

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

January 11, 2016

TO: SBCCOG Steering Committee

FROM: Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG Executive Director

RE: Appointments to Outside Agencies

Adherence to Strategic Plan:

Goal B: Regional Advocacy. Advocate for the interests of the South Bay.

Since early December, nominations were solicited for 3 positions to outside agencies that became vacant as a consequence of the November election. The following people have expressed their interest in serving:

- SCAG Community Housing, Economic Development Committee
 - Redondo Beach Councilmember Laura Emdee (her 1st choice)
 - Lomita Mayor Pro Tem Mark Waronek
- South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce (non-voting)
 - Rolling Hills Estates Councilmember Britt Huff
- Stormwater Funding Options Committee
 - Redondo Beach Councilmember Laura Emdee (her 2nd choice)

The SBCCOG has one position on each of the above committees and the board policy is that the positions are filled for a 2 year term from the date of the appointment – to June 2017.

Per Board policy, each of the candidates' resumes and statements of interest are included in the agenda packet. They have also been invited for a brief (3 minute) interview to the Steering Committee meeting. If they cannot attend, the Executive Director or Chair can read their statement. The Steering Committee will then make recommendations to the Board which will be finalized at the January 28 Board meeting. New terms will begin starting in February.

Please note that nominations for 2nd Vice Chair closed on January 8 and the Nominating Committee will be making their recommendation directly to the Board. Current expressions of interest have been received from Torrance Councilman Kurt Weideman & Redondo Beach Councilman Christian Horvath.

RECOMMENDATION

Review resumes and interview candidates as required and recommend appointments to the Board.

STATEMENTS OF INTEREST

SCAG CEHD COMMITTEE:

Mark Waronek

I would like to serve on SCAG's committee on Community, Economic & Human Development. Previously when I served on the city council from 2003 to 2007, I was very active working with the South Bay COG and SCAG. After two years serving on the city council I am ready to serve again on a SCAG committee. My background is in economic development and comment development, so I know I would be a good addition to the committee and representing the South Bay Area.

Laura Emdee

Thank you for letting me know about the opportunities to serve. I am interested in the SCAG Community Housing, Economic Development Committee. I did not see an opening on that committee when I reviewed the committee members. If that is true. I only want to nominate myself in the event there is an opening. I do not wish to run against someone doing a good job on that committee.

STORMWATER FUNDING OPTIONS COMMITTEE

Laura Emdee

While the SCAG Community Housing, Economic Development Committee is my first choice, I would also be interested in being considered for appointment from the SBCCOG to the committee that produced the Storm Water Funding Options Report. As I am from a beach city, I am hoping my participation would bring a needed perspective to that committee.

SOUTH BAY ASSOCIATION OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

Britt Huff

I would like to be considered for the position as the South Bay Council of Governments' representative to the South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce (SBACC) Board of Directors. I have been a long time member of the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce and the Palos Verdes Chamber of Commerce. I have served on the PV Chamber Legislative Committee, Economic Development Committee, and the Special Events Committee, which plans the Citizen of the Year award program and the annual Salute to Business award. I believe that my background, experience, and training would be beneficial to the SBACC.

Mark A. Waronek has over 20 years of experience in government and community relations, and public affairs. Mr. Waronek is currently Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Lomita. He previously served on the council from 2003-2007, and as Mayor from 2006-07 - he is involved in many organizations and associations in the South Bay and the Los Angeles County region. He served as Secretary/Treasurer for the California Contract Cities Association and was a board member on the League of California Cities Transportation Policy Committee and many other regional organizations/ associations. Currently he works for Ek & Ek – public affairs company out of the San Pedro office. He was the Principal and Owner of Waronek & Associates, a consulting firm he started in April 2005, after several years as an associate and project manager for three top advocacy and public affairs consulting firms in Los Angeles.

He was the Director of Government and Public Affairs for Olivito and Associates as a representative for two associations: the California Contract Cities Association and the Western Carwash Association. He also was the Director of Government Affairs for Svorinich & Associates, Inc. and interfaced directly with the Los Angeles City Council, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Los Angeles Unified School District and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA). Mr. Waronek has fostered relationships with most of the 88 cities within Los Angeles County.

Prior to rejoining forces with former Councilman Rudy Svorinich Jr., Mr. Waronek was employed by Joe Cerrell, Chairman of Cerrell Associates. While at Cerrell Associates, his focus was on resolving client issues and numerous public relations projects within the greater Los Angeles region. Previous to Cerrell Associates, Mr. Waronek was a key figure within the Afriat Consulting Group for three years. He managed several initiatives and issues including advocacy/lobbying, public affairs, political campaigns and communications, fundraising, and special events.

