

**Little Italy Association**  
**General Board of Directors Meeting**  
**October 6th, 2015 - 8:30 a.m.**  
**Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Hall**  
**1654 State Street - San Diego, CA 92101**

**Board Members Present**

Vito Altieri / Domenic Brunetto / Marianna Brunetto / Tom Cervello / John Contasti / Charlie Coradino / Sandi Cottrell / Dino Cresci / David Crum / Jim De Spenza / Tom Di Zinno / Steve Galasso / Rich Gustafson / Pasquale Ioele / Perry Meyer / Danny Mocerri / Christopher Morgan / Lou Palestini / Jack Pecoraro / Frank Stiriti / Fr. Joseph Tabigue / Luke Vinci / Catt White / Tom Zolezzi

**Board Members Excused**

Jim Barone / Pat Brunetto / James Pieri, Jr. / Demetrios Sparacino

**Guests**

Brijet Myers, LI Mercato / Melissa Schfield, CBRE, Inc. / Sumrall Howell, Hairy & Merry / Mark Shulman, The Physical Therapy Effect / Susan Keating, LIRA / Mike Zarconi, SHLRE / Anthony Bernal, Councilmember Todd Gloria's office / Clarisa Elmore, Washington Elementary School / Norea Urtason, Supervisor Ron Robert's office / Arsalun Tafazoli, Consortium / Rosalie Andrews, Retail Insite / Nancy Nichols, The Waterfront / Kate Webb, Draw From Within / John Falcone, D'Aquisto Realty / Joseph Scaglione / Julio DeGuzman, City Attorney's office / Elizabeth Studebaker, City of San Diego / Anne Eichman, LIRA / Pete Molinari, resident / Alysa Hutton, LI Events / Kathi Meyer, Meyer Fine Art / Officer Thomas, SDPD

**Staff (Non-Voting)**

Marco LiMandri, Rosie DeLuca, Chris Gomez

**1. Introductions**

President Steve Galasso called the October 2015 meeting to order at 8:38 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 1st, 2015 Board Minutes**

Tom Di Zinno moved to accept the September 1, 2015 Board minutes. Frank Stiriti seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor to accept the Board minutes.

**3. Community Reports**

- Luke Vinci reported on DPMG issues. They are still working on the Downtown Mobility Plan.
- Julio DeGuzman from City Attorney's office reminded the Board that stay-away orders need to be reported to him.
- Anthony Bernal from Councilmember Todd Gloria's office reported that the updated MAD ordinance draft will be released this week. He also informed the Board on the City's role in mitigating homeless issues.
- Officer Thomas from the SDPD spoke to the Board about the HOT Team, the Bike Team, and Beer Bikes.
- Anne Eichman from LIRA reported that the next meeting would take place at 6:00 on Thursday, 10/29 at the Firehouse Museum. Guest speaker is Senator Marty Block.

- Marco reported that Senator Marty Block's office helped facilitate the removal of "alcohol railings" in Little Italy. Marco also mentioned that Little Italy will be granted a long-term lease on the parcel of land from Cal Trans across from the LIA office to be used as a landscape yard.
- Norea Urtasun from Supervisor Ron Robert's office reported on the following issues:
  1. County Parking Structure will be opened on 10/30/15 and will provide 600 additional parking spots to the public
  2. Community Meeting on Mental Health issues will be taking place
  3. Free Flu Shots

Marco asked Norea if she would invite Alfredo Aguirre to the next Board meeting.

- Fr. Joe Tabigue from Our Lady of the Rosary reported that their Festa was a great success. He also announced that their Annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser would be held on Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Principal David Crum from Washington Elementary School spoke about various school programs.
- Joe Scaglione, USO Volunteer & Coordinator asked the Board for volunteer help for Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>.

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

- Kevin Melton, running for Assembly 78<sup>th</sup> District introduced himself to the Board. For more information on Kevin, you can visit his website at [www.KevinMelton.net](http://www.KevinMelton.net)
- Marco asked Luke Vinci for a final wrap-up of the Ferragosto Event. Luke spoke to the Board about this year's event, which was a great success. Over \$30,000 was raised each for Our Lady of the Rosary, Washington Elementary School and the Little Italy Association. The crowd gave Luke and the Ferragosto organizers a round of applause.

