

# PASADENA SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE GENERAL MEETING

## Minutes of Meeting of December 19, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Fred Alcantar Jr in the Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall at 6:15 p.m.  
**Members Present:** Bob Aronoff, Jack Biondolillo, Bouseloub Boualem, Carla Boykin, Leslie Caldwell, Taliba Carr, Ofelia Cavazos-Edmonson, Rita & Ray Elshout, Elisia Farmer, Maggie Gihanian, Angie Gomez, Nova Hindoyan, Taleen Hindoyan, Marguerite Hougasian, Helen Kouyoumdjian, Johnny Kamon, Mary Knox, Gloria Leufroy, Ivie Lewis, Maureen & Ross Mc Connell, Marcia & Philip Montez, Gary Moody, Silvia Ohanian, Susana Porras, Joan Reyes, Tina Rios, Ara Sarafian, Treasure Sheppard, Tamara Silver, Trude Todd, Tommye Martin, Laura Terry, Debra Ward-Samad, Isabelle Warner, Michael Warner, Cathy Wei, Horace Williams Jr. (41).

**No Guests**

**1) Minutes:** 21 November 2019 – approval motion by Gary Moody, second by Ofelia Cavazos-Edmonson; passed.

**2) Treasurer's report:** Motion by Marguerite Hougasian, second by Silvia Ohanian, for \$383.58 for Taleen for Armenia Officials Reception. Passed without objections. Motion by Ross McConnell, Second by Gary Moody; for \$1,581.73 for ordered Coverlettes. Passed without Objections.

**3) Moved to New Business** – Board Elections; Bob Aronoff, Helen Kouyoumdjian, & Angie Gomez counted the ballots - President - Michael Warner; Vice President - Marcia Montez; Secretary - Angie Gomez; Treasurer - Fred Alcantar; Subcommittees : Germany: Chairperson - Olivia Bueno; Vice-Chairperson - Maureen Mc Connell; Japan: Chairperson – Johnny Kamon; Vice-Chairperson – Open; Finland: Chairperson – Open Aulikki Flagan (With drew); Vice-Chairperson - Tamara Silver; Armenia: Chairperson - Taleen Hindoyan; Vice-Chairperson - Margarite Gihanian; China: Chairperson - Ofelia Cavazos-Edmondson; Vice-Chairperson – Open; Senegal: Chairperson - Boualem Bouseloub; Vice-Chairperson - Gary Moody.

**4) Old Business** – Holiday Party “Winter Lights” themed January 12, 2020; Laura Terry discussed the progress reminding everyone we need to **RSVP**; \$45 / person 50 minimum required by the 5<sup>th</sup> of January 2020. PSCC is going to cover \$15 for members and \$10 for guests in advance \$30 members and \$35 for guests; at the door will be \$40 each.

*Website Update was tabled.*

### **5) Committee Reports:**

**a. Armenia – Taleen Hindoyan** - Mayor Tornek and a delegation were invited by Vanadzor to attend the Vanadzor day celebration-October 26th. At the Mayor’s reception were Officials, invited guests and our Sister City members. There was an Unveiling of the General Antranig statue. He was the great general who led troops, in the aftermath of the genocide that led to the independence of the Republic of Armenia in 1918. Vanadzor- was the site of one of three important battles that took place. Last May, we were in attendance of the 100th anniversary celebrations of the republic last year, where they had the re-enactment of the great battle and announcement of independence. The Armenia Prime Minister was in attendance to tour some construction sites. The improvements happening in Vanadzor are part of the movement and motto-city of innovations. And hashtag kordz Ga which translates to “there’s work”. In the late afternoon there was a luncheon hosted by the Vanadzor Mayor, where the great maestro Tigran Mansurian was in attendance - *just a few days later he headlined the international contemporary composer’s festival at the opera house in Yerevan.* In the evening, there was a concert and unveiling of the dancing fountains, attended by the prime minister all the invited guests, and the citizens of Vanadzor. During the Vanadzor day celebrations, we also had the opportunity to discuss possibilities of cultural and sports exchanges with the corresponding ministers and city officials. Pasadena Sister City Committee Members: Taleen Hindoyan, Vahan Poghosyan, and David Gevorkyan. In the days following, Vahan, Mrs. Ashkhen, host mom and support member visited a kindergarten to assess the needs that were listed in the updated

needs/wish list provided in September. We went in to check on the restroom repairs but the principal had already taken out a personal loan to complete that project. In its stead we observed and assessed the need for heating. After extending the trip, Taleen had the opportunity to visit Vanadzor twice more. Invited to the autumn program at kindergarten #4, observed and assessed the dire need for heating, to replace wood burning stoves in the classrooms. During this time Taleen also visited the Henry Ikitian cultural center, run by Ms. Angela Jaghinyan, student host mom 2019. And thanked her for her hospitality and toured the center. Discussed many opportunities for cultural exchange and exhibition in the coming years. At the last Armenia Subcommittee meeting the budgets were approved to bring two heating projects to fruition.

Announcement: Armenian Subcommittee's Christmas celebration will take place on Wednesday, Dec 18th. We have decided to support the local St. Gregory's church ladies guild-by attending their Christmas luncheon as a committee. All are welcome to join us- please make reservations in the next week.

**b. Japan – Bryan Takeda - No new report**

**c. Finland – Tamara Silver - No Report**

**d. Germany – Ross McConnell - No Report**

**e. Senegal – Bousselob Boualem - November 14, the Senegal Subcommittee held a monthly meeting. This was in accordance to a vote of the committee members that the regular meetings will be held the second Thursday of the month. Boualem stated that the March trip to Senegal was still waiting to hear from the Mayor of Dakar-Plateau. 7 to 10 city Officials and possibly 20-30 community members may travel with the group. Tentative date after March 3, 2020. Michael Warner stated that it was the practice of the Pasadena Sister City to charge \$100 to non-members travelling with the Sister Cities Committee on trips. Taliba reported about the African Market and Cultural Festival, to be held on September 19, 2020, at Central Park with Amphitheater. Taliba provided the Senegal Committee with its revised budget, scope, timeline, and asked for people to chair and volunteer for subcommittees as follows; **Entertainment:** Gary Moody volunteered to chair; **Finance, Sponsors & ADs:** Laura; **Logistics-Entertainment:** Gary Moody; **Logistics-Services: Open;** **Food Vendors:** Mary Knox, Francis Stubblefield, Taleen Hindoyan; **Print Artists:** Riea Owens; **Publicity: open;** **SWAGG:** Laura **Vendors:** Mary Knox, Francis Stubblefield.**

**f. China – Cathy Wei - No Report.**

**g. Student Coordinator – Margarite Gihanian - No Report.**

**h. Ad Hoc Committee Sri Lanka (Senani Abey) – No Report.**

**6). SCI – So Cal - Carla Boykin reported on Conf. in Santa Barbara, on how great La Canada Flintridge is doing with their Youth program and a possible Youth Summit in So California.**

**SCI Annual Conference will be in Florida November 2020. location to be announced.**

Next PSCC Meeting: 19 December 2019 – Annual Meeting and voting - Same location 984 East Locust Street; Pasadena.

Ofelia Cavazos-Edmondson motion to adjourned at 7:43 pm Seconded by Trude Todd. Passed without objections.

Respectfully submitted,

By Michael Warner for Olivia Bueno, Secretary