

# SANTA MONICA — PIER —

## SANTA MONICA PIER CORPORATION

Minutes of the Board of Directors Special Meeting on February 18, 2016

Ken Edwards Center, 1527 Fourth Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401

### **Call to Order**

The special meeting was called to order by Chair Judy Abdo at 6:36 PM on February 18, 2016 at the Ken Edwards Center, 1527 Fourth Street,

Board Members reporting present:

Chair Judy Abdo  
Secretary/Treasurer Barbara Stinchfield  
Chris Foster  
Misti Kerns  
Susan McCarthy

Board Members absent:

Abby Arnold  
Allan Lipsky

Also present:

SMPC Pier Administrator Jay Farrand  
SMPC Deputy Director Jim Harris  
City of Santa Monica Office of Pier Management Administrator Michael Barboza  
City of Santa Monica Beach Manager Judith Meister  
City of Santa Monica Senior Development Analyst Elana Buegoff  
City of Santa Monica Engineering Specialist Gene Higginbotham  
Landmarks Commissioner Laura O'Neill  
Santa Monica Pier Lessees Representative Randi Parent  
Celtis Community Relations Manager Ned Racine

### **1. Information Items**

#### **A. Staff & Programming Update**

Jay Farrand provided updates on upcoming SMPC-produced events STEAM Machines and Wake Up with the Waves, both coming up in March; the Expo launch date, yet to be made official; the current run of the Santa Monica "Most Loved" campaign, the Independent Spirit Awards campaign offering a drawing for 2 free tickets plus a stay at the Wyndham Hotel; the still-pending El Niño campaign (waiting for rain) and the current status of the Palisades Park Project, which has commenced.

Board Member McCarthy recommended that Rae Archibald and Allan Lipsky be invited to the upcoming Audit Committee meeting – Archibald to represent the previous composition of the committee and Lipsky as a prospective future member. The Board Members all concurred.

**B. January Budget and Financials**

Jay Farrand summarized the written report submitted in the Board Packet.

**2. Action & Discussion Items**

**A. Independent Spirit Awards update**

Judith Meister updated the Board regarding the change in the event footprint for the Independent Spirit Awards, noting that the footprint was moved to the east part of the 1550 PCH parking lot as a precaution against flooding due to possible rain.

Randi Parent noted that the Pier business tenants had concerns about the amount of parking consumed by the event footprint, but were otherwise mostly happy about the event's presence.

*Public comment by John London and Jeff Klocke*

**B. Construction & Colorado Esplanade Construction Update**

Gene Higginbotham and Ned Racine notified the Board that construction on the Ocean Avenue/Colorado Avenue intersection was expected to commence in the upcoming week and that the project will require closure of the east half of Ocean Avenue for 10 days, followed by the full closure of the Pier Bridge for another 10 days.

The Board expressed a great amount of concern regarding this closure, noting that it will have a tremendous impact on the Pier's businesses during the annual Spring Break season as well as a huge concern about emergency vehicle access. The Board's concerns were echoed and re-emphasized by SMPLA representative Randi Parent along with several Pier business representatives in attendance.

Gene Higginbotham noted that he had yet to speak with the Fire Chief about the closure and, recognizing the issues brought to his attention at this meeting, will work with the contractor to find a more suitable plan for this project.

*Public comment by Jeff Klocke, Greg Morena and John London.*

**C. Capital Improvement Project Update**

Jay Farrand provided updates on two current projects: The new south stairs will be complete at the end of the month, after which the existing south stairs will be replaced and widened; the installation of the new bollards on the Municipal Pier is complete and the bollards are fully functional.

**D. Approval of Minutes for the January 21, 2016 meeting**

Motion by Board Member McCarthy, seconded by Board Member Foster, that the Board approve the minutes as presented. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Board Members Abdo, Foster, Kerns, McCarthy and Stinchfield

NOES: None

ABSENT: Board Members Arnold and Lipsky

ABSTAIN: None

**3. Presentations**

**A. Santa Monica Pier Lessees Association**

Randi Parent reported that, compared to their previous experiences, the Pier's businesses were very pleased with how this year's Los Angeles Marathon impacted the Pier.

**B. Landmarks Commission**

Laura O'Neil reported no updates regarding the Pier, but did note that the Landmarks Commission did award a Certificate of Approval for the current landscaping project in Palisades Park.

**4. Board Member Items**

Board Member McCarthy asked that the Board recognize Sheila and Maynard Ostrow; Sheila passed away earlier in the week and Maynard a year-and-a-half ago.

Chair Abdo also asked that the Board recognize Rod Merl's wife, Jeanine, who recently passed as well.

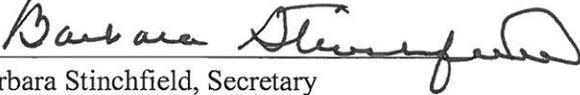
**5. Public Comment**

Public comment by John London and Jeff Klocke.

**6. Adjournment**

Chair Abdo adjourned the meeting at 8:19 PM.

ATTEST: APPROVED:

  
Barbara Stinchfield, Secretary