

Little Italy Association
General Board of Directors Meeting
July 7, 2015 - 8:30 a.m.

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Hall
1654 State Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Board Members Present

Vito Altieri / Jim Barone / Domenic Brunetto / Marianna Brunetto / Tom Cervello / John Contasti / Charlie Coradino / Sandi Cottrell / Jim DeSpenza / Rich Gustafson / Perry Meyer / Danny Mocerri / Lou Palestini / James Pieri, Jr. / Demetrios Sparacino / Frank Stiriti / Catt White

Board Members Excused

Pat Brunetto / Dino Cresci / David Crum / Tom Di Zinno / Steve Galasso / Pasquale Ioele / Jack Pecoraro / Fr. Joseph Tabigue / Luke Vinci / Tom Zolezzi

Board Members Absent (un-excused)

Larry Kuntz

Guests

Susan Keating, resident / Annie Eichman, LIRA / Nate Benedetto, Strom Commercial / Marla Saltzman, Amici Pet Hospital / Kathi Meyer, MFA / John Falcone, Sal D'Acquista Real Estate Co / Julio DeGuzman, City Attorney's office / Nerea Urtasun, Supervisor Ron Roberts' office / Mitch Meredith, guest / Sean Christensen, ArtWalk / Pete Molinari, resident / Melissa Schofield, CBRE / Michael Zarconi, SHLRE / Curt Brooker, ArtWalk / Nicola Reynolds, resident / Carl Rader, SDPD / Suzy de la Pena, SDPD / Madeleine Falco, resident / Vic Calise, Private Asset Mgmt / Umberto Falcone, resident / Kate Webb, Draw From Within / Jesse Navarro, SD County DA

Staff (Non-Voting)

Marco LiMandri, Rosie DeLuca, Chris Gomez, Jeri Keiller

1. Introductions

Vice-President Danny Mocerri called the July 2015 meeting to order at 8:37 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. June 2nd, 2015 Board Minutes

Vito Altieri moved to accept the June 2nd, 2015 Board minutes. Perry Meyer seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor to accept the Board minutes.

3. Community Reports

- Julio DeGuzman from the City Attorney's office reminded everyone to report offenses to PD, cases are easier to prosecute with a documented trail.
- Suzy de la Pena from SDPD spoke about neighborhood issues. She introduced Carl Rader from the SDPD Communications/Administration depot. Carl discussed department phone call protocol.
- Jesse Navarro from the District Attorney's office distributed a flier which highlights the various Public Safety topics via Community Presentations and Media Interviews.

- Annie Eichmann from LIRA informed the board of the next LIRA meeting.
- Marianne Brunetto from Ferragosto provided the Board with an event update.
- Nerea Urtasun from Supervisor Ron Roberts' office spoke about the new County Parking Structure, as well as other community events.

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 reviewed the YTD financial reports.
Motion: *Sandi Cottrell moved to approve the YTD financial reports. Frank Spiriti seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.*
Charlie Coradino added that we are not yet on an “Accrual Basis” for accounting, so all income may not be reflected in the YTD financial reports.
- Update from Nominations Chris Gomez reported that the nominations notices went out in today’s mail. Chris also reviewed the guidelines on becoming a Board member.
- Annual Dinner tickets Chris reported that the Annual Dinner tickets would be available later in the week; the cost is \$40/ticket. The event will take place on Wednesday, July 29th from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm.
- Status of lighting of bridges, from surplus parking meter revenues Chris updated the board on the progress of the “Lighting of the Bridges”. We have hired a consultant who will create a “design to build” study, we will then revise the RFP.
- Progress on issues with Senator Block; (sound wall, CalTrans lot, railings) Marco reviewed a letter from Jennifer Hill from the ABC. The City of SD has already stated that railings are not necessary. Marco informed Senator Block’s office that we need to deal with this again. Also, Marco updated the Board on the Washington Elementary School sound wall and the CalTrans lot adjacent to the Little Italy office.
- Joe Scaglione call for volunteers for serving at USO event Joe Scaglione reported that he will need volunteers for his next USO event which will take place on July 21st at 4:00 pm. Contact Monica if you are able to help.
- Board to go dark in August? The Org Committee is proposing that the Board go dark in August to accommodate for summer vacations.
Motion: *Marianne Brunetto moved to “go dark” for the August General Board meeting. Vito Altieri seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.*
- Little Italy Tours proposal Anthony Davi with Little Italy Tours has approached the Board with a proposal to be the official tour guide of the Little Italy area.
Motion: *James Pieri, Jr. moved to authorize staff to work with Little Italy Tours on the proposal/contract. Charlie Coradino seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.*
- Use of “Purple Pipe” reclaimed water Marco referred the Board to a copy correspondence provided in the packet regarding the use of reclaimed water.

(DISI Committee) – Marianna Brunetto, Chair

- Mercato Update Catt White updated the Board on the current activities of the Mercato.
- Olive PR report Courtney from Olive PR gave a report on current PR and Social Media activity. Marco referred to copies of articles in the media, provided in the Board packet.

- Festa Task Force update Sandi Cottrell reported on the Festa. We are still in need of \$500 Gesso Sponsors.
- Taste of Little Italy – Update Sandi Cottrell reported that this year’s Taste of Little Italy that took place in June was a great event that will net the Association approximately \$14,000.00. Sandi thanked Marianne Brunetto and Jim DeSpensa and his wife for their help.
- Little Italy Film Festival Chris reported that this is a great event and is well received by the community.

(Parking Committee) – Luke Vinci, Chair

- Bike racks in Little Italy Marco reported that new bike racks have been installed throughout the district, a location map was provided to the Board in the packet.

(Community Advisory Board) – Jack Pecoraro, Chair

- Amici Park update, meeting with dog owners Marco reported on the outcome of last night’s meeting with community members regarding the dog park.
- Beer Bike issue Marco informed the Board of a new “Beer Bike” that pedals through Little Italy. The Community Advisory Board would like to investigate how this business could be legal, and asked that we inquire within the City on the program guidelines.

Motion: Vito Altieri moved to authorize staff to inquire within the City on the “Beer Bike” guidelines. Marianna Brunetto seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

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

- Meeting with Councilman Gloria on reserve, 4% general benefits Marco reported that the Councilman is trying to work around these assessments charged to the Association.
- Security Task Force recommendations Marco reviewed the recommendations put forth by the Security Task Force:
 - a) Raise 10k per month from various sectors of Little Italy
 - b) Begin around Labor Day
 - c) Use 10K from Ferragosto proceeds to the LIA to fund first month
 - d) Engage with Catt White for Crowdfunding

Motion: Marianna Brunetto moved to engage with Catt White for Crowdfunding. Frank Stiriti seconded the motion. A brief discussion took place; this will be a self-funded project. Unanimously approved.

- e) Next meeting on Friday, July 31st, 9:00 am, LIA office

Marco reported that there is a strong appetite for dealing with Security at night. HOA’s, 7-Eleven, Hotels and Restaurants should all contribute.

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

- Broadstone report on use of outdoor space – update on encroachment Marco reported that we are making progress with Broadstone on this project.
- Parklet at Beech and Kettner, split 1/3 Ariel Suites 1/3 Arsulan Tafazoli, 1/3 from Parking Meter funds, set as a standard

Motion: John Contasti moved to proceed with this “split” concept to fund Parklets. Tom Cervello seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

(Legacy Committee) – Charlie Coradino, Chair

- John Asaro Art Show – VIP Reception on July 18th Marco spoke about this upcoming Art Show, Vic did a great job of bringing in John Asaro. Perry Meyer reported on the show schedule:
 - VIP Reception on July 18th
 - Public Reception on July 19th
 - Show runs from July 9th – August 1st

(Security Task Force) – Tom Di Zinno, Chair

6. Other

- Joan and Irwin Jacobs will walk Amici Park with Marco next week.

7. Next meeting: September 1, 2015 – 8:30 a.m. at or Our Lady of the Rosary Church Hall

- Danny Mocerri moved to adjourn July Board meeting. Jim DeSpensa seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Minutes for Board meeting submitted by Rosie DeLuca, staff.