



WISPPA Meeting Minutes of 1/11/2020

South Pasadena Senior Center Great Room, 1102 Oxley Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030

Present: Frank Cardenas, Betty Emirhanian, Dollie Chapman, Ellen Daigle, Joe Daigle, Bianca Richards, Sherry Plotkin, Gary Pia, Alan Erlich, Jan Marshall, Liz Calvert, Estaban Lopez, Kay Mouradian, Joe Potts, Wayna Kato, Josh Albrekton, Diane Crum, Bruce Crum, Lisa Roa, Cornelia Balogh, Sheila Rossi, Delaine Shane, Ed Elsner, Doug Yokomizo, Florence Nelson, Roxy Ortiz, Branden Fox, Anne Bagasao, Grace Kung, Denise Phillery, Diana Mahmud, Richard Helgeson, Clarice Knapp, Harry Knapp, Linda Krausen, Rick Schneider, Mary Urquhart, Ron Rosen, Pete Kuntzer, Ed Donnelly, Lynda Sullivan, Barbara Sinclair, Jerilyn Schmidt Chun, Sheila Tully, Mary Ferrero, Vicky Bartlett, John Strebulus, Steve Rossi, Steven Lawrence

- 1) **Call to Order:** 9:35AM by WISPPA President, Betty Emirhanian
- 2) **Introduction of New Members & Guests by President Betty Emirhanian.**
- 3) **Approval of 11/2/19 minutes:** Minutes approved.
- 4) **New Business**
 - Approval of the 2020 Budget – see attached
 - Any excess expenditures beyond budget will need to be approved by board or through member vote.
 - Comparison of last year's actual expenses to 2019 budget, and comparison of last year's expenses to proposed 2020 budget. No budgeting for donations for annual cocktail party since should not count on donations such as Ellen & Joe Daigle's generous donation last year.
 - Discussed the benefit of advertising to get the word out about meetings, which would support local media, i.e. *South Pasadenan* online. (Ellen Daigle) Membership agreed that it is very important to support our local media since one of our objectives to have an informed public in SP.
 - Gary asks about state of WISPPA's reserves and if it can handle increased expenditures. Mention of \$6,000 in reserves. Costs will be more expensive in 2020 because of candidate forum.
 - Members will not be asked to bring food for this year's cocktail party. Food will be purchased, so members can show up and enjoy the party. Donations are always welcome. Party will be held at Lisa Roa's house on June 22.
 - Motion to approve budget. Motion approved.
- 5) **Recap of December 2019 Board Meeting**
 - Betty E. will be putting together a survey regarding timing of meetings and newsletter sections to meet the needs of members.
 - Focus of future meetings:
 - No formal speakers this year. We need to concentrate on discussion of subjects of in terms of what members want in the city and how to affect change
 - Focus on Open forums. .
 - This is an election year, so WISSPA will hold a candidate forum.
 - 2020 is the centennial of the 19th amendment, but there is no time currently for commemoration. WISPPA will try to acknowledge the anniversary during the July 4th parade.

6) Member Delaine Shane Delaine shared her thoughts on the General Plan based on her analysis.

Members have chaired a subcommittee on this issue. No overall presentation given due to the sheer scope of the matter. Anything that can't be answered today will be written down and sent to city planning director.

- This is not a debate, but a chance to formulate thoughts to be shared with the city. Mary Urquhart requests that the questions be limited to three minutes. Approved.
- The presentation will be videotaped, and audience consent to filming is requested. Video is offered by the *SouthPasadenan* for those who could not attend.
- Delaine Shane shares her observations about the general plan update for the next 20 years. She is not an expert and does not represent WISPPA or the city. She did not get a chance to review the downtown specific plan. The general planning is a reoccurring process and legally binding, required by state law. Regulations and guidelines for the city are part of the California code regulations. Legal cases and precedents also inform various cities on how to prepare and process. Delaine points out many cities also create handbooks.
- New planning director Joanna Hankamer is helpful, but the third planning director since 2017. There is a loss of institutional knowledge, progress and directions with frequent director changes.
- General plan is very important in guiding the actions that the city council or private individuals/companies can take. If adopted, the general plan will last 20 years. It is important to get it right and develop a community consensus.
- The general plan is broken up into three parts:
 - First part is intro and vision.
 - Second part is goals, policies and actions.
 - Third part is implementation, which is not yet available. City website has a webpage with updates for general plan, and will update soon with implementation goals.
- Part two of general plan consists of eight chapters having to do with goals, including planning, accessibility, safety, and more. Each goal has a purpose, some optional, some required by state law.
- Today's discussion focused on economic development, the main driver of the general plan.
- Subcommittees were temporarily disbanded, and 1.5 years were lost; subcommittees now have to rush.
- A 20 year projection includes 500 residential units to be built. Non-residential: 130,000sqft for retail, 300,000 for office space.
- Delaine reminds us of the importance of reviewing the specific plans.
- The WISPPA membership stated how it was very important to have the deadline for the General Plan comments to be extended and for the city to have some more open forums. Councilmembers Schneider and Mahmud offered to go to the city and lobby for this.

7) Meeting Adjourned at 11:30AM

Minutes submitted by WISPPA Secretary Ellen Daigle.