



**Board of Directors Meeting  
Little Italy Association  
Tuesday, September 1, 2020 - 8:30 a.m.  
Little Italy Association Office (Zoom Meeting)  
2210 Columbia Street San Diego, CA 92101**

**Present:** Vito Altieri, Jenn Borba Von Stauffenberg, Sandi Cottrell, Dino Cresci, Melanie Dellas, Jim DeSpensa, Steve Galasso, Jonathan Herbert, Diana Strauss Casey, Domenic Brunetto, Jeri Keiller, Christie Kong, Melania Dellas, Jocelyn Marcus, Perry Meyer, Danny Mocerri, Lou Palestini, Frank Stiriti, Bryan Thompson, Juan Nunez, Luke Vinci, Catt White, Joe Cordileone, Charlie Coradino, Rich Gustafson, Lee Scrivner, Father Joe Tabigue, Jack Pecoraro, John La Raia, Pasquale Ioele, Tom Zolezzi, Joey Busalacchi, Ryan Blum – Not voting this meeting, Olivia Connolly – Not voting this meeting

**Guests:** City Attorney Mara Elliott, Councilmember Chris Ward, Brittany Bailey, Randy Wilde, Kathi Meyer, Susan Ranft, Curt Brooker, Michael Sabella, Zina Busalacchi, Stacy Dion, Marsha Lyon, Brijet Meyers, Cheryl Fitzgerald, Unknown Caller (3032), Unknown Caller (1227)

**Staff:** Marco Li Mandri, Rosie DeLuca, Chris Gomez, Dianne T. Serna De León, Madeleine Hennessy, Mike Zarconi

**MINUTES:**

<i>Item</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Action Taken?</i>
<b>1. Introductions</b>	The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by the President, Steve Galasso. Chris Gomez went over the Zoom meeting etiquette, Steve then turned the meeting over to Marco LiMandri, the Chief Executive Administrator(non-voting).	<b>No action taken</b>
<b>2. Review of August 4, 2020 Board Minutes</b>	Minutes from August 4, 2020 were reviewed. Jeri Keiller asked to amend the minutes on Page 8 of the Board Packet. Jeri asked to remove, “for the period of 5 years”, from the Minutes.	<b>Jeri Keiller moved to amend and accept the Board Minutes. Steve Galasso seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</b>

<b>3. Non-Agenda/Public Comment, Introductions and Announcements</b>	3. There were no public comments, introductions, or announcements.	<b>3. No action taken</b>
<b>4. Presentation by Candidates for City Council- 9:15 a.m.</b> <b>a. Mara Elliott-</b>  <b>b. Cory Briggs-</b>  <b>c. Q and A-</b>	<p>4.a. Joe Cordileone introduced City Attorney Mara Elliott. Mara has served as City Attorney since 2016. Prior to 2016, Mara worked with the Senior Deputy of the Transit Authority and was also an Attorney for School Districts throughout California. Mara has committed her 26-year career in public service and is the first woman to serve as City Attorney.</p> <p>4.b. Cory Briggs was invited, but did not attend the “Zoom” Board Meeting due to a conflict with a court case.</p> <p>4.c. Marco opened the floor for Q and A. Marco reported that LIA has been sued for several trip &amp; falls, which has resulted in a drastic increase in insurance premiums. Little Italy’s General Liability premium has gone up from \$25,000-\$35,000 to over \$90,000 this year. Marco is working with the Mayor’s office to see if LIA can be insured under the City of San Diego’s liability policy. Marco added that Christina Bibler, Economic Development Director with the City of San Diego is aware of this issue and may be able to help. Mara stated that she was unaware of this problem and that she would talk to her staff about this issue.</p> <p>Jack Pecoraro expressed his concerns for safety in the neighborhood and is asking for an organization similar to LIA’s Live Well, Live Safe to be implemented. Discussion followed.</p> <p>Marco stated that he believed that parking meter revenues could be used for “extraordinary security” and that this might help not only Little Italy but Downtown and Hillcrest.</p>	<b>4.a. No action taken</b>  <b>4.b. No action taken</b>  <b>4.c. No action taken</b>

