



Little Italy Association
General Board of Directors Meeting
May 3, 2016 - 8:30 a.m.
Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Hall
1654 State Street - San Diego, CA 92101

Board Members Present

Jim Barone / Jenn Borba von Sauffenberg / Domenic Brunetto / Marianna Brunetto / Tom Cervello / John Contasti / Charlie Coradino / Joe Cordileone / Sandi Cottrell / Jim DeSpenza / Tom Di Zinno / Steve Galasso / Rich Gustafson / Pasquale Ioele / Perry Meyer / Danny Mocerri / Christopher Morgan / Lou Palestini / Jack Pecoraro / James Pieri, Jr. / Frank Stiriti / Fr. Joseph Tabigue / Catt White

Board Members Excused

Vito Altieri / Pat Brunetto / Dino Cresci / David Crum / Demetrios Sparacino / Luke Vinci / Tom Zolezzi

Guests

Jayne Barnett, Washington Elementary School (WES) / Sumrall Howell, Hairy & Merry / Anthony Napoli, Anthony Napoli Real Estate / Marlo Woods, SDPD / Giuseppe Annino, Cinema Little Italy / Veronica Gretchman, Unusual Concepts / Alex Gretchman, Unusual Concepts / Mark Shulman, PT Effect / Daniel Orloff, Ed Harris for Mayor / Ciro Villa, Torrey Pines Bank / Susan Keating, LIRA / Tom McMahan, Porto Vista Hotel / Aaron Osborne, Porto Vista Hotel / Michelle Danks, ArtWalk / Anne Eichman, LIRA / Julio DeGuzman, City Attorney's office / Caroline Song, City Attorney's office / Curt Brooker, ArtWalk / Rich La Rocca, Cinema Little Italy / Kathi Meyer, Meyer Fine Art / Michele Basil, resident / Samantha Hewitt, Olive PR / Brijet Myers, Little Italy Mercato / Rosalie Andrews, Retail Insite / Mike Zarconi, SHLRE / Jennifer DeCarlo, jdc Fine Art / Joseph Scaglione, guest / Kate Webb, Draw From Within

Staff (Non-Voting)

Marco LiMandri, Rosie DeLuca, Chris Gomez

1. Introductions

President Steve Galasso called the May 2016 meeting to order at 8:40 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. April 5, 2016 Board Minutes

Frank Stiriti moved to accept the April 5, 2016 Board minutes. John Contasti seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor to accept the Board minutes.

LITTLE ITALY ASSOCIATION OF SAN DIEGO

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3. Community Reports

- Julio DeGuzman from the City Attorney's office introduced Caroline Song, our neighborhood prosecutor. Caroline spoke briefly to the Board.
- Marlo Woods from the SDPD spoke to the Board about ongoing Little Italy issues.
- Anne Eichman from LIRA informed the Board that the next meeting is in the works.
- Fr. Joe Tabigue from Our Lady of the Rosary gave a brief update on Church activities.
- Clarisa Elmore from WES updated the Board on current school activities. Jayne Barnett updated the Board on their VanGo event.
- Marco LiMandri, CEA welcomed Joe Cordileone to the Little Italy Board of Directors.

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

- Kevin Melton, Candidate for District 78 Assembly introduced himself to the board. For more information, please visit www.KeinMelton.net.
- Daniel Orloff from Ed Harris for Mayor introduced himself to the Board. For more information, please visit www.HarrisforMayor.com.
- Giuseppe Annino from Cinema Little Italy spoke about the upcoming Little Italy Summer Film Festival.
- Mark Shulman from the Physical Therapy Effect gave a brief update. May is Women's Health Month.

5. Committee Reports

(Organization Committee) – Steve Galasso, Chair

- YTD Financial Report: Lou Palestini gave a brief financial report.
- Creation of Nominations Committee for New Board Members Marco gave an overview of the nominations process; the President creates the Nominations Committee.
Motion: Steve Galasso moved to nominate Frank Stiriti and Jim DeSpenna to the Nominations Committee. Tom Di Zinno seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.
- Letters on Bocce Ball Situation – Resolved Marco reported that a letter was e-mailed to the Board regarding the Bocce Ball member discrimination issue. Mike Zarconi helped to mediate the issue, it has now been resolved.
- Letter on Recycling Containers – Background Marco reviewed an e-mail letter that was received by a non-Little Italy resident regarding our recycling receptacles. Marco stated that it is not, nor has it ever been the policy of the Association to throw away recyclables. He stated that a LI maintenance worker was asked the question about what we do with recyclables at the Mercato and the employee, who was not authorized to quote policy, gave an erroneous answer to the gentleman who questioned him. Marco stated that he and Mike Zarconi would be in contact with the gentleman who wrote the letter. Discussion followed.
- Requirement of Board members to purchase Annual Dinner and Vespa Raffle Tickets the Organization Committee is recommending that as part of the "Give or

Get” Board policy, that each Board member purchase a minimum of (4) Annual Dinner tickets @ \$45/ea., and (10) Vespa Raffle tickets @ \$10/ea.

