



## **WISPPA Meeting Minutes of 3/7/2020**

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

**Present:** Betty Emirhanian, Ellen Wood, Dollie Chapman, Ellen Daigle, Bianca Richards, Sherry Plotkin, Gary Pia, Alan Erlich, Jan Marshall, Liz Calvert, Sheila Rossi, Delaine Shane,, Roxy Ortiz, Anne Bagasao, Diana Mahmud, , Rick Schneider,, Lynda Sullivan, Barbara Sinclair, Steve Rossi, Hannelore Nese, Sally Kilby, Kim Hughes, Mark Gallatin, Joanne Knuckols, Ed Donnelly, Tucker Nelson, Aanji Sin, Ben Tansely, Lela Bissner, Lissa Reynolds, Charles Trevino, Carmen Trevino,

- 1) **Call to Order:** 9:30AM by WISPPA President, Betty Emirhanian
- 2) **Introduction of New Members & Guests by President Betty Emirhanian.**
- 3) **Approval of 1/11/20 minutes:** Minutes approved.
- 4) **New Business**
  - a. **Survey results** - Betty Emirhanian See attached survey results
  - b. **Commission Reports**
    - i. Public Safety Commission: Ellen Daigle reported that the South Pasadena Police and Fire departments had recently become fully staffed. The Fire Department had recently acquired an "arson Dog" that is specially trained to detect accelerants that may have been used to start or spread a fire. She also said that the commission is playing a major role in helping to inform the public about the coronavirus.
    - ii. Cultural Heritage Commission: Mark Gallatin reported that the commission is reviewing any application for construction that might impact historic structures. He also said that 35% of all properties in South pas are on the city's inventory of historic properties. The commission is also researching the possibility of adding historic districts in the city.
    - iii. Public Works Commission: Kim Hughes reported that there is an ongoing review of maintenance and street repair projects. There is a movement afoot to improve Gold Line crossings.
    - iv. Finance Commission: Ellen Wood reported that the city is being much more responsive to the commission's questions. She has been very impressed with Karen Aceves' knowledge and helpfulness. In addition to our normal annual oversight responsibilities, we have added two new large projects. We worked on the first fee study since 2011 and will continue to monitor it on an annual basis. Also we have been working with the City on the Financial Sustainability Plan, which we will probably be reassessing on a continuous basis.
- 4) **Open Forum**
  - a. General Plan: One of the concerns raised at the meeting was the Regional Housing Needs Assessment by SCAG which has allocated 2,000 housing units to be built here in South

Pasadena. There are a variety of numbers floating around and there was some questions about the 2,000 number.

b. UUT: Some attendees expressed concern that the tax might not pass in November because of the city's challenges in completing the general Plan. Many stated that the city needs to develop long term revenue sources. There needs to be long term planning.

c. Other Issues:

1. Cost of renting the community room for non profits
2. Hotel and B&B tax
3. Transparency/Accountability in city government
4. Affordable Housing
5. Traffic issues – city traffic study

d. Future meetings:

1. Transparency/Accountability in city government
2. GP Update
3. Inspection Program
4. Public Information Officer

5) Meeting Adjourned at 11:30AM

Minutes submitted by WISPPA President Betty Emirhanian.