



UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

www.UniversityCityNews.org

University City Community Library
4155 Governor Drive, San Diego, CA 92122

UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 8, 2017

PRESENT: Barry Bernstein, President; Diane Ahern, Vice President; Don Hotz, Treasurer; Barbara Gellman, Neighborhood Watch/Beautification; Merle Langston, Beautification; Mack Langston, parliamentarian/"Improve UC"; Hallie Burch, Membership, and Barbara Henshaw, Banners/Special Events

EXCUSED ABSENT: Valerie O'Neill, Newsletter Chair; Karen Martinez, Secretary

UNEXCUSED ABSENT: None

COMMUNITY GUESTS: San Diego Police Community Services Officer Sargent Brandon Broadus; SDPD Lt. Edwin Manansala; Bridger Langfur, representing Council District 1 Barbara Bry; San Diego Fire Rescue Battalion Chief Dave Connor; Chenille Tate representing State Senator Toni Atkins; Brian Elliot representing US Congressional Representative Scott Peters

WELCOME/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Meeting called to order at 6:04 PM by President Barry Bernstein.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES: Prior to the meeting, the January minutes were distributed and reviewed by board members through email communication. Hallie Burch made a motion to approve the January minutes as edited; Don Hotz seconded; motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The revised agenda for tonight's meeting was reviewed. Don Hotz made a motion to approve tonight's agenda. Barbara Gellman seconded; motion passed unanimously.

FIRE/RESCUE REPORT: Battalion Chief Dave Connor spoke on behalf of the Fire-Rescue Department. He reported that due to the Squad 56 fire house on west Governor Drive, response times have improved to 7.5 – 8.5 minutes. Squad 56 will soon be able to respond to a wider variety incidents including chemical spills. This Spring, a brush fire truck will be assigned to south University City. This will further reduce the response times to calls for service. Due to Trolley-related construction and shutdowns on Genesee Avenue, the Fire Department is prepared to respond from outside their usual north-south route on Genesee Avenue. They have been working with SANDAG to modify their dispatch system to take into account road closures. Chief Connor said they have noticed an increased number of complaints about the use of the fire truck air horn. The air horn is used in conjunction with the siren to move vehicles to the side so that the fire trucks can get through. He reminded motorists to move to the right if possible; the fire-rescue vehicles generally move to the left. He asked that those with concerns contact him. And to use SANDAGs 511sd.com for traffic, construction, and transit information.

POLICE REPORT: Lt. Edwin Manansala and Community Service Officer Brandon Broaddus spoke on behalf of the Police Department. Lt Manasala announced that Captain Stephanie Rose has been reassigned to a new role and that Tina Williams, who had been acting Captain, has been promoted to Captain of Northern Division. Lt Manasala has now been assigned to cover Northern Division's beach communities; and Lt Dan Grubs has been assigned to University City and the Northern Division communities east of I5. Officer Brandon Broadus urged the adoption of the Get-It-Done app to report issues for City Services that are not emergencies such as potholes and graffiti. He also took questions about traffic issues and street issues; often traffic issues are



UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

www.UniversityCityNews.org

University City Community Library
4155 Governor Drive, San Diego, CA 92122

investigated by Traffic Division, a department outside of Northern Division; those with concerns should contact him and he can share the concern with the appropriate department representative.

LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES:

Chenille Tate from State Senator Toni Atkins office reported that the state legislature is quite busy because of the stance the state is taking with the current (federal) administration. Senator Atkins has proposed nine laws so far and is still very concerned and supportive of quality of life issues.

Bridger Langfur from Councilmember Barbara Bry's office reported that their office is sponsoring a Beach Clean up on Saturday morning; and office hours in University City on Saturday, February 11, at the Library on Governor from 1-2:30 PM. He reported that he had met with community member Mark Salata about traffic issues on Governor Drive, specifically in the school areas and the intersections adjacent to Mercer. A traffic study has a 90 day timeframe. Community member Mark Salata suggested a study of the entire length of Governor Drive. A recent traffic accident at Mercer involving four or more vehicles underscores the need. Others suggested additional 'slow down' signs and 'citizen's arrest' for traffic offenders. Bridger read a statement from Barbara Bry to the effect that, as a budget priority, fire stations must continue to be funded, including Squad 56, which provides a vital service to University City. President Barry Bernstein asked about the possibility of the City partnering with the owners of UC Marketplace (the home of Sprouts on Governor) to beautify the median in front of that shopping area. No response yet from the City. Volunteers are not able to clean up the medians because of insurance, liability, licensing and safety issues.

Brian Elliot from Representative Scott Peters' office reported that their office has received many inquiries about the Representative's positions with the new administration in DC; it's a very different time, he reported. He urged all to follow Scott Peters on Twitter, on Facebook, and to sign up for the online/email newsletter. Peters now serves on the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Veterans Committee; he is no longer on the House Armed Services committee but maintains his relationships with San Diego military and his interest in military safety and support. In response to a question, Brian reported that WebTrak, the online flight tracking system that had previously displayed flight tracks from aircraft from Miramar as well as commercial airports such as Lindberg Field, will no longer display flight tracks from military aircraft. This was a joint decision between the FAA and the DOD for national defense and national security issues. A concern was expressed that the loss of WebTrak data means there is no way to prove that flights from Miramar are flying over homes in University City. Brian urged all to continue reporting noise and safety complaints to Miramar.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS:

- UC Marketplace median update as reported above in discussion with Bridger.
- The Miramar Community Leaders forum will be attended by Diane next week to discuss resident safety concerns.
- The Curie Elementary joint use park (joint use between SDUSD and Parks & Recreation) was not supported by the Standley Park Recreation Council.
- Traffic incident at Mercer and Governor reported involving at least four vehicles this month. Mentioned in discussion with Bridger as further evidence of need for traffic study.
- A lawsuit has reportedly been filed against the City with respect to the amendment to the Community Plan to remove the Regents Road bridge and the Genesee widening project from the plan. Community member Carole Pietras called it a legal action with the intent to sue.



UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

www.UniversityCityNews.org

University City Community Library
4155 Governor Drive, San Diego, CA 92122

OLD BUSINESS

REQUESTS FOR FUNDING:

- U.C. HIGH-SWIM TEAM JACKET REQUEST
- U.C. HIGH MUSIC BOOSTER CLUB REQUEST

President Barry Bernstein reported that the elected officers had reviewed active funding requests from each of the two groups. The officers recommended that UCCA support both the Swim Team jacket request and the Music Booster request with a donation to each group of \$1000. Don Hotz made the motion for \$1000 to each; Mack Langston seconded; motion carried unanimously.

- MARCY PARK IMPROVEMENT REQUEST-UPDATE

President Barry Bernstein further reported that the elected officers reviewed the \$6000 request from Marcy Park Improvement Project and recommended that the board postpone action on the request at the time. UCCA supports the Marcy Park project but the elected officers are unable to make a specific recommendation as the type and/or amount of support without further review.

OPEN FORUM-NEW REQUESTS FOR FUNDING:

- IMPROVE UC, Greg Zinser provided a brief update that the dedicated park land at Standley Park (between the Recreation Center and the Pool) may not be improved using money from San Diego Unified School District. He is confident that funding will be found to improve the City portion of Standley Park. He made a request for \$835 to fund general liability insurance for Improve UC. He feels this is necessary as they move forward with fundraising and other events. He does not expect this to be an ongoing request. ImproveUC has partnered with the Marcy Park improvement project.
- MESA DEL SOL (GIRLS' SOFTBALL), Ted Iturriria, President, reported that the team consists of approximately 100 girls ages 4 to 14 who play their games at Standley Park. He made a request for up to \$2000 for a storage shed to store items needed for their snack bar including a barbeque, snacks and other items. In response to questions, Ted said that security was taken into consideration and that a storage shed had previously been on the site but removed several years ago because of its unusable condition.
- OTHER ITEMS – Library Manager Melissa Martin reported that the San Diego Library system is undergoing a technology upgrade. Each library branch will be closed for two weeks during its upgrade. The North Community Library on Judicial will be closed for two weeks in March. She does not yet know when the Community Library on Governor will be upgraded. She announced that there are potholes in the driveways leading to the library parking lot and that she is working on repairs. They are not the City's responsibility because they do not appear on the City's maps as streets.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE: Hallie Burch reported 493 members and 366 memberships and \$18,000 in membership dues since the beginning of the 2017 membership drive (which began in October 2016).

TREASURER'S REPORT: Don Hotz had previously distributed the draft 2017 budget to board members via email. In response to questions, he reported that the budget was not a balanced budget because of the carryover of funds from the previous year; and showed a loss because of the desire to spend down some of UCCA's cash. Don monitors membership revenue as it comes in. Don reminded committee chairs to submit budget items. Merle Langston and Barbara Gellman would like additional funding for median cleanup and maintenance.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH: Barbara Gellman reported that she is working with complexes in north University City to establish Neighborhood Watch groups. As an alternative to a traditional Tuesday, August 1 National Night Out at homes of neighborhood watch captains and National Night Out at the Food Trucks on Wednesday, August 2, Barbara is working on a fundraising idea with the Coordinator from Clairemont to raise



UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

www.UniversityCityNews.org

University City Community Library
4155 Governor Drive, San Diego, CA 92122

funds for police equipment. They are thinking of a dance-a-thon with sponsors to be held as a community event on Tuesday, August 1, the evening of National Night Out.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE: Don Hotz reported that if all the ad space is filled in the newsletter, it should break even.

BANNERS/GRANTS: Diane Ahern reported that the current 2016/2017 San Diego County grant project for banners and transformer boxes is almost complete. She has written a Community Enhancement Program grant proposal for the 2017/2018 fiscal year for \$12,410 to provide sponsorship and promotion for Summer events at Standley Park including the 4th of July Celebration and the Summer Concerts; for transformer box art; and for Fall/Winter banners. Diane asked UCCA board members to pass a motion that confirms that UCCA is a non-profit, approves the application for a grant; and authorizes the elected officers to enter into a grant agreement with the County of San Diego for Community Enhancement funds. Mack Langston made the motion; Merle Langston seconded; motion passed unanimously. Because grant funding will not be available until after July 1, Diane intends to ask Standley Park Recreation Council to pay for the Summer banners with the understanding that the SPRC will be reimbursed by UCCA if and when grant funds are released. Barbara Gellman asked about banner sponsorship. Diane responded that if the SPRC agrees, they will be the sponsor of the Summer event banners; and if grant funds are received, there will be no need for an outside sponsor of the Fall/Winter banners. Barbara Henshaw reported that the banners have been well received.

LAST WORD: Thank you Barbara and Diane for tonight's refreshments.

ADJOURNMENT: Hallie Burch made a motion to adjourn at 7:30; Don Hotz seconded; motion passed unanimously. Next meeting March 8.

Minutes compiled by Diane Ahern.