



WISPPA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

February 7, 2022, 4:30 pm, via ZOOM

Present: Mary Urquhart, President, Ellen Daigle, Vice President, Sherry Plotkin, Membership Chair, Dollie Chapman, Member-at-Large, and Shelley Stephens, Secretary

President Mary Urquhart called the meeting to order shortly after 4:30 pm.

1. Forum to Introduce new Deputy City Manager

- The date has been set for **Saturday, March 5, 2022, at 10 am.**
- It will be held via Zoom.
- This event will be promoted through the following channels:
 - The South Pasadena Review
 - The South Pasadenan
 - The Dudes
 - The Eves
 - Los Vecinos
 - The Oneonta Club
 - WISPPA Newsletter
 - City's Website
- We should be very quick with our WISPPA reports at the beginning of the forum so that we can turn over the meeting to Armine Chaparyan, City Manager.
- Armine will introduce each of new City hires.
- The main purpose of this Forum is to meet the new Deputy City Manager, but we may ask that it also include the new Community Development Director, and the new Public Works Director. Mary will discuss with Armine.

2. Annual WISPPA Cocktail Party

- The date was set for **June 20, 2022**
- The location will be President Mary Urquhart's home, as in the past.

- We need to find an engaging speaker. We need to think about this.

3. Major New Building Developments in the City

- Concern was expressed about the number of new developments in the City. There are at least 5 major developments that we know of at this time, maybe more.
 - Which have been approved, which have not?
 - Have the City and the Chamber thought carefully about the effect on the quality of life in our city, especially regarding traffic, parking, schools, environmental impact, etc.?
 - Have there been any studies completed regarding these concerns?
 - Have there been steps taken to protect the existing businesses in the city?
 - Is there a master timeline for these new projects?
 - The concurrent construction of all of these projects could make for major disruptions and inconveniences in the city.
 - Are the developments attractive, fitting, well-designed?
- There was discussion about how to bring our concerns forward.
 - Should this be the topic of a separate forum? Would the City approve?
 - Public comment at City Council meetings?
 - It was decided that Mary would write up a statement to be read at the next Planning Commission meeting.

4. New Membership Chairwoman Sherry Plotkin Raised Several Questions

- Do we want to fund scholarships for South Pasadena students? Mary responded that that does not fall within our mission, which is to keep City government responsible, accountable, and transparent.
- The idea of lowering the dues to \$20.00 annually was raised. This idea was tabled.
- It was felt that the weekly newsletter and periodic forums seem to be working well at present. If we get a large influx of new members, then we will consider new directions.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 pm.

5. Addendum

In a follow-up email on February 16, 2022, Mary Urquhart indicated that the list of new City hires participating in the forum was finalized to include:

- Domenica Megerdichian, Deputy City Manager
- Angelica Frausto-Lupo, Director of Community Development
- Matt Chang, Planning Manager
- Ted Gerber, Director of Public Works

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Stephens, Secretary