

Little Italy Association
General Board of Directors Meeting
December 2, 2014 - 8:30 a.m.
Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Hall
1654 State Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Board Members Present

Domenic Brunetto / Tom Cervello / John Contasti / Charlie Coradino / Sandi Cottrell / Dino Cresci / David Crum / Jim DeSpensa / Tom Di Zinno / Steve Galasso / Rich Gustafson / Pasquale Ioele / Larry Kuntz / Perry Meyer / Danny Mocerri / Lou Palestini / James Pieri, Jr. / Frank Stiriti / Fr. Joseph Tabigue / Luke Vinci / Catt White

Board Members Excused

Vito Altieri / Jim Barone / Pat Brunetto / Marianna Brunetto / Jack Pecoraro / Demetrios Sparacino / Tom Zolezzi

Guests

Sean Christensen, ArtWalk / John P., Our World Friend / Joyce Summer, To Market / Susan Ranftkeating, resident / Jenn von Stafuffenberg, Olive PR / Yana Shayne, Downtown News / Jayne Barnett, Washington Elementary / Kate Webb, Draw From Within / Jamie Ledezma, CAO / Julio DeGuzman, City Attorney's office / Jamie Ladezma, City Attorney's office / Mike Zarconi, Sullivan Hill / Kathi Meyer, Meyer Fine Art / John Falcone, Sal D'Acquista Realty / Erick Smith, 7-Eleven / PJ Lamont, Queenstown / Darren Roach, Queenstown / Dallas Stapleton, Chase Bank / Elena Barbar / Callie Taylor, Chase Bank / Jeri Keiller, resident / Annie Eichman, LIRA / Joe Scaglione, USO volunteer / Mark Shulman, The Physical Therapy Effect / Ciro Villa, Torrey Pines Bank / Christopher Morgan, Hairy & Merry / Marsha Lyon, Say SD / Anthony Bernal, Council President Todd Gloria's office / Jodi Douchette, Shullivan Hill / Umberto Falcone, resident / Madeleine Falco, Intrax English Institute

Staff (Non-Voting)

Marco LiMandri, Rosie DeLuca, Chris Gomez

1. Introductions

President Steve Galasso Mocerri called the December 2014 meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. Board as well as guest introductions were made. The meeting was turned over to the Chief Executive Administrator, Marco Li Mandri (non-voting).

2. November 4, 2014 Board Minutes

Luke Vinci moved to accept the November 4, 2014 Board minutes. Tom Di Zinno seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor to accept the Board minutes.

3. Community Reports

- Joyce Summer spoke on behalf of the DCPC and advised of an upcoming meeting on Community Benefit Agreements
- Julio DeGuzman from the SD City Attorney's office introduced his boss Jamie Ladezma to the Board. Jamie then explained the process in prosecuting neighborhood crimes.
- Anthony Bernal from Council President Todd Gloria's office updated the Board on the following issues:
 - Quiet Zone

- MAD Agreement
- Audit Committee
- Annie Eichman from LIRA updated the board on SANDAG's Bus Rapid Transit project.
- Fr. Joe Tabigue from Our Lady of the Rosary spoke to the Board about current Church activities.
- Prin. David Crum from Washington Elementary School spoke to the Board about upcoming school activities.

4. Non-Agenda/Public Comment, Introductions and Announcements

- None heard

5. Committee Reports

(Organization Committee) – Steve Galasso, Chair

- Year to date financial report: Lou Palestini reported on the YTD financials for October 2014.

Motion: *Danny Mocerri moved to accept the Year-to-date Financial Reports. Frank Stiriti seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.*

- Joe Scaglione request for volunteers to help out with Veterans XMAS dinner A request for volunteers for the USO Christmas event to be held on 12/15 at 4:30 was put forth by Joe Scaglione. Anyone wanting to help should contact Joe directly at (248) 568-8957.
- Agreement with School Board on Amici Park – status The issue regarding the Amici Park property is set to go to the School Board this evening for a final vote. The agreement is proposing that we take over the property effective January 1st, 2015. We will begin an aggressive fundraising campaign to offset the costs of maintenance.
- Casino Night at Convivio site – February or March Marco announced that we need a Board Member to step up and coordinate this Association fundraising event.

Motion: *Perry Meyer moved to authorize the Association to move forward in planning this event. Tom Di Zinno seconded the motion. A discussion took place. Perry Meyer amended his motion to include James Pieri and Jim DeSpensa as coordinators of this event. Unanimously approved.*

- Report from Retreat on November 4th Marco reported on the Officer's retreat that was held last month. Issues that were discussed include the following:
 - Bonuses for Staff to be paid for out of programs or savings budget
 - Policy on Board members working events, fundraising – January
 - Meeting with Senator Mary Block to cover the following issues:
 - Freeway wall along Washington Elementary
 - Strip of surplus Cal Trans land across from office
 - No railings for alcohol
 - Grant funds for SB 375 and AB 32
 - Cal Trans bridge lighting, murals, music

- Consideration of new banking relationship, options. Lou Palestini requested that the Board allow the Org Committee to make a decision on the Association's banking.

Motion Sandi Cottrell moved to authorize the Org Committee to make a decision on the Association's banking. Larry Kuntz seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

- Resolution of the Board regarding FY 16 TOT Grant Application Marco reported that we will be submitting a TOT Grant Application with Steve Galasso's signature for FY 16 towards the 2015 Festa.

Motion Luke Vinci moved to approve of the submittal of the FY 16 TOT Grant application, to be signed by Steve Galasso. Catt White seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

(DISI Committee) – Marianna Brunetto, Chair

- Mercato Update Catt White updated the Board on the current activities of the Mercato.
- Olive PR gave an update on PR work done for Little Italy last month.
- Christmas tree lighting, need to generate \$19,000 for new tree, status Marco reported that we will install a metal Christmas Tree frame that will hold approximately 1,000 poinsettias at the Piazza Basilone. We still need to raise \$11,000 via Holiday Program and Poinsettia sponsorships.
- Ferragosto sponsorships and update Luke Vinci reported on this year's Ferragosto that will take place on August 15th, 2015. Tickets are now on sale, visit www.FerragostoSD.org to purchase.
- Blessing of the animals in February – launch of the Dog Parks Marco reported that we are currently in discussions over this proposed event.
- Fisherman Mural at California and Beech
- Update on status of Piazza Pescatore Marco referred to a letter which was provided to the board in the packet regarding the proposed Piazza Pescatore.

(Parking Committee) – Luke Vinci, Chair

- Bike lanes on Beech and State, letter to Civic San Diego Marco reported on a letter that was written to Civic San Diego regarding bike lanes on Beech and State Streets.

(Community Advisory Board) – Jack Pecoraro, Chair

- Audio Radio Specialists coming forward

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

- Meeting with Councilman Gloria (Resolution to the City Council) Marco reiterated to the Board that we provide all water, lighting, trash and landscaping services in the district, therefore we should not pay the City's 4% Administration fee.
- Curb your dog signs New "curb your dog" signs have been created for various streets and areas in the district.

(Legacy Committee) – Charlie Coradino, Chair

- Tom Fat Memorial agreement with Catt White – Crowdfunding to commence in January Catt White will begin a first crowdfunding program at the Mercato in efforts to raise money for the Tom Fat memorial in Little Italy.

6. **Next meeting:** February 3, 2015 – 8:30 a.m. at or Our Lady of the Rosary Church Hall

Danny Mocerri moved to adjourn December Board meeting. Steve Galasso seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Minutes for Board meeting submitted by Rosie DeLuca, staff.