



**Board of Directors Meeting
Little Italy Association
Tuesday, February 4, 2020 - 8:30 a.m.
Our Lady of the Rosary-Lower Floor
1654 State Street San Diego, CA 92101**

Present: Vito Altieri, Jenn Borba Von Stauffenberg, Joe Cordileone, Curt Booker for Sandi Cottrell, Jim DeSpenza, Steven Galasso, Rich Gustafson, Christie Kong, Jocelyn Marcus, Perry Meyer, Danny Mocerri, Kari Topzand for Juan Nuñez, Lou Palestini, Jack Pecoraro, Lee Scrivner, Frank Stiriti, Diana Strauss Casey, Bryan Thompson, Tom Zolezzi

Excused Absence: Domenic Brunetto, Charlie, Coradino, Dino Cresci, Pasquale Ioele, Luke Vinci, Catt White

Absent: Jonathan Herbert

Guests: Gary Mansour, Olivia Zolezzi, Kathi Meyer, Brijet Meyers, Melanie Dellas, Madeline Balicoco, Andrea Tarr, Juan Barrera, Robert Rothwell, Joey Busalacchi, Erin Rudolph, Michelle Van Rooyen, Susan Keating, Debra Lunn, Ryan Blum, Joseph Scaglione, Brittany Baily, Randy Wilde, Jason Weisz, Jack D' Acquisto, Ralph Hochstem

Staff: Marco Li Mandri, Jeri Keiller, Chris Gomez, Dianne Serna De León

MINUTES:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Action Taken?</i>
1. Introductions	The meeting was called to order at 8:30 A.M. by the President, Steven Galasso. Self-introductions of everyone present were made. Steve then turned the meeting over to Marco Li Mandri the Chief Executive Administrator	No action taken
2. Review of October 1, 2019 Board Minutes	Minutes from December 3, 2020 were reviewed.	Jack Pecoraro moved to accept the board minutes. Frank Stiriti seconded the motion.

		The minutes were unanimously approved.
3. Non-Agenda / Public Comment, Introductions and Announcements	Kari Topzand from Washington Elementary School introduced Andrea Tarr who will be the Event Coordinator for the Van Gogh/Soap Box Cars Fundraiser Event for the school.	No action taken
4. Committee Reports Org Committee: Steve Galasso;	4.a. Lou Palestini and Jeri Keiller reported that the BID Financial budget is on Target	4.a. Vito Altieri moved to approve the Financial Report. Tom Zolezzi seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
a. Financial Report		
b. Wounded Warriors: Joe Scaglione	4.b. The Wounded Warriors will be returning to San Diego to participate in the Marine Corps Trials at Camp Pendleton. Joe Scaglione is working with the USO and Chris Gomez to provide a warm welcome for them with lunch at the Piazza Della Famiglia on February 28, 2020 at noon. Joe has asked Chris Gomez for assistance with gathering donations to help make this luncheon possible once again. The target for donations is \$1,300. The International countries currently scheduled to attend: Georgia Republic-16, France-15, Columbia-15, Netherlands-11, UK-15, Italy-2, Canada 32.	4.b. No action taken
c. Authorization to Set-up Presentations by the Final Mayoral, City Attorney & City Council Primary Candidates	4.c. Marco announced that he would like to set up presentations on March 3, 2020 for the final candidates for the Mayor's, City Council and City Attorney's races. Our next meeting will be held on election day. This year we have a non-incumbent mayor & city council person and Marco would like to get authorization from the Board to set up a series of three different dates to have the final mayoral candidates, city attorney candidates, city council primary candidates to speak to us in April, May June or July or any time before November. It would be a great opportunity for us to ask them key questions.	4.c. Lou Palestini moved to support the invitation of the candidates to the Board meetings after March. Frank Stiriti seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

<p>d. Addition of Melanie Dellas to Board as Community-at Large Rep.</p>	<p>4.d. Marco introduced Melanie Dellas as a new Community at Large Representative. Melanie has been active in the community and she was really helpful with the First Responders efforts last year. She is also involved with the DISI committee. Melanie is a small-business owner and author and she has lived in Little Italy for 18 years.</p>	<p>4.d. Diana Strauss moved to approve Melanie Dellas as a new Community at Large member of the Board. Joe Cordileone seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.</p>
<p>e. Final Resolution on Wording for Little Italy Heritage Support:</p>	<p>4.e Marco announced that Louie had presented to the Organization Committee the Final Resolution on Wording for the Little Italy Heritage Support will be: <i>"The Little Italy Association pledges to help preserve Little Heritage and culture of the neighborhood through its relationship with Convivio Society by allowing Convivio to operate as a Little Italy Heritage Center and support their events/operations while promoting through our website, signage and social media etc."</i></p>	<p>4.e. Danny Mocerì moved to accept the final wording for the Little Italy Heritage; Jack Pecoraro seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.</p>
<p>f. Update on Amici Park WES:</p>	<p>4.f. Marco reported that we have the preliminary drawing for Amici Park. The next step is getting the Schoolboard on board as any improvements to the park are Schoolboard property. Now we have to go to the city for developer impact fees in order to fund those improvements. There's no update, but we are trying to get this funded by the summer. Marco is also trying to get LIA to be the contractor instead of the city.</p>	<p>4.f. No action taken</p>
<p>g. Board Resolution approving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entering into/extending BID agreement with the City 	<p>4.g. The Board needs to designate Steve Galasso to sign the BID agreement, disbursement reconciliation report, requests for reimbursement and program reports.</p>	<p>4.g. Perry Meyer moved to designate Steve Galasso to sign the BID agreement. Bryan Thompson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.</p>
<p>h. Update on Caltrans Nursey, ABC and outdoor dining, insurance issues</p>	<p>4.h. Marco thanked Jason Weisz for the work Toni Atkin's office did to assist with obtaining the Caltrans Nursery lot over the last 9 years.</p>	<p>4.h. No action taken</p>

<p>i. Update of the Neighborhood Tours and Merchandise issues.</p> <p>j. Next Meeting</p>	<p>Outdoor dining is under scrutiny with Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC). ABC is suggesting that restaurants may want to post someone outside to monitor any outdoor drinking.</p> <p>4.i Neighborhood Tours and Merchandise Contracts are in Mike Zarconi’s hand. Hopefully they will be finalized by March or April.</p> <p>4.j. Next meeting will be Monday the 10th at 11:30 A.M. at the LIA office.</p>	<p>4.i. No action taken</p>
<p>DISI Committee/Perry Meyer</p> <p>Olive Creative Strategies: PR & Social Media</p> <p>Little Italy Mercato & Wednesday Market-Catt White</p> <p>Little Italy Venues-Curt Booker</p>	<p>Creative Strategies gave an update on social media. LIA is growing on Twitter and The NY Times is interested in the evolution of Little Italy.</p> <p>Chris Gomez reported for Catt White. The Mercato is busy, Wednesdays are growing and she is getting ready to apply for the Art Walk street change.</p> <p>Curt Booker introduced Erin Rudolph. Erin reported that Sony has booked a reception at the Piazza Della Famiglia on April 30, 2020 from 6:30 P.M. -9:30 P.M. for 600 guests. There’s a possibility for a Little Italy Block party in September. Another possible interest for an event at the Piazza is the Frozen- On Broadway show that will take place at the End of March or beginning of April.</p> <p>Curt reported that Art Walk will take place April 25th and 26th and they are almost sold out of Artist’s Booths, which has never happened this early on, so it’s looking great this year.</p>	<p>No action taken</p> <p>No action taken</p> <p>No action taken</p> <p>No action taken</p> <p>No action taken</p>

