



University City Community Association
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Telephonic Meeting via Zoom

University City Community Association Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2021

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;; Deanna Ratnikova, liaison to UCSD and CPUS alternate.

Absent: Hallie Burch, Barbara Henshaw

Guests: Mayor Todd Gloria, M. Bognuda, Harry Mathis

Call to Order: President Barry Bernstein called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Approval of minutes: A motion to approve the minutes for the January 13, 2021 regular meeting was made by Mack Langston, seconded by James Beshears, and approved by the Board with one abstention.

Approval of the Agenda: On motion by Barbara Gelman and second by Merle Langston, the Board unanimously approved the Agenda, as amended.

GUESTS

Mayor Todd Gloria, reported as follows:

1. The City has administered covid-19 vaccinations to 500,000 total, including 100,000 at the Petco Park facility.
2. The City can now directly receive doses from the Federal Government rather than having to go through the County.
3. Vaccination of City employees was underway, with 1,200 being vaccinated last week and 1,600 this week with increasing numbers going forward.
4. As a result of loss of revenue and increasing costs due to the covid-19 pandemic, the budget deficit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 was expected to be \$84 million. The deficit for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2021 was expected to be around \$150 million. The City wants to preserve neighborhood services and safety, but the City Charter requires a balanced budget. The City is looking for Federal relief that includes money to impacted cities to help balance the budget but if none is available, cuts will be required in many areas of City operations and services.
5. The Mayor is the vice chair of SANDAG which will benefit the City.
6. The Pure Water recycling project is expected to start construction by June 1st. Nobel and Genesee will have reduced lanes during construction.
7. People trying to register for a vaccination can continue to call 211. The City is going to focus on numerous smaller sites, including mobile vaccinations, while the County is operating larger sites.
8. In response to questions/complaints about the flight patterns of Miramar Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS), the Mayor said he would communicate with the person in charge.
9. Mayor Gloria said he was committed to a high level of transparency and responsiveness to the community.

Officer M. Bognuda, of the SDPD, reported “crimes of opportunity” are up, and valuables in cars are being taken. To prevent, be sure to lock cars and to not keep garage door openers in cars to help prevent home break ins. Also, keeping side gates locked helps prevent access into homes.

Harry Mathis, a former City Councilman, reported that the City was working on a plan to put more utilities underground. Ruth DeSantis reported that work was underway for this on Sandberg Street.

LEGISLATIVE AIDES

Kaitlyn Willoughby, legislative aide to City Council Member Joe LaCava, reported:

- (1) Mr. LaCava’s office was working with other government agencies to solve the issue of flight plans for MCAS Miramar.
- (2) Town hall meetings will be set concerning SDG&E issues.
- (3) Willmark has complied with fire prevention regulations on their property on Gullstrand. The issue of continuing the golf course has not been resolved.
- (4) Requests for repairs or problems with City property should be reported on “Get it Done” website.
- (5) There is a 5 month back log for getting streetlights repaired/ replaced.

Matt Griffith, aide to Mayor Gloria, reported the Mayor was having a Town Hall meeting on February 13, 2021 at 10 a.m. along with Council member Joe LaCava via zoom to discuss various issues concerning the City and taking questions.

Anselmo Estrada, legislative aide to Assembly member Chris Ward, reported:

- (1) A new portal was established at “myturn.ca.gov” to apply for covid-19 vaccinations.
- (2) The Tenants Relief Act was approved June 30th and information on it is available at “housing is key.com”.
- (3) Under AB 11, 12 regional climate change sites have been established.

Spencer Katz, legislative aide to Supervisor Tarra Remer-Lawson, reported the County was expanding its covid-19 vaccine distribution centers and new ones are opening in Escondido and Del Mar Fairgrounds.

Jessica Brown, aide to Congress member Scott Peters, reported:

- (1) the bill OPRA 11 regarding ocean pollution was submitted to Congress. It seeks to improve water security and cut pollution.
- (2) A bill was submitted to help identify children in grades 6-12 and programs for those needing help for suicide prevention.
- (3) His office was looking into noise level issues for the F-35 planes.

Alyssa Helper, a community rep for UCSD, reported a vaccination site was opening in the REMAC complex on campus with capacity of up to 5,000 a day once fully operable.

Up to 100,000 vaccinations have occurred in the Petco Park site managed by UCSD Health. Development for a parcel on campus is planned. Information is available on the UCSD website real estate section. "Smart" traffic signals that react to traffic load are being installed in the areas around the campus.

Helen Liebowitz, from the City library, reported curbside pickup and drop off is available at 12 libraries in the City, including the one on Genesee in UC. Some also have limited access inside. Budget cuts of 12% were announced by the Mayor's office.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chris Nielsen, president of the UCPG, reported as follows:

- (1) A draft EIR for a project in La Jolla was underway.
- (2) A Pure Water Project relaunch community working group was formed.
- (3) A more specific plan for the UTC Sears and Crate and Barrel property was requested and the UCPG was opposed until received.
- (4) Lou Rodolico and Georgia Kayser are running for District 1 of the City Planning Group. Voting is March 2-4.

Ruth DeSantis reported the pine trees on Genesee will be replaced as part of the Pure Water project with smaller (24" containers) and more drought tolerant trees. The current pine trees will have to be removed due to adjacent trenching. Also, the number of pumping stations is uncertain.

Katie Rodolico, of CPUS, reported that next Tuesday (Feb. 16th), starting at 5:30 pm there would be a zoom meeting to discuss mobility issues.

Hallie Burch, of Membership (through Barry Bernstein) reported there were 557 members with 446 families.

Don Hotz, the treasurer, submitted the treasurers report for January 2021. On Motion by Mack Langston and second by Merle Langston, it was unanimously approved. A onetime payment of \$500 to Jemma Samala to thank her for her work on the Newsletter was approved.

Diane Ahern, Fire Safe Council, CASA and other committees, reported:

- (1) that 4 banners were destroyed in the last storm. They will need to be replaced in the fall/winter at a cost of \$570. No grants from the County covering the expenses for the banners are expected for this fiscal year.
- (2) Standley Park cannot plan summer events due to covid-19. She is also trying to get staff of the local parks to better maintain them.
- (3) She mentioned volunteers were needed to help pick up trash in UC. A group meets on the second Sunday of the month at 7:30-9:00 am at Starbucks to coordinate areas to go clean up.

- (4) The Fire Safe Council was continuing to work on a plan for home protection, reduction on overall fire risks, and preparation for evacuation.

Barbara Gellman, of Neighborhood Watch (NW), reported:

- (1) NW was continuing to replace faded signs.
- (2) NW was trying to expand curb painting of addresses in UC.
- (3) NW was attempting to make crime mapping to be more accurate as to location of crimes.

Mack Langston reported the City had meetings to address the Short-Term Vacation Rentals issues. No City regulations have yet to be approved. There is a working group meeting scheduled for Feb. 23rd.

Barry Bernstein reported that the cement work on the pool at Standley Park will soon commence. The park will also have retaining walls and a walkway around the school and park.

Next Board Meeting Date: The next meeting will be held on March 10 2021 via zoom at 6:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn was made by Don Hotz and seconded by Barbara Gellman with unanimous approval.

*Recorded and submitted by James Beshears

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