

Committee of One Hundred

Board Meeting Minutes – February 10, 2020

Present: Kevin Bentz, Jim Bonner, Barbara Brown, Ron Buckley, Tom Jackson, Welton Jones, Mike Kelly, Dick Lareau, Vince Marchetti, Pam Miller, Cub Parker, Ross Porter, Roger Showley, Lynn Silva, Robert Thiele.

Guests: John Bolthouse, Mike Stepner, David Malmuth, Sam Dychter, Benjamin Thiele-Long, Rene Smith, Jack Carpenter, Steve Stopper

Minutes: January Minutes approved.

Guest Speakers: Rene Smith and Jack Carpenter, speaking on behalf of Friends of Balboa Park ad hoc committee on parking and circulation. They presented an outline of how their group operates to uncover, evaluate and organize results of prior studies on proposed park projects. Many have been done and plans adopted, with much repetition and little to show in terms of actual outcomes. This group is all volunteer and has no budget for paid consultants. Once all the data has been discovered, assembled, evaluated and a prioritized final proposal adopted, it intends to go public with the results. Communication with the city and the San Diego Association of Governments are considered essential. Identifying “low-hanging fruit,” in terms of possible projects to be considered, is seen as a means to engage the public and garner support for larger projects in the future.

Nomination of new Board members: Sonja Helton, David Malmuth, Andrew Poat and Mike Stepner were nominated by Welton Jones. The nominees were accepted and will be voted on at the March regular meeting.

Advisory Board: Welton Jones proposed formation of an Advisory Board, including former Board members. It was unanimously accepted by the Board.

Committee Reports: Committee minutes submitted separately.

Membership: Welton Jones, Chair. Planning for annual luncheon, awards and speakers. Next meeting – Feb. 21, noon.

Finance: Kevin Bentz, Chair. Development of a fundraising campaign. Next meeting – Feb. 27, noon.

Projects: Vince Marchetti, Chair. Planning for Auto Museum tiles and ornamentation, next phase of fountain design. Next meeting: Feb. 24.

Archives: Sonja Helton, Chair. Publication of newsletter. Next meeting: March, date not firm.

Palisades Update: Robert Thiele. Plan check for installation of Auto Museum tile and décor is scheduled for Tuesday, January 11. Original drawings were discovered for the Firestone Singing Fountains in San Diego History Center archives. These have been given to WET, the contracted design firm, to assist in designing their next fountain concept. A due date has not been set. The Automotive Museum tile mural and ornamentation should be ready for installation by May; invasive ficus trees have been removed; and a ribbon cutting will be planned at the museum this summer. The City Council is set to approve the first of the Palisades reclamation project today (Feb. 10 -- it was approved unanimously) and should begin in April. NewSchool of Architecture & Design students are preparing plans and ideas for the Palisades, with the advice from C100 members, as a class project and results will be unveiled Feb. 17. Roger Showley has prepared a draft "narrative" of the Palisades project that can be used in a future communications campaign.

President's report: The Balboa Park Committee held a public workshop Feb. 6 to gather priorities to be used in creating a Balboa Park 2030 strategic plan that will include projects, governance and financing recommendations. Several members met with Melissa Peterman, development director of the Comic-Con Museum, who said plans will be unveiled in March for that facility. They also met with Lenny Leszczynski, new executive director at the Auto Museum, who reported on his board's expected review of a planned expansion. He fully endorsed C100's Palisades plan.

Other business: Ron Buckley reported on a forum where candidates for Council District 3 (which includes the park) spoke and there was discussion about co-sponsoring a candidates forum this summer that focuses on the park. David Malmuth discussed possible funding options for the park, including an increase in the transient occupancy tax, depending on the outcome of the March 3, 2020, primary ballot measure to increase the TOT for the convention center expansion and other purposes. Dick Lareau requested board members collect items for the June 5 luncheon auction -- tickets, restaurant vouchers, and hotel stays. Barbara Brown asked each board member to bring a bottle of wine, valued at around \$20, that could be included in a wine basket.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Bonner reports that C100 just added income of \$23,390 during our last reporting period. This included several large gifts plus results of the year-end appeal.

Electric Building Tenants Committee (EBTC): Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 18.

Submitted: Tom Jackson, Recording Secretary