<p><b>5. Committee Reports</b>  <b>Org Committee:</b>  <b>Steve Galasso;</b></p> <p><b>a. YTD Financial Report</b></p> <p><b>b. Report from the Nominations Committee</b></p> <p><b>i. Approval of Business Owner Directors</b></p> <p><b>ii. Approval of Property Owner Directors</b></p> <p><b>iii. Approval of Community at-Large Reps</b></p> <p><b>c. Nomination of President</b></p>	<p>5.a. The YTD Financial Report was not included in the Board Packet.</p> <p>5.bi. Steve Galasso reported that there are two members for Business Directors recommended for Two-Year Terms:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Joey Busalacchi</li> <li>2. Sandi Cottrell</li> </ol> <p>5.ii. Marco reported that there are eight members for Property Owner Directors recommended for Two-Year Terms:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Ryan Blum* (replacing Christie Kong – 610 W. Ash)</li> <li>4. Olivia Connolly* (replacing Michelle Van Rooyen - Fenton)</li> <li>5. Rich Gustafson</li> <li>6. Daniel Mocerri</li> <li>7. Jack Pecoraro</li> <li>8. Father Joe Tabigue</li> <li>9. Bryan Thompson</li> <li>10. Luke Vinci</li> </ol> <p><i>* New Consideration</i></p> <p>5.iii. Steve reported that there are six members for Community-at-Large Representatives for One-Year Terms:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Joe Cordileone</li> <li>2. Melanie Dellas</li> <li>3. Lou Palestini</li> <li>4. Frank Stiriti</li> <li>5. Catt White</li> <li>6. Tom Zolezzi</li> </ol> <p>5.c. Luke Vinci nominated Steve Galasso for Board President for a three-year term. Marco asked if there were any other nominations for President. No one was nominated. Steve will therefore serve as President for the next term, based upon the Board’s vote.</p>	<p><b>5.a. No action taken</b></p> <p><b>5.b. No action taken</b></p> <p><b>5.i. Luke Vinci moved to approve the recommendation for the Business Owner Directors. Perry Meyer seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</b></p> <p><b>5.ii. Sandi Cottrell moved to approve the recommendation for the Property Owner Directors. Joe Cordileone seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</b></p> <p><b>5.iii. Luke Vinci moved to approve the recommendations for Community-at-Large Reps. Danny Mocerri seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</b></p> <p><b>5.c. Luke Vinci moved to nominate Steve Galasso for President. Perry Meyer seconded the motion. Steve Galasso abstained from the vote. Motion approved.</b></p>
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<p><b>d. Nomination of Treasurer</b></p>	<p>Lou Palestini was nominated to serve as Treasurer.</p> <p>5.d. Frank Stiriti nominated Lou Palestini for Treasurer.</p> <p>Christie Kong nominated Bryan Thompson.</p> <p>The nominations were closed. The two candidates will be voted on for the Treasurer’s position at the October Board meeting.</p>	<p><b>5.The Board approved both nominees by consensus Danny Mocerri abstained from the nomination for Treasurer. Motion Approved.</b></p>
<p><b>e. Creation of Bylaws Review Task Force to review to and update bylaws</b></p>	<p>5.e. Marco requested that the following Board Members participate in the Bylaws Review Task Force: Diana Casey, Bryan Thompson, and Jeri Keiller. They will serve on the Bylaws Task Force along with the Officers and any other interested Board members. Steve will Chair the Bylaws Task Force. The bylaws need to be reviewed and updated. The final changes will be sent to the Board in November.</p>	<p><b>5.e. No action taken</b></p>
<p><b>f. October (Mayor) Councilmember Barbara Bry &amp; Assembly member Todd Gloria</b></p>	<p>5.f. Marco reported that Councilmember Barbara Bry and Assembly member Todd Gloria will be joining us via “Zoom” in October.</p>	<p><b>5.f. No action taken</b></p>
<p><b>g. Next Meeting:</b></p>	<p>5.g. Next meeting will be Friday, September 18, 2020 via “Zoom”</p>	<p><b>5.g. No action taken</b></p>
<p><b>Committee Reports</b></p>		
<p><i>DISI Committee: Perry Meyer</i></p>		
<p><b>a. Olive Creative Strategies</b></p>	<p>5.a. Madeleine Hennessy from Olive Creative Strategies reported on Little Italy PR and Social Media activity.</p>	<p><b>5.a. No action taken</b></p>
<p><b>b. Little Italy Mercato- Catt White</b></p>	<p>5.b. Catt White reported on the current Mercato activities.</p>	<p><b>5.b. No action taken</b></p>
<p><b>c. <i>Al Fresco</i> Update</b></p>	<p>5.c. Chris Gomez stated that the Hospitality Task Force will meet to discuss if <i>Al Fresco</i> will continue for the month of</p>	<p><b>5.c. No action taken</b></p>

<p><b>d. Taste of Little Italy: Take-Out-Edition-October 2020</b></p> <p><b>e. Clarity Foundation's Paint the Town Teal-String Lights &amp; Ribbons on Poles</b></p> <p><b>f. Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>September now that indoor dining will be expanded to 25%.</p> <p>5.d. Chris Gomez reported that the Taste of Little Italy Take-Out Edition will be moving forward with October Dates. Further details will be discussed at the next DISI meeting.</p> <p>5.e. Chris Gomez stated that LIA has partnered with the Clarity Foundation to bring awareness to Ovarian Cancer. Beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>, the String Lights in Little Italy will change to Teal. On September 5<sup>th</sup>, the Foundation will tie Teal ribbons on the Poles throughout Little Italy.</p> <p>5.f. Next Meeting will be Friday, September 4, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom</p>	<p><b>5.d. No action taken</b></p> <p><b>5.e. No action taken</b></p> <p><b>5.f. No action taken</b></p>
<p><b><i>Parking &amp; Mobility Committee: Luke Vinci</i></b></p> <p><b>a. Columbia Street &amp; Remaining Side Streets Parking Conversion</b></p>	<p>5.a. Luke Vinci reported that there is no update on the remaining Little Italy parking conversions.</p> <p>Luke also gave an update on Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church restoration, which is about 98% done. The goal was to raise \$2.5 million, however, \$2.7 million was raised.</p>	<p><b>5.a. No action taken</b></p>
<p><b>Committee Reports Sidewalk Operations: Rich Gustafson;</b></p> <p><b>a. No Report</b></p>	<p>5.a. There is no report on Sidewalk Operations.</p>	<p><b>5.a. No action taken</b></p>
<p><b>Committee Reports Finance Committee: Bryan Thompson</b></p> <p><b>a. Amici Park, RFP, DIF, &amp; Sending to Amici Park Task Force</b></p>	<p>5.a. Luke Vinci reported that there is a meeting scheduled on September 30<sup>TH</sup> at 8:00 a.m. for the Amici Park RFP.</p>	<p><b>5.a. No action taken</b></p>

<b>6. CLOSED SESSION PRESENTATION</b>	Please refer to minutes taken by Secretary, Luke Vinci. The subject matter was the New City America administrative contract	<b>6. No action taken</b>
<b>7. Reopen Board Meeting</b>		
<b>8. Next Meeting</b>	The next meeting of the Board will be on Tuesday, October 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2020 at 8:30 via zoom	<b>8. No action taken</b>

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