



University City Community Association
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Telephonic Meeting via Zoom

University City Community Association Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2020

Present: Barry Bernstein, President; Mack Langston, Vice President and Parliamentarian; Don Hotz, Treasurer; James Beshears, Secretary; Barbara Gellman, Neighborhood Watch/Beautification; Diane Ahern, Publicity and Promotions; Merle Langston, Beautification; Barbara Henshaw, Special Events; Deanna Ratnikova, liaison to UCSD and CPUS alternate; Jemma Samala, Newspaper Editor

Absent: Hallie Burch

Guests: Mark Salata, Randall Tonini, Ruth DeSantis, Chris Nielsen, John Lee Evans, Joe LaCava, Barbara Bry

Call to Order: President Barry Bernstein called the meeting to order at 6:11 PM.

Approval of minutes: A motion to approve the minutes for the April 15, 2020 meeting was made and seconded and unanimously approved.

Approval of Agenda: A motion to approve the Agenda topics prepared by Barry Bernstein was made, seconded, and approved.

COMMUNITY LEADER REPORTS:

Barbara Bry, City Council member and candidate for mayor, reported that the City was working on its budget since revenue has dropped as result of the COVID-19 shutdown. The City was working on connecting people in need of assistance with the resources that are available. She also stated some of the programs she would support as mayor.

Mark Salata, President of EdUCate reported that Taste of the Triangle was cancelled due to the COVID-19 shutdown. He listed various programs they were investigating for fundraisers including honoring a teacher, the sale of coffee mugs for EdUCate and looking at grants and ways to get funding for its programs benefiting the local schools.

Randall Tonini, chair of the 4th of July committee, announced that the celebration was cancelled due to the COVID-19 shutdown..

Don Hotz announced that the 2020 summer concert series at Standley Park may be cancelled due to the COVID-19 shutdown. It depends if the park will remain closed by the City. Since the first concert is not until the second Week of July, the decision will be made at a later date.

Ruth DeSantis of UCCF reported on the details of the agreement between UCCF and the Water Dept. for the Pure Water settlement. The Water Dept. will make approximately \$1.3 million of improvements to the medians on Genesee from Decoro Dr. south to the median just before HWY. 52, as part of the Pure Water project construction. The work will be undertaken at the time the pipeline work is done.

Ruth also reported on how much coverage has been given to the raising of four Great Horned Owls and owl boxes for smaller owls in the canyons surrounding UC.

Chris Nielsen, Chair of the UCPG reported on the status of the Costa Verde Development project. The City granted the request of the UCPG sub-committee for an extension of time to submit a Comment Letter for the EIR. The deadline is now May 26, 2020. The comment letter will address traffic, visual impact, storm water runoff, noise and other issues. The EIR from the City is expected by late July. Chris also reported the new UCPG board was selected and Roger Cavanaugh is the Vice-Chair, Christy Miller is the Recording Secretary and Roger Miller is the Secretary.

John Lee Evans, of the San Diego Unified School District reported on the Imagine UC 2020 Project. The Plan is in its final stages and bids are expected to go out by September. The first stage will be to construct a new pool and pavilion and install a new turf field at Stanley Middle School.

Jemma Samala the Newsletter Editor reported that she had a fundraising idea of producing a UC Cookbook with recipes that they hoped to release by the end of the year for the Christmas/Holiday season. Their committee was considering it.

Joe La Cava, a candidate for City Council District 1, said he expected there would be a forum for candidates for local office in the fall. He also said an update for the community plan for UC will be funded and developed. He said the City was working on getting homeless people into the temporary shelter at the Convention Center and acquiring housing vouchers for a longer term solution.

LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES

Miller Saltzman for State Senator Toni Atkins reported on what the State was doing to combat the COVID-19 outbreak and referred attendees to go to <https://covid-19.ca.gov> for information on resources and programs. He also said they were working on the budget and trying to avoid cuts in services, but it was a tough situation given the loss of revenue for the state.

Jessica Brown for U.S. Congressman Scott Peters reported that he was in San Diego during a recess and was interacting with the community on COVID-19 issues. He was also working on a bill to establish resources for addressing mental health, the Heroes Act and SBA funding on loans. He is also working on a bill to allow remote voting in Congress.

Matthew Gordon for Assemblyman Todd Gloria reported they were working on programs, including a webinar to distribute food to people in need as a result of the COVID-19 shut down. That includes food drives, contributions to San Diego Food Bank and contributions to San Diego School District. One program includes delivering three meals a day to seniors who are staying indoors.

COMMITTEE AND MEMBER REPORTS

Diane Ahern reported on the status of obtaining funding for new banners regarding UC from the County. Because of budget cuts it is uncertain if funding can be obtained but she is trying and is applying under the status as a capital improvement project. She also reported that the Air Force Thunderbirds were flying on May 15, 2020 to celebrate first responders. She also reported that the documentary on the Navy plane crash in 2008 in UC, Two Miles East was available online from Pacific Arts Movement at pacarts.org.

Barbara Gellman reported on three subjects:

1. There are three new captains but the Neighborhood Watch committee is unable to meet with them. It is reaching out to coordinate actions and provide instruction.
2. There was a program, "Coffee with Chief Connelly" held via Zoom on May 5, 2020. No future dates have been set but are expected later this summer. It is open to the public and no RSVP's are required. Check with SDPD for details.
3. The SDPD are continuing to monitor Governor Dr. and connecting streets for drag racing. One person has been caught so far.

Mack Langston reported that the San Diego Community STVR Working Group of the San Diego Network of Town Councils was addressing the short term vacation rental issue and will follow up with a report.

Barry Bernstein reported he contacted the company maintaining the medians on Genesee and Regents south of Governor and requested a bid for weed removal.

Don Hotz reported that the newsletter will be distributed again by volunteers for June and thereafter. There will be 6,000 newsletters printed and available online.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by mutual consent at 7:55 PM.

Next Board Meeting Date: The next meeting will be Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at 6:00 pm via zoom unless changes in meeting procedures are adopted.

*Recorded and submitted by James Beshears

** Please note that various dates of future events referred to herein may be cancelled or continued as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions.