



WISPPA In-Person Meeting Minutes
Saturday, November 6, 2021 at 10 am, South Pasadena Senior Center

Present:

WISPPA Board: Mary Urquhart, President, Betty Emirhanian, Past President, Ellen Daigle, Vice President, Janet Braun, Acting Treasurer, Sherry Plotkin, Membership Chair, Dollie Chapman, Member-at-Large, and Shelley Stephens, Acting Secretary

Others: WISPPA general membership, Mayor Diana Mahmud, and other interested citizens

1. President Mary Urquhart called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone at 10:05 am.

- Mary spoke briefly about the necessity of WISPPA, why it was formed, and its mission and activities.
- Minutes (viewable online) from the last meeting were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report, Janet Braun:

- There was a handout that documented revenues and expenses.
- Revenue was from membership dues and totaled \$900.00.
- There has not been much financial activity over the past year due to the Covid pandemic.
- Expenses totaled \$728.00 and included office supplies, sponsorship / dues, website, zoom, and post office box.
- Estimated bank balance as of 10.31.21 was \$6,933.00.

3. Membership Report, Dollie Chapman

- 92 members currently
- 145 get the newsletter

4. Re-districting Within the City

- Mayor Diana Mahmud announced that SP had a public meeting on redistricting.

- Redistricting is going on now at the local and state level.
- We are not happy with our current districting.
- Mary asked Diana to provide us with information so that WISPPA can write a letter to Kathryn Barger, Los Angeles County Supervisor.
- December 15, 2021 is the deadline for input.

5. Chamber of Commerce, Andrew Berk, President:

- The Chamber exists to promote businesses within the city.
- The Chamber is sponsoring a job fair on November 30, 2021.
- The Eclectic Music Festival (the Chamber's signature event) will return in May, 2022.
- Andrew feels WISPPA should have membership numbers in the thousands.
- Kudos and thanks to Betty Emirhanian for the weekly newsletter.
- Suggestions for newsletter distribution included Neighborhood Watch, 91030, Nextdoor, and emailing to Chamber members.

6. City Directory

- Attendee Yvonne La Rose raised the idea of generating and distributing a City Directory because she finds the city website confusing.
- San Marino Security has created magnets with emergency and other city phone numbers.
- This idea will be given some further thought, perhaps working with the City to make it easier for all who log in to the City's website.

7. The Role of City Commissions

- The new City Manager (CM) feels that the Commissions take up too much staff time and may want to eliminate the City's Commissions.
- All the Commissions are established in the municipal code.
- The CM is hiring a Management Assistant to undertake a study of the City's Commissions.
- It is important that there be public input into this process.
- Applications for seats on Commissions are currently open.
- Applications are kept on file and the new mayor uses these applications to make selections for appointees to the Commissions.

8. Upcoming Meetings

- There have been a lot of staffing changes within the City.
- Therefore, Ellen Daigle proposed an upcoming meeting: "Meet Our Department Heads."

- These individuals can talk about themselves; their backgrounds, what they hope to achieve via zoom, followed by a “question and answer” session.
- We should set a date soon.

9. Election Results:

- President: Mary Urquhart
- Vice President: Ellen Daigle
- Secretary: Shelley Stephens
- Treasurer: Janet Braun
- Membership Chair: Sherry Plotkin
- Board Member-At-Large: Dollie Chapman

10. Preservation Foundation, Mark Galatin, President:

- Special event is planned: virtual tour of the Miltimore House, designed by Irving Gill in 1911, and considered the precursor to modern architecture.
- The event will begin at 5 pm on Sunday, November 14, 2021, at Burke Triolo Studio.
- For more information visit: <https://sppreservation.org/>

11. South Pasadena Women’s Club, Elizabeth Anne Bagasao:

- The Women’s Club is about women supporting women.
- They are working to increase membership and become more relevant.
- There is now an evening membership for women who work and cannot attend day meetings.
- They are planning a special event: “Sip and Shop” on November 27, 2021, with local artisans selling their work in time for holiday gift buying. This event will be at the Women’s Club, from 4 – 8 pm, tickets are \$10 each.
- The Women’s Club would be open to partnering with WISPPA for the mutual benefit of both organizations.

12. President Mary Urquhart adjourned the meeting shortly after 11 am.