

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Lisa Pendleton and Lela Bissner

WISPPA Acknowledges Collective Effort to Pass New Massage Law

Letter to the Editor:

WISPPA, Women Involved in South Pasadena Political Action, would like to thank the co-authors of the Massage Therapy Act of 2014, AB1147, Assemblymembers, Chris Holden, Susan Bonilla and Jimmy Gomez. As many now know the bill recently signed into law by the Governor was written to right the wrongs created by the 2009 Massage Therapy Law that lead to houses of prostitution masquerading as legitimate massage businesses, in our own City and in cities up and down the State. When Susan Bonilla spoke at the Senate Hearings in June she said "the strongest point of this (new) bill is the restoration of land use to our local governments." This is what WISPPA pointed out back in 2011 and something that WISPPA as most know, has been working on continually for over the past three years.

In addition, we would like to thank Senator Carol Liu and the League of California Cities, in particular Kirstin Kolpitcke of the League, without whom we would not be where we are today. Just a little history, back in March of 2013, after months of WISPPA communications to Senator Liu about the problems our City and others were having with massage parlors, she agreed to set a round table meeting. At WISPPA's suggestion, the meeting included city managers and police chiefs from cities throughout the region, WISPPA representatives and most importantly, Kirstin Kolpitcke, from the League of California Cities, along with representatives from the California Massage Therapist Council. Out of that long meeting came a coalition, spearheaded by the League of California Cities that set out to undo the damage caused by the 2009 Massage Therapy Law with the primary goal to restore land use rights back to the local jurisdictions.

WISPPA would also like to thank the City of South Pasadena, our City Manager and the City Council, in particular our Mayor, Marina Khubesian, for taking such a strong stand on this issue over the past

year and working with the League to get this bill approved.

If it were not for that first meeting requested by WISPPA, the League's yearlong effort to gather the facts from cities up and down the State and then their subsequent work to help formulate AB 1147, and our City's strong stance we would certainly not be where we are today. Thanks to the efforts of many we now will have our cities rights restored to prevent houses of prostitution masquerading as massage businesses. Not only will our communities benefit from this new law, but legitimate massage businesses that were so tarnished by the consequences of the former law, will now be able to do business in a much more healthy environment.

Going forward it is our hope that the City of South Pasadena will engage the public soon on new land use laws that will create Conditional Use Permits (CUPs) or something similar for massage parlor uses so that the public will always have an opportunity to be heard when massage parlors want to do business in our city.

**Lisa Pendleton
and Lela Bissner**

Color Day at South Pas High

Don't call him the city librarian anymore.

Steve Fjeldsted, recognized for his ability to attract top-notch speakers and entertainment to the South Pasadena Library, has a new title. He's now known as the director of library arts and culture.

"We have a fantastic library with great programming and we owe it to Steve and his staff," praised South Pasadena City Manager Sergio Gonzalez.

"I think we can all agree that our library has a lot going for it," continued the city manager. "The beautiful historic building and location certainly adds to

drawn large crowd audience member outside the city.

"Above and beyond programming, we brought to the cinema," said Gonzalez, "said Gonzalez, award-winning filmmakers and level of programming exponentially since here and puts the good light. The library serves our residents but when Steve programs, it becomes a destination. The work by the staff."

SOUTH PAS IN THE MOVIES

With its tree-lined streets and beautifully restored Craftsman South Pasadena continues to be a favorite location to film movie photographs for magazine advertisements.

Location managers like the city's "anywhere in the U.S.A." Often you'll hear: "What was shot on that corner or over or With the help of Joan Aguado, the city of South Pasadena South Pasadena Review will provide information on "shoots" if you informed.

Here's what was shot recently in South Pasadena:

- 9/30/14 – A commercial for "Fruit of the Loom" was shot in the
- 10/1/14 – A commercial for "Best Buy" was shot in the 500 block
- 10/3/14 – A commercial for "Project Beaker" 500 block of Hill

For more information, call Joan Aguado at (626) 403-7263.

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