#### 5. Committee Reports

##### **(Organization Committee) – Steve Galasso, Chair**

- Election of Secretary for a 3 year term, as per the bylaws, current nominee is Luke Vinci, other nominations possible. Marco informed the Board that the current nominee for Secretary to the Board is Luke Vinci. This is a three year term and will expire in 2018. Marco asked the Board if there were any other nominations for Secretary, none were heard.  
*Motion: Steve Galasso moved to nominate Luke Vinci as Secretary to the Little Italy Board of the Directors. Marianna Brunetto seconded the motion. Almost unanimously approved; Luke Vinci abstained from the vote.*
- Annual Dinner Income & Expense report Marco reported that a copy of the Profit & Loss Report for this year's Annual Dinner was provided to the Board in the packet. The Association's profit for this event was over \$4,600.00.
- Status of lighting of bridges, from surplus parking meter revenues Chris reported that an Engineering Company was hired to help with the RFP for this project. We have allocated \$10,000.00 in Parking Meter revenues to help fund this project.
- Little Italy Tours proposal Chris reported that Anthony Davi of Little Italy Tours is currently reviewing the proposal.
- Authorization for the creation of a new Finance Committee to review all financials and work with staff on the implementation of the budget Marco reported that the Org Committee has recommended the formation of a Finance Committee to review all financials and budgets.

Motion: Charlie Coradino moved to approve the formation of a Finance Committee. Marianna Brunetto seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

- Spaghetti Dinner at Our Lady of the Rosary, November 7<sup>th</sup> All are encouraged to attend!

**(DISI Committee) – Marianna Brunetto, Chair**

- Mercato Update Catt White updated the Board on the current activities of the Mercato.
- Olive PR Report Courtney reported on current PR and Social Media activity for Little Italy.
- Festa Task Force update Sandi Cottrell reported on the upcoming Festa.
- Randy Crawford “Minor Magic” fundraising proposal for photographic art, November 21<sup>st</sup> at the New City America / Little Italy Association office The DISI Committee is recommending what may be a quarterly art sale based upon the enhanced photographic images of local artist, Randy Crawford. The first event is proposed for Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> from 7 – 9 pm at the New City America / Little Italy offices. The net income on this event would be split 50/50 between Randy Crawford and the Association after all direct expenses have been covered.

Motion: Luke Vinci moved to approve the Minor Magic Art Show event proposed for November 21<sup>st</sup>. Marianna Brunetto seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

- Update on SDOG lawsuit and Public Records request Marco reported that we are currently complying with the request of all Public Records in reference to the SDOG lawsuit.

**(Community Advisory Board) – Jack Pecoraro, Chair**

- Update on Amici Dog Park crowdfunding launch, goal to raise \$100,000 Chris reported that a video will be created to help raise \$100,000 via crowdfunding to go towards the Amici Dog Park.
- Joint LIRA-LIRA CAB meeting to discuss future alcohol applications in Little Italy Marco reported that a meeting took place that help to establish a baseline on community guidelines for future alcohol permit applications.

**(Legacy Committee) – Charlie Coradino, Chair**

- John Asaro Art Show update Charlie Coradino reported on the success of the John Asaro Art Show. He suggested that we somehow acknowledge John for his contribution to the Piazza Famiglia.
- B of A contribution and Piazza Giannini Bank of America has agreed to donate \$25,000 towards the Piazza Giannini.
- Work with Frankie Laine team and the Piazza Lo Vecchio We are working with Frankie Laine’s team on fundraising for the Piazza Lo Vecchio which would honor Frankie Laine.
- Work on the Piazza Famiglia Unfortunately, the Joan and Irwin Jacobs Foundation cannot help us at this time.

6. **Other Reports & Presentations** – None heard.

7. **Next Meeting:** November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8:30 am. Filippi’s Pizza Grotto – Annual Meeting.

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