

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

Board Members Present

Vito Altieri / Pat Brunetto / Marianna Brunetto / Tom Cervello / Charlie Coradino / Sandi Cottrell / David Crum / Jim DeSpenza / Steve Galasso / Pasquale Ioele / Perry Meyer / Danny Mocerri / Lou Palestini / Jack Pecoraro / Demetrios Sparacino / Frank Stiriti / Fr Joseph Tabigue / Luke Vinci / Catt White / Tom Zolezzi

Board Members Excused

Jim Barone / Domenic Brunetto / John Contasti / Tom Di Zinno / Rollin Ellis / James Pieri, Jr.

Board Members Absent (unexcused)

Dino Cresci / Rich Gustafson / Larry Kuntz

Guests

Guest List not available at this time

Staff (Non-Voting)

Marco LiMandri, Rosie DeLuca, Chris Gomez

1. Introductions

President Steve Galasso Mocerri called the October 2014 meeting to order at 8:34 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. September 9, 2014 Board Minutes

Luke Vinci moved to accept the September 9, 2014 Board minutes. Catt White seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor to accept the Board minutes.

3. Community Reports

- Luke Vinci reported for DCPD on the joint use agreement between the School District and City of San Diego. He also reported on the Downtown Parking Plan and the Little Italy Parking conversion project. Parking conversion is being held up on some of the side streets (State & Beech) due to the new Bike Lanes. Luke suggested that LIA take a stand against bike lanes on those streets. The vote will take place on 10/7 at DPMG and we will need to have a presence at this meeting. Marco suggested that both Washington Elementary School (WES) and Our Lady of the Rosary (OLR) write letters to oppose the Bike Lanes on these streets where the parking conversion is an issue.
Motion: Frank Stiriti moved to not support elimination of any parking on both State & Beech Streets. Charlie Coradino seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.
- Julio DeGuzman from the City Attorney's office followed up on current stay-away orders, and reminded everyone to call (619) 531-2000 for all SDPD non-emergency issues.

- Fr. Joe Tabigue from OLR informed the Board that their renovations are now complete. Also, this Sunday will be the Feast of OLR, and the Spaghetti dinner will be held on November 1st.
- David Crum from WES updated the Board on current school activities.

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

- Suzi Ha from California International Business Academy informed the Board that their International students perform internships and site visits.
- Perry Meyer from Meyer Fine Art announced the opening of their 7th Annual Italian Poster exhibit on October 7th.

5. Committee Reports

(Organization Committee) – Steve Galasso, Chair

- Year to date financial report: Lou Palestini reported on the YTD financials for August 2014. Marco referred to the MAD correspondence provided to the Board in the packet. David Crum recommended that homeowners write letters to the City of San Diego that would voice concerns on the cash-flow issues pertaining to the MAD.

Motion: *Vito Altieri moved to accept the Year-to-date Financial Reports. Luke Vinci seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.*

- Response to School Board RFP for Amici Park Marco reported that this is still in process.
- Update on Fiat sponsorship agreement for 2015 Sandi Cottrell reported that Fiat has agreed to a \$15,000 sponsorship for 2015. This will include their presence at (5) Mercatos and for Festa. We are hoping to build a long-term relationship with them.
- Lack of Resolution with Broadstone/Invesco on Piazza Pescatore location Marco reported that this is still under review, they have until October 7th to give a final response. We are currently looking into alternate locations.
- Invite County to the Board meeting again on mentally ill programs in Downtown Marco informed the Board that we should invite County reps to another Board meeting to discuss the implementation of Laura's Law. The State is acknowledging the fact that homeless need to be dealt with in a compassionate way.
- Church procession to the Bay, October 5th Marco reported as an FYI
- Spaghetti dinner at Our Lady of the Rosary on November 1st Marco reported that the OLR Spaghetti Dinner will take place on Saturday, November 1st from 12:00 noon – 9:00 pm. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- Status of Fenton/De Falco's project Marco reported that the projected date of the Date Street closure is November 18th.

(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.
- Little Italy Summer Film Series – Update Chris reported that the Little Italy Summer Film Series went well, and was well attended.
- Festa fundraising progress, Festa update need for Gesso squares Sandi Cottrell reported that (due to the loss of sponsors) we are under budget for income. Sandi asked all to sponsor an 8x8 Gesso Square for \$500.00, this will help us close the gap.
- Festa Sandi Cottrell updated the Board on Festa.
- Sicilian Festival notice, merge with the Festa, no successor organization Chris Gomez reported that there will be no more Sicilian Festival, and informed the Board of an agreement between the Festival to be a part of our Festa.
- Ferragosto sponsorships and update Luke Vinci reported that the 2015 Ferragosto will take place at Amici Park. For more information, you can visit the website at www.FerragostoSD.org

(Legacy Committee) – Charlie Coradino, Chair

- Narrative for brochure Charlie reported that they will be investigating ways to allow persons to donate to Little Italy in their will.
- Tom Fat Memorial agreement with Catt White – Crowdfunding to commence in January Charlie reporting that we will hold a 40-day Crowdfunding campaign to help fund the Tom Fat Memorial

(Parking Committee) – Luke Vinci, Chair

- Parklett and sidewalk expansion progress – Ariel Suites Chris Gomez updated the Board on this project.
- Mixture proposal for new restaurant and market Marco reported on the proposed project for the Mixture sight, it will be similar to the “Eataly” concept in New York City.

(Community Advisory Board) – Jack Pecoraro, Chair

- Update on outdoor railings issue with the ABC We are still working on this issue. San Diego is one of the only cities with railing requirements.

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

- Caliber Auto Body site development by CityMark Will meet on this project on 10/1.
- SDA Housing proposal, 10/1 @ 12:00 noon Marco reported that there are condo’s proposed for this site @ California & Grape
- McMillan development at State & Elm Marco reported that this project will be reviewed in the near future

6. **Other** The Little Italy Tree Lighting will take place on Saturday, December 6th at the Piazza Basilone. We will construct a 25-ft wrought iron & poinsettia tree over the existing fountain.

7. **Next meeting:** November 4, 2014 – 8:30 a.m. at or Our Lady of the Rosary Church Hall

Perry Meyer moved to adjourn October Board meeting. Vito Altieri seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Minutes for Board meeting submitted by Rosie DeLuca, staff.