



University City Community Association
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Telephonic Meeting via Zoom

University City Community Association Meeting Minutes of January 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;; Deanna Ratnikova, liaison to UCSD and CPUS alternate; Barbara Henshaw, Special Events

Absent: Hallie Burch, Barbara Henshaw

Guests: Joe LaCava

Call to Order: President Barry Bernstein called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM.

Approval of minutes: A motion to approve the minutes for the November 11, 2020 regular meeting was made by Barbara Gellman, seconded by Don Hotz, and unanimously approved by the Board.

Approval of the Agenda: The Board unanimously approved the Agenda.

Reports by Barry Bernstein: A Meeting to celebrate Martin Luther King Day on January 18, 2021 was announced and all are invited to attend. He also spoke on the status of development projects including the redevelopment of the Costa Verde Center and the Wellpoint development by Gullstrand.

SCHEDULED QUESTS AND LEGISLATIVE AIDES

Joe LaCava, the new City Council member for the 1st District of San Diego (including UC) reported as follows:

1. The first month of the City Council meetings with the new members showed good camaraderie and commitment.
2. Kaitlyn Willoughby is his new aide for UC area. Justine Murray was now the Policy Director for District 7.
3. The budget shortfall for the City for this fiscal year was projected to be \$85 million for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. The deficit may be \$145 million for the next fiscal depending on funding for COVID-19 relief from the federal government. The Council was trying to keep funding for neighborhood projects at the same level.
4. Town Hall meetings regarding the SDG&E public utilities agreement are being set to receive suggestions for a new agreement by June 1, 2021.
5. Mayor Gloria said he was committed to a high level of transparency and responsiveness to the community.

Kaitlyn Willoughby, legislative aide to Joe LaCava, reported as follows:

1. Willmark Community Properties was working on compliance with the City Fire Code. As of 12-11-20 it was 80% in compliance and expected 100% by 1-29-21.
2. An electronic sign with the speed of individual cars will be installed on Greenwich Dr. to help discourage any drag racing.
3. Mayor Gloria is hosting online meetings at 6:00 pm on Jan. 23, 2021 and Feb. 1, 2021 to discuss the SDG&E utility agreement.

Spencer Katz, legislative aide to County Supervisor Terra Remer-Lawson reported as follows:

1. The County was revising its Climate Action Plan to avoid litigation over certain parts.
2. The County is making provisions to improve distribution of Covid-19 vaccinations, including opening a “super site” at the Petco parking lot downtown. Additional sites in other parts of the county are being investigated. In response to a question on how to deal with the influx of 65 and over people, she stated the County was gathering staffing for the covid-19 response and will provide information as it develops. This will include setting up a website where people can register for appointments for vaccinations.

San Diego Police Department- Officer Melanie Bognuda of the SDPD gave a report on the protests in Pacific Beach and the arrests made to control violent acts and maintain peace. The police will not prevent peaceful protests but will make arrests to stop violent behavior. SDPD is requesting information from victims to help identify those who were committing violent acts at the Pacific Beach protests. She also said that 911 messages can be sent by text for those who cannot call or are unable to talk.

Lt. Jason Scott of SDPD stated there were actions being taken at the national, state, and local levels to communicate about any possible outbreaks of violent activities. At present there was no intelligence at the local level or even the state level of plans for violent activity. SDPD will get notices out to the City and neighborhoods if anything develops.

Miller Saltzman, aide to State Senator Toni Atkins, reported the following:

1. The State has approved a \$500 million Small Business loan program. An additional round of funding will be addressed later.
2. A Senate housing package was approved to provide housing for homeless and others.
3. A study was commencing to determine what impact sea level rise will have on coastal areas of California, including San Diego County.
4. The deadline to enroll in Covered California healthcare coverage is January 31, 2021.
5. A \$600 rebate from California and an extension of the moratorium on rental evictions is being discussed in the state legislatures.

Jessica Brown, aide to Congressman Scott Peters, reported Congress passed the Covid-19 relief bill, including stimulus checks to eligible people. She also reported that a virtual roundtable with incoming Congresswoman Sara Jacobs would be held on January 19th to discuss legislative goals.

Alyssa Helper, community representative for UCSD, reported UCSD was testing all students and using self-administered tests on some of them. She also stated a parking structure was under construction to ease the parking shortage at the campus.

Chris Nielsen, president of the UCPG, reported that representatives of the Pure Water project have requested a time slot on the UCPG agenda for the meeting in February. The UCPG unanimously approved the Coastal Trail with revisions. The trail runs from Oceanside to San Diego.

Helen Lieberman reported the City Council was revising the parks system plan. She also stated a development project of an office building along Genesee for the old site of the Rock Bottom Restaurant would be reviewed by the UCPG.

Helen Liebowitz from the City Library reported that the Friends of the Library were working on a Master Plan, but it was not ready for comments from the public. It will be released for comments later.

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

Fire Safe Council of UC - Diane Ahern announced Jemma Semala was stepping down as the leader and Diane Ahern was assuming responsibility. The Fire Safe Council of UC was working with the Fire Safe Council of San Diego and the San Diego Fire Department to develop new plans for fire safety. The next meeting is on January 14, 2021 to discuss fire threats to the UC area and to identify the needs of San Diego to address fire issues.

Neighborhood Watch- Barbara Gellman made a request for the record as follows:
To all of you elected officials and representatives, maintaining our community's safety needs to be a priority. Please do not cut the police budget and allow for continuing four recruitments a year for police and accepting the "best & brightest" for our SDPD. Also, do not lower the high standards of training that have provided excellent law enforcement in our community.

Treasurers Report- Don Hotz submitted the financial statements for November and December 2020. On Motion by Merle Langston and second by Mack Langston, it was unanimously approved.

Membership Report- Hallie Burch was not present but subsequently reported that there were 350 memberships (families) and 483 members.

Street Banners- Diane Ahern reported that it costs \$1,100 each time the banners are changed up to six times a year. It was uncertain if the UCCA will receive a grant from the County to cover this expense. The Board decided to keep the existing winter banners until March and wait until the March meeting to decide on how often the banners will be replaced.

Short Term Vacation Rentals- Mack Langston reported the City had meetings going on to address the issues but no policy on short term vacation rental regulations had been set.

Newsletters-Don Hotz announced the Newsletter Committee had met and that the next edition would be distributed around January 29, 2021.

Next Board Meeting Date: The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 6:00 pm via zoom unless changes in meeting procedures are adopted.

Motion to adjourn was made by Diane Ahern and seconded by Merle Langston 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 as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions.