



University City Community Association
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Telephonic Meeting via Zoom

University City Community Association Meeting Minutes of March 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

Guests: Sabrina Bazzo

Call to Order: President Barry Bernstein called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

Approval of minutes: A motion to approve the minutes for the February 10, 2021 regular meeting was made by Diane Ahern, seconded by Merle Langston, and unanimously approved by the Board.

Approval of the Agenda: On motion by Diane Ahern and second by second by Barbara Gelman, the Board unanimously approved the Agenda.

GUESTS

Sabrina Bazzo, recently elected as a trustee of the San Diego Board of Education reported:

- (1) With the promotion of the existing Superintendent, Cindy Martin, to Assistant Secretary of Education, The Board appointed Lamont Jackson as the interim superintendent pending selection of a permanent superintendent. The Board is seeking input from various community groups as part of the selection process. Each Board member and other community organizations may make three nominations which will be cut down to 3 candidates for final consideration.
- (2) San Diego City schools will open for in-class instruction on April 12, 2021 but some students may stay virtual if they desire. Up to 75% are expected to return for in-class instruction. There will be differences in classroom attendance between elementary, middle, and high schools but details are being worked out. The school district was working with experts at UCSD to improve ventilation.
- (3) Summer school classes are being planned with initial classes for special education children and kids in lower grades.

Julie Dennis, a parent with three children in school inquired on the status of school reopening's in UC and wanted more kids in schools than other districts. She was organizing a back-to-school march on March 15th at 8 am at Governor Dr. and UC High School.

Officer M. Bognuda, of the SDPD, reported a person was seen by neighbors removing a package on the front porch of a house in UC. The SDPD was able to arrest the suspect for narcotics and paraphernalia.

Melissa Martin, the manager for the Governor Drive library, reported the City library system was working on a new master plan to improve service to the community. It is seeking input from the public via its website at office@supportmylibrary.org.

Ron Belanger, of CASA, reported the traffic controller at the FAA were not strictly following the approved flight plans for Miramar MCAS. Also, pilots coming in from other bases do not know the rules on flight plans, but actions are being taken to educate them.

LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

Jessica Brown, aide to Congressman Scott Peters reported:

- (1) A letter was sent to the general in charge of Miramar MCAS requesting compliance with flight rules.
- (2) The American Rescue Plan was approved which will provide for \$1,400 payment to qualifying parties.
- (3) The child tax credit was expanded, and federal unemployment was extended to 8-31-21.
- (4) The Peace Corp was celebrating its 60th anniversary.

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

- (1) He met with Scott Peters' office and Mayor Gloria's office regarding compliance with FAA regulations for Miramar MCAS.
- (2) The Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) on a property on Governor Dr. across from Standley Park was compliant with City height and building regulations so nothing could be done in response to complaints.

Concerning the ADU, Paulette Williams, a neighbor of the property, commented that the building was taller than surrounding homes and is much bigger than a "granny flat". She said this high density will destroy the single-family community and effect parking.

Spencer Katz, legislative aide to Supervisor Tarra Remer-Lawson, reported:

- (1) The County opened a \$100 million fund for rental assistance for County (but not City) residents and applications are being received. The County's website has a link to a workshop on how to apply.
- (2) A "Job Corps" for low-income youth was established. The County's website has instructions on how to apply.
- (3) The County will stop charging inmates for phone calls at jails and prisons in the County.
- (4) A mobile crisis response team (MCRT) for trained mental health counselors is being established to reduce police encounters with the mentally ill.
- (5) It has not yet been determined if the Del Mar Fair will be open this year.

Katie Dunahoo inquired if the County's relief fund would also apply to landlords where their tenants have not been able to pay the rent. Mr. Katz said the County program will include landlord relief.

Alyssa Helper, a community rep for UCSD, reported:

- (1) Covid-19 testing for students, teachers, school personnel, and the public increased 98%.
- (2) The RMAC building is open to the eligible public for vaccinations.
- (3) The Ridge Rock Project to build pedestrian pathways around the campus is in Phase 2.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chris Nielsen, of UCPG, reported that it opposes the project by UCSD to buy the land and build a 7-story building on the lot on La Jolla Village Dr. that was formerly occupied the Rock Bottom Restaurant. It is currently zoned for a two-story building and the UCPG asserts that UCSD should comply with building regulations on properties it purchases. UCSD calls it the La Jolla Innovation Project.

Don Hotz, the treasurer, submitted the treasurers report for February 2021. On Motion by Diane Ahern and second by Merle Langston, it was unanimously approved.

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

- (1) Doyle, Standley and Spreckels Elementary schools were having activities on March 25th from 4-5:30 in place of an Easter egg hunt at the Recreation Center that is closed during construction.
- (2) It was still unknown if the 4th of July and summer concert series would happen this summer as the Recreation Center needs to be open for these events.
- (3) The Fire Safe Council is working with the San Diego Fire Department to finalize plans for fire prevention, fire safety and evacuations plans.
- (4) The changing of the banners will occur later to see if the County Fair will occur.

Barbara Gellman, of Neighborhood Watch (NW), reported people can report possible crimes to the SDPD and be anonymous. At the February meeting of the Captain's Advisory Board, it was reported the PB, MB, and La Jolla police precincts have been busy with illegal fires on the beach and heavy traffic.

Katie Rodolico, of the CPUS, reported they were examining major thoroughfares for access by businesses, bike riders, and pedestrians. Construction begins for the Pure Water Project this summer which will cause closing of lanes on Genesee and nearby streets. Construction for the redevelopment of the Costa Verde Shopping Center will start later this year.

Mack Langston reported the City was still working on regulations and enforcement plan for Short Term Rentals. He also advised that the City Council declared that February 21,

2021 was “Barry Bernstein Day” to recognize Barry for all his community work over the years.

Next Board Meeting Date: The next meeting will be held on April 14, 2021 via zoom at 6:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn was made by Don Hotz and seconded by Deanna Ratnikova 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.