As a public servant, he served the City of Los Angeles and specifically the five diverse (Harbor City/Harbor Gateway, San Pedro, and Wilmington) communities of the 15th Council District as Economic Development Deputy to Councilman Rudy Svorinich, Jr.

Waronek graduated with a B.A. in Communications with an emphasis in Communication Studies from Loyola Marymount University and currently resides in the city of Lomita, with his wife, Kristine (married 20 years), and two children, Madeline, 17 years and Marky, 14 years old. He enjoys spending time with his family and traveling with family and friends. He coaches his kid's athletic teams. He also has a taste for wines and on his spare time he is the public address announcer for football and basketball games at his high school alma mater, Bishop Montgomery High School in Torrance.

Other Affiliations are as followed:

- Executive Boardmember – Marketing and Communications Chair & Legislative Vice-Chair, California Contract Cities Association
- Member, Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee
- Boardmember, Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Oversight Committee and Claims Board
- City of Lomita Representative, California Contract Cities Association
- City of Lomita Representative/Boardmember, Joint Powers Insurance Authority
- Board President, Community's Child Homeless Shelter for Women – South Bay
8 years
- Boardmember, Los Angeles Harbor College Foundation
3 years
- Boardmember, Salvation Army of Torrance
- Foundation Treasurer, Lomita-Harbor City Kiwanis Club
- Boardmember, St. Margaret Mary Parent – Teacher Council (PTC)
4 years
- Past Lieutenant Governor, Kiwanis International Division 19
1 year
- Past Chairman and Boardmember, Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce
8 years
- Past President/Member, Lomita-Harbor City Kiwanis Club
7 years
- Past Member of Board of Governors, Torrance Chamber of Commerce
7 years
- Past President/Boardmember, Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Chamber of Commerce
Past Chair, Governmental Affairs Committee (Honorary Lifetime Boardmember)
17 years
- Past Boardmember, Lomita Little League
6 years
- Past Manager/Coach, Lomita Little League
6 years
- Member, Knights of Columbus – St. Margaret Mary Church
4 years
- Past President and Boardmember, Boys and Girls Clubs of the South Bay
15 years

- Chair, NFL-YET Center Los Angeles
8 years
- Past Boardmember, Boys and Girls Clubs of America California State Alliance
6 years
- Past Chairman/Boardmember, South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce
18 years
- Past Advisory Boardmember, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of the South Bay
3 years
- Past Boardmember, Gang Alternatives Program (GAP)
5 years
- Past President, Boardmember, Holy Name Society - St. Margaret Mary Church
10 years
- Chair, 75th Anniversary Gala 2012 - St. Margaret Mary Church
1 year
- Boardmember, St. Margaret Mary School Council
5 years
- Chair, Annual Gala, St. Margaret Mary School Council
12 years
- PA Announcer for Football and Basketball games, Bishop Montgomery High School
26 years
- Past Boardmember, Manny Mota Foundation
- Past Boardmember, Port of Los Angeles Community Advisory Committee
- Past Boardmember, Bishop Montgomery High School Development Council
- Chair, City of Lomita Centennial Committee (1907-2007)
- Past Boardmember, Lomita Chamber of Commerce
- Past Boardmember, Carson Lomita Torrance Workforce Investment Network
- Los Angeles County Alliance of Boys and Girls Club Steering Committee
- Past Member, Harbor UCLA Medical Center Working Group Alliance
- Past Member, Harbor Gateway Sunrise Rotary Club

- Boys and Girls Clubs of the South Bay Board Member Service Award (15 years of Service) 2015
- Lomita-Harbor City Kiwanis – Kiwanian of the Year 2014-15
- South Bay Association of Chamber Commerce Shaun Lumachi Award 2014
- Kiwanis International Cal-Nev-Ha District Distinguished Service Award 2014
- Kiwanis Cal-Nev-Ha District William A. Dunlap Fellowship Award 2013
- Torrance Chamber Achievement in Excellence Award 2013
- Torrance Chamber Chairman's Award 2012
- Kiwanis International Cal-Nev-Ha District Distinguished Service Award 2011
- South Bay Association of Chamber Commerce John Parson's Business Citizenship Award 2010
- California Chamber Small Business Advocate of the Year 2009
- Los Angeles Unified School District Hero in Education 2008 - Lomita
- Bishop Montgomery High School Hall of Fame – Class of 2006
- Torrance Chamber Most Outstanding Volunteer 2004
- Leadership Torrance/South Bay 2003
- Harbor Area Honorary Fire Chief 2002