Motion: Steve Galasso moved to accept the recommendation of the Organization Committee for Board members purchasing Annual Dinner and Vespa Raffle tickets. Sandi Cottrell seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

(DISI Committee) – Christopher Morgan, Chair

- Review of Minutes Christopher Morgan updated the Board on decisions made at the recent DISI Committee meeting.
- Mercato Update Catt White updated the Board on current Mercato activities.
- Olive PR Report Samantha Hewitt updated the Board on current PR and Social Media activities.
- Mission Federal ArtWalk Sandi Cottrell thanked all contributors for this year’s ArtWalk event. The event went well, and was well attended.
- Taste of Little Italy This year’s Taste of Little Italy will take place on Wednesday, June 15th.
- Article in the Business Journal on the Urban Forest in Little Italy Marco reported on an article that appeared in the Business Journal on April 14th, 2016. Marco was quoted “the trees on India Street and elsewhere in Little Italy have helped the business district thrive.”

(Parking Committee) – Luke Vinci & Tom Cervello, Co-Chairs

- Downtown Mobility Plan Chris Gomez reported on the current status of the Downtown Mobility Plan. The way the current plan is mapped is not ideal for Little Italy, as Class 4 bike lanes are planned for State and Beech Streets. We have put forth a recommendation to support only Class 3 lanes in Little Italy, except for locations with stop lights.
Motion: Christopher Morgan moved to oppose Class 4 bike lanes in Little Italy. Tom Di Zinno seconded the motion. A discussion followed. Christopher Morgan amended his motion to assign Tom Cervello, Luke Vinci, and Chris Gomez to work with the Downtown Mobility Plan task force to come up with a plan that works for Little Italy. The Board voted almost unanimously in favor. Catt White abstained from the vote.
- Stop Signs in the District Marco reported that (6) new stop signs will be installed in Little Italy
- New Sidewalks at ALSCO Chris Gomez updated the Board on the progress of the new sidewalks, curbs, trees and lighting in front of the ALSCO building on India Street.

(Community Advisory Board) – Jack Pecoraro, Chair

- Update on Amici Dog Park Crowdfunding Catt White reported that as of this date, we are at 30% of our fundraising goal of \$40,000.
- Bark at the Park Event (May 7th / 11am – 3pm @Dog Park) Sumrall Howell reported on the Bark at the Park event that will take place this Saturday. The event will run from 11:00 – 3:00, (8) vendors are participating.
- Entrada and CUP issue with Civic San Diego Entrada's CUP was revoked, in an Administrative review hearing and their dancing and live music permit has been withdrawn by Civic San Diego, pending action by the full Civic San Diego Board.

(SOBO Committee) – Rich Gustafson, Chair

New CBD Meeting to go over YTD Budget, Increase Next Year, Setting FY 17 Budget Marco reported that we are waiting for the City to revise the MAD ordinance before we proceed with the budget meeting. The SOBO Committee has not met pending resolution of the City's 4% administrative fee which is supposed to be amended in May. The Chair and staff have discussed bringing a 5% increase in assessments to the Board in FY 17 due to the fact that the MAD services are being underwritten by non-MAD donations and program revenues.

- City/County Effort on Mental Health Housing – Meeting with Nicola Macchione in June Marco reported that the County is considering a new homeless program that will provide comprehensive care for homeless people with severe mental illness. Marco will invite Nicola Macchione from the County of San Diego to present at the June Board meeting.
- Adoption of New MAD Ordinance, Policy to Follow on May 24th Marco reported on a new MAD ordinance policy that will go to City Council on May 24th. The ordinance will reduce the administration fees charged to the MADs from 4% to .4%. This will save us approximately \$30,000/year commencing this fiscal year.
- Security Plan to become “Live Well, Live Safe” Program Tom Di Zinno is currently working on this program with Marco.

(Legacy Committee) – Charlie Coradino, Chair

- Status of Piazzas: LoVecchio, Giannini, Costanza, Pescatore, Tom Fat Marco gave a brief report on the status of the Piazzas proposed for Little Italy.
- Expanding Members of the Committee Marco reported that we will be expanding the members of the Legacy Committee.

(Finance Committee) – Marianna Brunetto & Tom Cervello, Co-Chairs

- Update on Pop-up Paw Shop with Hairy and Merry at Amici Park – Pilot Program Marco reported on the Pop-up Shop pilot program with Harry & Merry currently taking place at Amici Park. We will consider the results and report back to the Board in June.

6. **Presentation by District 3 Candidates** – Anthony Bernal and Chris Ward each addressed the Board and gave a brief background on their platforms. Issues that were also discussed were use of Parking District Revenues, General vs. Special Benefits, work with CalTrans, and the Downtown Mobility Plan. A key question was asked of each

candidate similar to what has been asked to every Mayoral and City Council candidate since 2004: Would the candidate support the creation of a new independent Little Italy Parking District to allow the Association to control its own parking meter revenues similar to what is done currently with the MAD. The answers to this question were as follows:

Chris Ward: Yes

Anthony Bernal: No

7. Other – None.

8. Next Meeting: The next meeting will take place on June 7th, 2016 8:30 a.m. at Our Lady of the Rosary Church Hall.

9. Motion to adjourn

Motion: *Perry Meyer moved to adjourn the May Board meeting. Marianne Brunetto seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.*

Minutes for General Board meeting submitted by Rosie DeLuca, staff.