan. Luke Vinci seconded the motion. A discussion took place. Unanimously approved.*

6. Adjournment to dedication of Piazza Basilone The meeting will reconvene at the Piazza Basilone, at India & Fir Streets for the presentation of the Street Car for Little Italy, to honor Joe Cordileone, and to dedicate the Piazza Basilone.

7. Presentation of Street Car for Little Italy, Conceptual Endorsement, Jay Turner At the Piazza Basilone, Jay Turner spoke about a concept for a Little Italy Street Car system.

Motion: *Danny Mocerri moved that we conceptually endorse the Little Italy Street Car system. Luke Vinci seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.*

8. Dedication of Piazza and Sign, honor Joe Cordileone for his Silver Star Marco spoke about Joe Cordileone, and how he came to the aid of the Association while dealing with our past City Attorney freezing our Maintenance District funds. Tom Di Zinno spoke about Joe, and how he was just awarded a Silver Star for extraordinary bravery during Vietnam. Joe spoke briefly, and thanked the Board for the recognition. Fr. Joe Tabigue blessed the Piazza Basilone.

9. Next Meeting: The next Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, December 3rd, 2013 at Our Lady of the Rosary church hall.

10. Adjournment: Danny Mocerri moved to adjourn the November meeting. Sandi Cottrell seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Minutes for Board meeting submitted by Rosie DeLuca, staff.