<p>Christmas Tree Lighting and Christmas Tree Village Wrap-Up/Income & Expense Report- Chris Gomez</p> <p>Hotel Council-Greg Djinis (Found Hotel) a. Next Meeting: TBA</p> <p>Restaurant Council-Pasquale Ioele & Joey Busalacchi (Busalacchi's) a. Next Meeting</p>	<p>Marco reported that LI is still waiting for about \$5K to come in for the Christmas Tree Lighting and Village event.</p> <p>Chris Gomes reported that the Hotel Council met in January. Greg Djinis is the new Hotel Council Chair from Found Hotel. There was discussion about switching the meetings from a monthly meeting to a bi-monthly or quarterly meeting since attendance has been off and on.</p> <p>Next meeting is TBA</p> <p>4.q. The next Meeting will be Friday, February 7, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. at the LIA Office</p>	<p>No action taken</p> <p>No action taken</p>
<p>Parking & Mobility Committee/Luke Vinci</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bollards Program Status-Chris Gomez • Parking Conversion at the city 	<p>Marco reported that the Bollard Program continues to go on. The bill is about \$750K to put the Bollards in on Date St. The Mayor's office is committed to using parking meter revenue to fund it. The next question is, will the city do the contract or does LIA. We are looking at late Summer for the Bollards to be completed up and down Date St. to be used for special events as well as the Mercato every Saturday.</p> <p>Chris reported that there are several streets in LI that have not been converted. Over 10 years ago we submitted a plan for all of the East/West streets to be converted to head in parking and all of the North/South parking would be converted to diagonal parking. The plan was approved by Civic at the time and then the City. Then when the petition drive was underway, Brad Richter from Civic San Diego stepped in and said, the mobility plan was to be implemented</p>	<p>No action taken</p> <p>No action taken</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY21 Budget Planning 	<p>and bike lines where going to be installed. We have now been on hold for over three years. Chris Gomez thanked Brittany Bailey, from Councilman Wards office for meeting with him and Ben Verdugo to help make this happen. We need 51% of petitioners per block who support this conversion in order for it to move forward.</p> <p>Chris Gomez reported that the FY 21 Budget is going in front of DPMG which is now under the supervision of city of SD directly. We are presenting the FY21 Budget to them in February.</p>	<p>No action taken</p>
<p>Legacy Committee</p>	<p>Chris Gomez reported that the Legacy committee is coming up with a way to cultivate future donors by creating an Annual Membership to a Specialty Program. Logistics are still being discussed.</p>	<p>No action taken</p>
<p>Finance Committee/Frank Stiriti</p>	<p>Marco reported that the NCA contract has been given to Mike Zarconi. Once reviewed by Mike Zarconi, the contract will go to the Finance Committee and then to the Board for review and consideration in April.</p>	<p>No action taken</p>
<p>New City America Administration contract</p>	<p>Marco stated that the Finance Committee minutes are included in the Board Packet for review.</p> <p>Funding the improvements and New Nursery Fencing: Finance Committee minutes are on Page 11 of the Board Packet for review.</p>	<p>No action taken</p> <p>No action taken</p>
<p>Project Review Committee/Marco LiMandri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asaro Property at India and W. Beech- Endorsed 	<p>Marco reported that the proposal for a 380 foot high building at Beech and India was reviewed by the Project Review Committee and approved unanimously</p>	

<p>a. <u>Community Reports:</u> SDPD, City Attorney's Office, Councilman Ward's Office, Mayor Faulconer's Office, Supervisor Fletcher's Office, Assemblyman Gloria's Office, Senator Atkin's Office, DCPC, LIRA Put Lady of the Rosary, Washington School & Convivio</p>	<p>SDPD reported that Commanding Officer (CO), Mike Holden received a new assignment and the new CO will be Capt. Danny Grubbs.</p> <p>SDPD has 2 investigators working on the Window Breaks on Kettner Blvd. Existing surveillance cameras are being checked although they are typically used for Homicides and Hit and Runs. There were three businesses that were broken into and a suspect was taken into custody. He is facing three counts of burglary and three counts of Vandalism.</p> <p>Business owners need to make sure to report any damage to their business to the SDPD and also continue to utilize the Get It Done App.</p> <p>Two officers have been assigned to monitor Amici Park every morning around 6:30 A.M., as long as their schedule permits.</p> <p>Brittany Baily reported that Councilmember Ward will be the new Chair of Land Use. The Mayor's Budget will drop in April. Brittany also stated that she and Chris Gomez have been working on a project with Creative Crosswalks to have the Italian Flag painted on crosswalks in Little Italy. (India and Cedar St., India & Date St. and India and Fir St.) That project is still waiting to be approved.</p> <p>Randy Wild with the Office of State Assembly Member Todd Gloria introduced himself and reported that he will be taking over all of city Council District 3, including Little Italy. He is based on Front and Ash St.</p> <p>Marco added that a concrete wall at the Washington Elementary School is a priority for the children's safety.</p> <p>Jason Weisz with the office of Senator Tony Atkins stated that he will work with the</p>	<p>No action taken</p> <p>No action taken</p> <p>No action taken</p>
---	---	---

	<p>Assembly members office to see what can be done in regards to a concrete wall being built at Washington Elementary. He reported that the governor has proposed his initial draft of his budget. However, in May, they will have more solid numbers from the Department of Finance. He wanted to remind everyone that it is important to get your CA REAL ID for travel. The deadline is October 2020. Don't forget to vote on March 3, 2020</p> <p>Jeri Keiller reported that she became the President of the Little Italy Residence Association in January.</p> <p>Eledy Strauss wanted to thank LIA for allowing Convivio to work out of the Amici House.</p>	
5. Other	Marco shared Articles with the Board regarding San Diego's Job growth, Deficits, Crime and Homelessness.	5.a. No action taken
6. Next Meeting:	6.a. Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 8:30 am at OLR Downstairs Hall	6.a. No action taken
7. Adjournment		7.a. Melanie Dellas moves to Adjourn the Board Meeting and Joe Cordileone seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously

Minutes taken by: Dianne T. Serna De León, Staff