

**UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF APRIL 8, 2015 MEETING**

Present: Barry Bernstein, President; Vince Reardon, Secretary; Mack Langston, UCCF Rep.; Merle Langston, Beautification; Hallie Burch, Membership; Barbara Gellman, Neighborhood Watch/Beautification; Terry Jones, Correspondence; Diane Ahern, Publicity & Promotion; and Darlene Ventimiglia, Historian.

Excused: Ginny Charvat and Barbara Henshaw

Absent:

Guests: Nancy Groves

President Barry Bernstein called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He welcomed all attendees in particular the two keynote speakers John Haggerty, SANDAG's Division Director of Rail, and John Alderson, vice president of Westfield. Barry led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda: Terry Jones made a motion to approve the March Agenda. Hallie Burch seconded the motion and the March agenda was unanimously approved.

Minutes: Valerie O'Neill made a motion to approve the March minutes. Diane Ahern seconded the motion and the March minutes were unanimously approved.

LEGISLATIVE & COMMUNITY REPORTS

San Diego Councilwoman Lightner Discusses Drought Measures

President of the San Diego City Council Sherri Lightner spoke briefly about emergency measures the Council was implementing to address issues surrounding the statewide drought. She said there were new citywide restrictions imposed on local golf courses, except Torrey Pines Golf Course, which uses recycled water, to save precious water resources. She also mentioned there was increased enforcement of residents and companies for excessive water wastage. In addition, she said there were rebates for turf replacement of water-dependent lawns.

San Diego Fire Department Battalion Chief David Connor Discusses New Brochure

San Diego Fire Department Battalion Chief David Connor of Fire Station 35, which serves 11.32 square miles of University City and its surrounding areas, spoke about a new brochure, formatted in a Q&A layout, that explains the proper and improper uses of calling 911 during emergencies. He also said if UC residents had any fire- or safety-related questions he is always receptive to answering questions. He invited attendees to email him.

New San Diego Police Department Captain Mark Hanten Introduces Himself

Captain Hanten mentioned that he was recently promoted and assigned to Captain of Northern Division, replacing Captain Jerry Hara. A 26-year veteran police officer, he said that he is eager to get to know the residents of UC. "We can't police what we don't see," he said.

Northern Division community-relations officer (CRO) Holly Tafoya gave a brief update on neighborhood solicitors. She said legitimate solicitors should have a valid permit visible when they come to a resident's door. If someone comes to your door without a visible permit and you think you need police assistance, call police. Otherwise, call police later.

SDPD Detective Angela Bolt gave a brief update on residential burglaries in UC. She said two suspects who appear to be Hispanic men, drive a new, white GMC Denali. They come to the door posing as utility workers. Once inside, one suspect distract the elderly resident while the other suspect robs household items. If anyone observes these suspects, Bolt said to call SDPD at 858-531-2000 or 911.

Rachel Gregg Updates Initiatives Authored by Assemblywoman Toni Atkins

Rachel Gregg, senior field representative, spoke briefly about legislative issues that Assemblywoman Atkins has been working on, in particular DMV registration and exports. She said the Assemblywoman would be at the UC library on April 21 from 4:00-5:00 p.m. to discuss four bills she has authored pertaining to affordable housing, in particular AB 1335, the Building Homes and Jobs Act, which creates a permanent funding source for affordable-housing.

Hugo Carmona Discusses Congressional High School Art Competition

Hugo Carmona, the field representative of Congressman Scott Peters, said Peters has been selected by Congressman Steny Hoyer, the House Democratic Whip, to serve as a Senior Whip for the 114th Congress. He also said that there is a

Congressional High School Art Competition over the next two weeks and winners will have their art displayed in the Capitol.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS

Treasury & Budget Reports As of February 28, 2015, UCCA had net income of \$3,339.47 and during the same period UCCA had a budget balance of \$41,199.52. Barbara Henshaw made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Budget Reports; Hallie Burch seconded the motion. All unanimously approved the motion.

Membership Report: Hallie reported that as of April 6, 2015, there are 658 UCCA members (comprising 491 memberships) and totaling \$23,110 in membership revenue. Ginny Charvat moved to approve the reports; Valerie seconded the motion. All unanimously approved the motion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

President's Remarks: Barry discussed an upcoming San Diego City Schools and Imagine UC 2020 meeting on Monday, April 13 at 6:30 p.m. at Standley Middle School. He said he was very hopeful that school bond issues would fund improvements to refurbish the Standley Recreation Pool, build a band pavilion, as well as other proposed enhancements. He noted that each of UC's five schools would give brief presentations. He urged residents to attend and show their support.

