

WISPPA
Women Involved in South Pasadena Political Action
August 5, 2017 Minutes
Cavalry Presbyterian Church

Attendance:

Ellen Wood, Dollie Chapman, Monica Hong, Ron Rosen, Mary Urquhart, Bambara Sinclair, Gary Pia, Ellen Daigle, Alisha Diez, Gloria Kilian, Paul, Kilean, Joe Potts, Clara Rulis, Katrina Perez Ferguson, Marianne Reyes, Debi, Ignagni, Janet Braun, Gretchen Robinette, Harry Yadav, Connie Wardlow, Kelly Rivers, Kay Mouradin, Mary Ferrero, Judith Harris, Kim Hughes,

Welcome

Bianca Richards welcomed everyone at 9:06 a.m. She recognized visitors.

Projector Issue

Bianca shared the issue that came in preparing for the meeting. Our guest asked if we had a projector that could be used for the presentation. The WISPPA organization does not own a projector. The group explored renting a projector, but found that the cost would be \$100 or more for a one-time use. Also, the rental amount exceeded the payment authority of the organization's president. Ellen Wood and her husband investigated the cost to purchase a projector. The organization would then have a projector to utilize for presentations and events, such as for the outreach efforts. The projector could also be shared with other associated organizations. Today, the projector we are going to be using was lent to us from the South Pasadena Library.

Ellen shared her recommendation for a projector purchase is an Epson. The cost ranges from \$699, those some models can be found on EBay for \$499. Mary Urquhart made a motion to authorize \$700 for the purchase of projector for the organization. Gary Pia seconded the motion and requested an amendment to the motion that it would be beneficial to purchase an extra bulb. The group also talked about making sure that the model had a wireless feature. Gretchen Robinette commented that it would be beneficial to have a number of people trained on how to work the projector, so if the key person was not at a meeting, there would also be back-up. The membership voted in favor of the purchase.

WISPPA Jazz Night

Barbara Sinclair shared that the idea came up to plan a night at a "Jazz Night" at one of the weekly gatherings at the Golf Course. The suggested date for a WISPPA event would be Thursday, September 7, 2017. The performer would be the Elliott Kane Quintet. Interested parties can send a note to Barbara Sinclair

that you would be interested in attending. The cost would be about \$13 and can be paid upon attendance. You can bring your own wine, but there is a corkage fee of \$10. The venue will provide glasses. You can also purchase cocktails and food at the venue. The event will run from 7PM to 9PM at the Arroyo Seco Golf Course.

“American House” Play at Fremont Centre Theatre

The play will be running and there is an effort to organize a WISPPA group attendance event.

Nominating Committee

Bianca shared that there will be an effort to organize a nominating team who will be coming back to the membership with a roster of leadership candidates for the October meeting. If anyone is interested in a leadership position then contact Bianca at (626) 616-5599.

Los Angeles County Community Choice Energy Authority

Kim Hughes shared how she represented the City of South Pasadena at the first meeting of the new energy coalition that is being formed to provide cities a choice of energy providers. The City of South Pasadena is one of the first four entities to sign-up for this new organization. The new authority will provide more options for the city and more renewable energy choices.

Minutes Approval

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Janet Braun and seconded by Barbara Sinclair. Ellen Wood abstained from voting, as she was not at the July meeting. The membership approved the minutes.

Public Safety Committee Report

Ellen Diagle shared that the Police Department has some medical alert bracelets available to residents. There are a limited number of bracelets available. The city has approved a new Fire Chief, Paul Riddle who is a veteran of the City of South Pasadena Fire Department. He is the 17th Fire Chief in the City's 110 year history. It should also be noted that the tri-city effort for fire response has been adjusted and now just includes, South Pasadena and San Marino. The city recently took possession of a new fire truck. We also will have three new firemen joining our department.

The city's Neighborhood Watch effort can always use more participation. If there is interested to participate, please let Ellen know. Her telephone number is (626) 232-8243.

Gretchen Robinette shared the idea of having WISPPA drafting a letter thanking Police Chief Art Miller thanking him support of the family that lost their son.

The city will be hosting a Public Safety Fair on September 17, 2017.

On August 29th, there will be ad hoc meeting on immigration. Issues will be how to have city personnel interact with ICE, etc.

Guest Speaker-Mr. Sandy Krasner-Climate Change

Mr. Krasner is and engineer who has worked at JPL for 38 years. He is an active member is the Pasadena's chapter of "Citizen's Climate Lobby." The group works to educate and advocate on behalf of dealing with climate change.

Mr. Krasner shared a PowerPoint presentation that started with the information that there are right now 7 billion people on earth and growing. He showed the famous "hockey stick" chart that showed temperature rising. He said that we are seeing changes in climate by reviewing vice core readings and tree rings that can show us the amount of CO2 at various times in our history.

The warming of the planet will impact rising tides, sea levels, more infectious diseases and stronger storms. In 2015, 97% of California was in a severe drought. The warming of the climate will cause extremes from droughts to floods. Warming will cause the faster melting of snow and we do not have a water infrastructure system to handle a faster snow melt.

The overall warming is also impacting our oceans, as we are seeing algae blooms increasing. Temperatures are rising, such as India reached 123 degrees in 2016.

Mr. Krasner said that we are in the 6th great extinction, as we are losing animals and live forms. Warming is changing migration patterns and this impacts wildlife existence, as food sources can change.

Citizens Climate Lobby works to lobby Congress in looking at litigation that impacts the climate. There are 525 chapters of the organization in the U.S. and internationally. They support developing a fossil fuel fee, where renewable would not have to pay the fee. They want to motivate the reduction of carbon and incentivize clean technology.

The Citizens Climate Lobby local group meets the 2nd Saturday of the month at 9:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universal Church in Pasadena at 301 Orange Grove Avenue. One can text (619) 675-7507 for more information.

California is leading the way on climate change with the renewal of the "Cap and Trade" Program and other efforts. A question was asked as to who are largest

polluters and contributors to Climate Change? Transportation is the greatest contributor. China is now the world's largest polluter.

Bianca closed the presentation by thanking Mr. Krasner and sharing with him a WISPPA gift mug.

District Voting

It was shared that the city has been basically forced to move to voting districts. A number of meetings will be held to discuss this new process and develop the district boundaries.

City Council Liaison Report

Ron Rosen reported that the city had hired a traffic consultant to provide advice on moving traffic smoothly through the city, and to look at various solutions to traffic problems. The Council also discussed security on the Gold Line. The City of Los Angeles is handling security within its boundary limits, and the Los Angeles County Sheriffs patrol other areas. There is often a gap, as the South Pasadena station is the first that would be covered by sheriffs and coverage is often not there.

Ron also shared that the council reluctantly voted to move to district voting.

Finance Committee Report

Ellen Wood shared that the Finance Committee recommended that the city not purchase the Caltrans lots for use as pocket parks, however the City did purchase them. The Finance Committee has concerns over the five year projection of increasing CALPERS costs.

Future Meeting

Judy Harris shared that the September meeting will feature a presentation by Superintendent of the South Pasadena School District.

Announcements

Dollie shared that dues are due and to see her, as she will take checks, etc.

The next General Plan meeting will be on August 29, 2017.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kim Hughes