

## Studio City Cultural Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

February 7, 2023

### Committee Members

Scott Mandell, Ex-officio - Present

Wren Sarrow - Present

Abi Velasco – Present

Brandon Morino – Present

Richard Niederberg - Present

Barry Johnson - Present

Patty Kirby - Present

Chief Joseph de Luna – Absent

Mary Mallory - Present

1. Meeting called to order by Abi at 7:03
2. Hearing no objections, zoom minutes were approved
3. Chair update, No updates
4. Co-Chair update, meeting in person soon
5. Public comments regarding Van Nuys chamber
6. Discussion/Recap of Luminaria Event:

Barry: Enough people, cold weather, Barry and Richard suggested the tea lights have to go because they are not bright enough, they will buy **LED string lights** next year and they don't use much power (old string lights used to cause electrical surges and required generators). **LED string lights are probably less expensive** than tea lights have been. Luminaria came in under budget. Election committee, election cycle, the President invokes sections of time and the people running that Board members should be there (other than sickness or wedding). Jeff: **The wind blew down a lot of bags**, most people were unsure what was going on, **1/3 of the Board did not show up to help**, and there weren't that many people there, he suggested a poll of Board members to vote on continuing the event. Barry: 1. Not in support of a poll of the board until July. 2. If we do it again, we do it the first Sunday of December and **always have a rain date for the 2nd Sunday**, out of 10 times, we've had rain for 2 or 3 times. He's seen over 400 people on non-rainy days. Scott: He has 645 emails regarding Luminaria, the logistics of getting it planned. Quite a few days with Barry on the lot. Two board members never responded to the event emails, one RSVP'd and never showed up. **Board Members are required to do 10 hours of service a year outside of the Board meetings**, a few Board members have never helped with an event. Suggested having the event earlier (speakers, music during daylight) and the lights after dark. The Board had a big email discussion about the

separation of Church of State, when it was not a religious event. We have to make it clear to Board members that Events are what we do. Maybe we could use something other than sand to weigh down the bags. Abi - Lovely event that brings the community together. Her husband enjoyed it. It is a lot of work, but I was happy to help as much as I could. **Paperwork was extremely late, many missing pieces but we pulled it off (Abi, Mary and Kim, CD4)** Barry did an excellent job with the snacks, **my suggestion would be to shorten the event. The band and carolers right away. Neighbors went and left because it was too cold.** I would still vote yes for the Luminaria, **maybe a tent and heaters inside to keep people warm.** She also experienced too much sand to remove. She gave Richard and Barry a lot of credit for doing this event for so many years. **Barry and Abi agreed on 2 - 6, Bell Ringers at 5 pm when people are leaving. Barry suggested putting that people should dress warmly on the flyer.** Wren - Suggested we rent heaters (like restaurants). **Scott- The event itself went on very well, everyone deserves a thank you, Miranda McCord at park and recs.** Richard - Director of park and recs said event was perfect. Barry - Tiffany facilitated our use of the chairs belonging to the Campo Historical Board. **Mary - It was a lot of work, Tiffany was great with entertainment with all that they had to do, and they stuck with it.** We needed more people to volunteer, more hands, but it ended up going well, and the weather kept people away that day. The bands had to become a vendor with the city, a BTR form, they have to upload everything, and get insurance, and list the city on it, multiple bands had to redo it, and get a license with the city. Tiffany helped it go through. And covid vaccinations were required. Mary: Kerkorian and Ramen stayed through the event, and Lana did a great job as MC. Wren - requested that we have a Board discussion about Luminaria.

7. Update on Movies in the Park – Abi Velasco. Both movie events are approved with flyers, and supported by CD5 with hamburgers, veggie hamburgers and hot dogs. Abi would like to introduced to someone at the Fire Dept.
8. Comments from committee members, Brandon suggested getting constructive comments from Board members who attended the event. (Update, a discussion of Luminaria, by Board members who attended the event, or in the past, will take place at the March Board meeting)
9. Abi and Wren thanked members and Board Members.