* High-lighted denotes still active

Laura Emdee

Citizenship : United States

Contact

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Profile

Summary of Qualifications

Solid leadership skills; able to build, guide and motivate crew and enjoys being part of a team. Adept at communicating with management, vendors, volunteers and internal departments to meet organizational goals. Strong analytical and planning skills, especially strong with reviewing financial statements and data. Productive and efficient work habits

Key Skills

Proficient or familiar with a vast array of business, concepts and technologies, including:

Market Research,
Analysis

Strategic Planning

Customer/Voter Outreach

Good PR / Social Media
Skills

Education

June 1986 **BA, Economics, University of California,** Irvine

December 1993 **MBA, California State University,** Dominguez Hills

Concerns as Council Member & Previous Work Experience

City of Redondo Beach, City Council Member

2015 – 2019 w/ option
to run a second term

- ✓ Housing is a huge concern for Redondo Beach. City has a 50% home ownership rate, which is lower than LA County.
- ✓ City has in the pipeline 136 acres being redeveloped over the next 2 years.
- ✓ Storm water from over 700 acres across several south bay cities dump into our ocean water.

RBUSD School Board Member

2011 - 2015

- ✓ Organized bond Measure Q campaign. Considered an uphill campaign since it was the third bond campaign in 10 years. Organized volunteers, fundraising, filings and PR. Bond passed with 64%; 55% was required.
- ✓ Lead during the worst economic times for schools with minimal impact to the classroom; when economics improved increased reserves and services in a fiscally conservative manner.

Beyond Incentives, Redondo Beach, CA

Owner

Meetings, Events and Incentive Programs

1992 - 2010

- ✓ Company was a start-up and had several years of \$1M+ in sales then sold.

Round Boxx Productions, Hermosa Beach, CA

Event Basis

Production Stage Manager

- ✓ Events include Fortune 500 companies i.e. Disney, ESPN and Hollywood Reporter

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Various 1995 - 2013

Motivated and educated large volunteer workforce; Served President, Treasurer, Auditor, Director of Communications, Website Coordinator at local, district and state levels.

Marineland, Marketing Department

Activities and Interests

Education Economics, Management, Fine Arts

Traveling France, England, Belgium, Italy, Spain, Austria, Japan, Mexico, South Africa

Personal Two sons in college/grad school, Married to HS Sweetheart, Hiked Mt. Whitney, Biked 150 miles across Canadian Rockies, 5 half-marathons, Sailing.

Languages

English (native)

Spanish (basic)

Britt Huff Bio
City Council Member
City of Rolling Hills Estates

Britt Huff is a member of the City of Rolling Hills Estates city council and is serving in her second term on the Steering Committee of the South Bay Council of Governments, having been elected by the SBCOG Board of Directors 1 ½ years ago. She also serves on the SBCOG Senior Working Group, which brings together representatives of all member cities to cooperate in the development of programs and services for older adults in the South Bay.

Britt has served on the Legislative Committee of the California Contract Cities, on the Environmental Quality Committee of the California League of Cities, and on numerous committees in her city. Britt is also Executive Director of the non-profit organization, Healthcare and Elder Law Programs, better known as H.E. L.P., located in Old Torrance. She holds a Ph. D. in Political Science/Public Administration from George Washington University in Washington, D.C., a B.A. from UCLA, and graduate certificates from The American University and Georgetown University.

Britt began her career in Washington, D.C. working on Capitol Hill as a business analyst for the Chair of the House Committee on Small Business, who was also Minority Leader of the House of Representatives. She subsequently was accepted into the diplomatic corps as a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Dept. of State. She later served as the Deputy Director of the Boston District office of the U.S. Commerce Dept., and as a New England Regional Manager for the U.S. Energy Department in Boston. She transitioned to non-profit management and consulting in Southern California, and has also served as a political science professor on the adjunct faculties of USC, Westmont College in Santa Barbara, and most recently Marymount College in Palos Verdes.

Britt has also been an active volunteer in the South Bay, having served on the Boards of the LA BioMed Foundation and Palos Verdes Peninsula Education Foundation and is also a member of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, the Palos Verdes Chamber of Commerce, the South Bay Estate Planning Council, the PV Committee for the Philharmonic, and the Peninsula Chapter of the National Charity League. She served on the Planning Commission for the City of Rolling Hills Estates for five years, and as Chair in 2012, prior to being elected to the City Council.

Dr. Huff has been married for over 30 years to Dr. Kenneth Huff, M.D., who is Chair of Pediatric Neurology at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. They have one daughter, Hana Lise, who graduated from Cal Berkeley and is scheduled to graduate from Tulane University Medical School in New Orleans next May.