

**WISPPA**  
**Women Involved in South Pasadena Political Action**  
**March 19, 2016 Minutes**  
**Cavalry Presbyterian Church**

**Attendance:**

Dollie Chapman, Ellen Daigle, Ron Rosen, Janet Braun, Betty Emirhanian, Lela Bissner, Barbara Sinclair, Claire Roslait, Gail Maltun, Judi Barhydt, Diane Crum, Lynda Sullivan, Bianca Richards, Kay Mouradian, Linda Krausen, Nancy Wilms, Diana Mahmud, Clarice Knapp, Ellen Wood, Judith M. Harris, Connie Wardlow, Dick Helgeson and Kim Hughes.

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order to 9:06 a.m. by Janet Braun. She thanked everyone for attending and helping with the February meeting and that she was sorry that she could not attend the meeting. She was absent, as she was attending to family business and also helping a "certain presidential" candidate's campaign, which was an enriching experience.

**Speaker**

Janet introduced Sergio Gonzalez, City Manager of the City of South Pasadena. Mr. Gonzalez spoke about the City's goal planning session and updated the group about various City activities and priorities. Mr. Gonzalez answered many questions from the floor. Janet thanked Mr. Gonzalez after his remarkable presentation."

(To see the slide presentation, go to <http://www.wisppa.org/city-of-south-pasadena.html>)

**Approval of Minutes**

The group discussed that the minutes can be in a brief format and not every comment made needs to be included.

A motion was made to approve the February 2016 minutes by Betty Emirhanian and seconded by Barbara Sinclair. The motion was passed by the membership.

**South Pasadena Development Task Force Report**

Gail Maltun shared that the South Pasadena Unified School District Board voted to not go forward with the agreement with Legacy. The Mission Place Project will be ceased, in its current planned form.

## **South Pasadena Arts and Cultural Committee Report**

The group does wish to support the Eclectic Arts Crawl on May 14, 2016. The group seeks volunteer from WISSPA to help with the event. There are 3 hour shifts. Betty Emirhanian will send out a sign-up note.

## **Membership Report**

We have 87 current members and are always looking to add more members. We have an excellent opportunity to bring in new members by having them join us for our May 2, 2016 meeting, as we will have Craig Watson as our key speaker. He is the head of the California Arts Council. A suggestion was made to develop a letter that highlights many of the accomplishments of the organization.

## **Treasurers Report**

The current balance is \$7,025.30. The expense from Jan. 26 thru Feb. 29 was a \$50 expense for our meeting space rental. We will have expenses coming up for our June cocktail party.

The group spoke about running ads in the local newspaper. A motion was made by Betty Emirhanian and seconded by Ellen Daigle for approving expenditures up to \$150 a month for local ads to publicize our meetings, when we have a speaker or an important meeting. The motion passed. We will not run an ad for the April meeting, as the focus is our own business.

## **South Pasadena City Council Report**

Nancy Wilms provided an overview of the past few council meetings. At the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting there was a discussion of Measure "A" funds. The council approved a list of priority projects. The project focus on park and recreational areas.

At the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting there were a number of issues that garnered a great deal of community input. Residents were concerned over the event that was promoted at the "Mayor's Prayer Breakfast." The council said that the event label was not appropriate.

There was also a discussion about campaign contribution and the limit for local campaigns will be limited to \$1,000.00

Other key issues discussed were:

- Length of Mayoral terms-no decision made
- Allowing non-citizens on boards and commissions-decision, needs to be a citizen
- Develop a code of ethics-under development

At the March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast was again brought up under "public comment." The City Manager said that a plan and guidelines for events will be developed to address issues raised.

The addition of a hydrogen fueling station at the Arco Station was discussed and approved.

A home addition on Milan was also discussed and approved.

### **South Pasadena Legislative Affairs and Upcoming Events Report**

One issue that is of interest is that the legislature might change voting rules and we might need to have candidates for City Council and School Districts be elected from specific defined districts within the City.

### **New Business**

Janet Braun reported that she pledged a \$50 donation from WISPPA to the NWPC to become a sponsor of the upcoming screening of "Iron Jawed Angels." The NWPC as well as a number of other organizations were sponsoring this event in honor of Women's History Month.

### **Announcements**

The group was reminded that the Chinese American Club fundraiser is planned for Saturday, April 2, 2016 and on the same night; there will also be an event at the Rialto.

Members should also reference their weekly event e-mail. Betty Emirhanian does a wonderful job keeping everyone informed.

### **Next Meetings**

**The April meeting will be Saturday, April 9, 2016. The focus of the April meeting will on WISSPA goals and strategies.**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kim Hughes