

MINUTES OF UCCA MEETING held on October 13, 2021

HELD VIA ZOOM WITH GUESTS

Present: Barry Bernstein, Mack Langston, Don Hotz, James Beshears, Barbara Gellman, Diane Ahern, Bill Beck, Jemma Samala, Merle Langston

Absent: Hallie Burch, Barbara Henshaw, Terri Day

Call to Order: President Barry Bernstein called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

Approval of Minutes: The Minutes were approved by unanimous vote of the Board.

Approval of the Agenda: The Agenda was approved by unanimous vote of the Board.

Presidents Announcements: He made the following announcements: (1) The election of officers will be held at the November 10th Meeting of the Board with nominations pending. (2) The Oktoberfest by EduCate at Standley Park was a success with a good turnout. (3) October 9, 2021 was recognized by the San Diego City Council as UC Fire Safe Council Day for work in completing its fire prevention and safety plan. (4) The UCPG was having its election of new members and it will address the ADU issues. (5) The new community plan is underway, and all are encouraged to complete an online survey published by the City on its website.

Legislative and Government Reports

Officer M. Bognuda of the SDPD reported that Lt. Phillip Konz is the new Lieutenant of the Northern Division. He had been in the district years ago as an officer and looked forward to getting to know people again in the district.

Katie Witherspoon, a Senior City Planner, and project manager for the UC Community Plan update, reported: (1) The planning stage will last until summer 2022 and details are at www.planuniversity.org, (2) The trolley is opening in Nov. 2021. Analysis of locations for urban transit villages within 5-to-10-minute walk times from stops on the trolley was underway. (3) A survey for what people want to be in the community plan is available at the library on Governor Dr. (4) She said a redevelopment of the shopping center at Governor and Regents and the Vons center may have residential units on a second level above commercial and retail. The existing 4 gas stations by the Vons center would be “grandfathered in” but long-term plans would reduce the number. (5) When asked about parking problems if residential was added, she said the number of residential units would be controlled to assure there would be adequate parking for shoppers.

Terra Lawson-Remer, member of the County Board of Supervisors, reported the County is: (1) Vaccinating people with 78% having full dose and 82% having at least one dose, (2) Implementing mobile mental health crisis response team, (3) Planning to have zero carbon emissions by 2035 through conversion to electric vehicles and better designed buildings, (4) Encouraging development of local sources of food, (5) leading with programs to deal with a year round fire season as a result of climate

change, (6) creating jobs in the “green economy” for young people, (7) Building coalitions and acquiring funding to prevent pollution from the Tijuana River, (8) Enacting legislation to help homeless, including LGBTQ community, to have safe places to go, (9) providing a small business and rental relief program, (10) preventing encroachment on Marion Bear Park if adding lanes to Hwy 52 and taking steps to cut the car noise into the canyon.

Sabrina Bazzo, Trustee of San Diego School Board, reported: (1) She attended the student led climate change march from UCHS to Standley Park. (2) There is a vaccine mandate in all schools with students 16 years and older required to be fully vaccinated by Jan. 2022. (3) The Board is searching for a new superintendent. The candidates have been narrowed to 3 with the final pick by December. (4) The district is operating a lunch program with all students entitled to lunch.

Kate Willoughby, aide to City Council member Joe La Cava, took questions from the community. In response to a question about the status about the development on Gullstrand Dr. and the golf course, she said the Mayor’s office had control over code enforcement issues. She said she would inquire and report back at the next meeting on the status.

PUBLIC FORUM AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Andrea Townsend from Spreckels Elementary School requested \$500 to put on a “Jog-a-Thon” to raise money for art education, physical education, and field trips. On motion by Don Hotz and second by Jim Beshears, the request was unanimously approved.

Chris Nielsen, President of the UCPG, announced it was having an election for some new members. The candidates are Louis Rodolico, Karen Martien, Tom Hekman and Thomas Feerick. All but Thomas Feerick attended the meeting and stated their positions on planning issues. They will vote at their next meeting along with reporting a position on ADU development to City Council member Joe LaCava.

Julie Chapa gave a report on the status of police reform concerning bias in policing. Many more black people are stopped and searched by police. An ordinance is supported by Council member Montgomery to prevent these practices.

Planning for the annual UCCA winter holiday is underway. The committee meets on the second Friday of the month and will plan the events for the Menorah lighting and Christmas celebration. The meetings are via zoom. Check on the UCCA website for details.

Diane Ahern of the UC Fire Safe Council reported the City was honoring the UC Fire Safe Council for its fire prevention and fire safety plan. October 9, 2021 is dedicated as UC Fire Safe Council Day. On a motion by Barry Bernstein and seconded by Don Hotz, the ordering of a plaque honoring the Fire Safe Council was unanimously approved.

Diane Ahern also reported the need to replace two banners that were damaged (\$210) and taking down and installing winter banners (\$1,100). On motion by Dianne Ahern and seconded by Don Hotz, \$1,310 was approved unanimously.

Diane Ahern also reported a need for the Board to certify it is a not-for-profit organization for purposes of applying for a grant from the County. On motion by Diane Ahern, seconded by Bill Beck, and unanimously approved by the Board, it is certified that the UCCA is a not-for-profit organization. With that, the Executive Board is authorized to apply for one grant of \$12,600 for Neighborhood Reinvestment and \$6,500 for a Community Enhancement grant. Motion by Diane Ahern and seconded by Bill Beck was unanimously approved.

Bill Beck reported he is contacting realtors to get HOA information to coordinate with the HOA's for distribution of the UCCA Newsletter online as a link on their websites.

Barbara Gellman of Neighborhood Watch expressed thanks to supporters of the National Night Out last month. She also announced the "Socks for Safety" program to sell socks to raise money for Neighborhood Watch. The first sale will be at Oktoberfest in October.

The Treasurers Report for September 2021 prepared by Don Hotz was unanimously approved by the Board on motion.

The next meeting will be held on November 10, 2021 at the UC Library at 6:00 pm. Ballots for UCCA board election may be dropped off at the library starting at 5:30 pm. If possible, the meeting will also be on zoom.