Beautification: (Merle Langton): Merle gave an update in the continuing battle to get the City to pay for infrastructure improvements to the "road islands" at Radcliffe and Governor Ave. and Stresemann and Governor Dr. At the March Board Meeting the UCCA Board approved an additional \$4,500 to pay for work improvements. Merle said she is awaiting permits from the City before proceeding with median restoration.

Buy Local (Diane Ahern): Diane gave an update of the Buy Local program, which now has 30 local businesses providing UCCA members with attractive discounts on purchases. Several new Local Buy businesses are: Dance Hula Fitness, JK Computer Services, Lori Miller, First Choice Properties, and ComForcare Home Care.

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

PUBLIC FORUM

John Haggerty – SANDAG'S Division Director of Rail

Haggerty gave a detailed presentation of the 11-mile extension of the Trolley Blue Line, as called the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project for SANDAG, the region's transportation planning agency. Haggerty said the Blue Line would be built from the Old Town Transit Center up through UC, UTC, ending at Westfield Shopping Center. There would be nine new stations along the route, 36 new rail vehicles, and projected 21,000 daily by trolley riders.

Trolley Operations

- 15-minute headways (the time between arrivals at stations along the route) on Opening Day
- 7.5-minute headways in 2030
- Service coordinated with buses at transit centers
- CCTV monitoring all operations

How People Use Trolley

- 53% of riders have monthly pass
- 80% use system 4-7 times per week

Next Steps

- Station design presentation at community forums
- Final design/utility relocation
- Develop final construction schedule
- Work with City on traffic issues

Late 2015

- Full Funding Grant Agreement from federal government

2016

- Start of construction

2019

- Anticipated start of service

Haggerty took several questions from attendees, including on I-5 closure and bicycle paths in the area.

John Alderson, Vice President of Westfield

Alderson gave an update of construction planning for Westfield Shopping Center in UTC.

- In 2008 Westfield received entitlements for a 750,000 sq. ft. expansion of its Westfield Shopping Center in UTC. Initially, it will begin with a 400,000 sq. ft. expansion, including a new Nordstrom's fronting Genesee Ave. and additional refinements to Nordstrom.
- No trees will be lost; new trees will be added.
- Buses will be coordinated with the trolley at Westfield Shopping Center.
- Westfield will add 2,000 new parking spaces on Genesee and a parking protection plan (average 68 minutes at UTC mall; first 2 hours will be free; pay after that)
- New world-class restaurants – 7-10 new ones, from fine dining to less costly family-style restaurants.
- Community Room (18,00 sq. ft., 5,000 sq. ft. under roof). Just for community events. Above-ground parking.
- Valet area off La Jolla Village Dr. Four lanes over 100 yards long.
- Construction will begin around May 15-June 15, 2015.
- Grand opening – Oct. 2017.
- Parking will be challenging.

Alderson asked attendees for their patience. The entrance off Genesee will be closed. Doesn't see traffic impacts by construction. Buses will be pushed out of mall onto Genesee.

Then he took 5-6 questions from attendees.

UCPG (Nancy Groves): Nancy gave a brief report of neighborhood projects under construction in UC:

- 1) The City's Planning Commission ruled in favor of the Costa Verde Shopping Center expansion. The developer wants to expand the shopping center by 178,000 sq. ft. In March the UCPG voted 9 against and 6 in favor of the expansion
- 6) At UCPG's next meeting (April 14th) it will discuss the West End Project on Regents Rd., which it has. The developer will present a modified plan for construction before UCPG. Nancy said the developer will likely reduce the number of units to 9 houses. Neighbors in the area, she said, are all opposed to the condo complex.

New Business: Barry mentioned that Michelle Hagstrom has requested \$1,000 for UCHS Grand Nite in June, sponsored by the Parents Teachers Staff Assn. He also urged board members to solicit at least five new memberships in their neighborhood.

Old Business: None.

Adjournment: Darlene made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Terry seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Next Meeting: The UCCA Board will meet on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.