

## MINUTES OF UCCA MEETING Nov. 8, 2023

### Live Meeting

**Present:** Diane Ahern, Jemma Samala, Mack Langston, Barry Bernstein, James Beshears, Bill Beck, Merle Langston, Barbara Gellman, Katie Rodolico, Julie Nydam, Phillip Fowler

**Absent:** None

**Call to Order:** The Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by the President, Diane Ahern.

**Approval of Agenda:** The Agenda was unanimously approved after a Motion for Approval by Barry Bernstein and Second by Bill Beck.

**Approval of Minutes:** Approval of the Minutes for the meeting on October 11, 2023, was postponed to the meeting in December per Motion by Diane Ahern and second by Barbara Gellman.

**San Diego Police Department-** Officer Brown introduced Lt. Matthew Botkin, the new commander of the Northern Division. Lt. Botkin has worked for the SDPD for 22 years and served all over the City. He said the UC Community, and surrounding communities constituting the Northern Division, have been very active in supporting the police and improving the community. In response to a question about homeless people on the trolley, he said the SDPD is working with trolley officers and reviewing cameras to monitor.

**Pure Water Report-** Sarah Bowles and Clem Wassenberg reported that 8,762 linear feet of pipelines have been installed. The first section on Towne Centre Dr., south of La Jolla Village Dr. (at the road in and out of UTC) is expected to be finished in December 2023. In the tunnel under San Clemente Creek and Hwy. 52, workers are installing the two pipes inside casings already installed. The section on Genessee, south of Governor Dr., is finishing up, with curbs and asphalt almost complete. The area of Genessee north to Centurian Square at UCHS is underway. The south entrance to the school will be closed while work is progressing in front of the school. The City arborists have inspected 4 pine trees on Genessee, north of Governor Dr. so far. All are expected to survive and will not have to be replaced. Further inspections will occur as trenching continues northwards. Coordination with businesses, schools and residents will continue. The project will be completed by 2025 to start pumping about 7.5 million gallons per day to Miramar Reservoir, and gradually increasing capacity to 30 million gallons per day.

**Sewer Project-** Vic Salazar, Project Coordinator, reported the project is mostly for the area north of Governor Dr. and east of Genessee. There will be 3.8 miles of new water mains, sewer connections and replacement of old lines. Workers are now on Huggins St., replacing a main sewer line. Work is usually 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. The community has been supportive with not many complaints.

**Libraries-** Misty Jones, the Director of San Diego Libraries, reported a Master Plan that has been completed, after 2 years. It is a comprehensive plan, considering the needs of each library. Construction will be over the next 10-30 years as funds are available. The North UC Library is to expand to 20,000 sq. ft. from 16,000 sq. ft. The South UC Library on Governor Dr. is expected to expand to 20,000 sq. ft., with

the possibility of two stories. A grant of \$1.9 million was approved by the State that was earmarked for architectural plans for the south UC Library expansion. There is a time window to use short-term funding, or it expires. The library officials feel that since the construction is not funded that would not be a good use of the money as construction funds might never be approved. They are asking the state if the funds can be used, instead, for improvements for painting, new carpets, computer systems and improving restrooms. To help pay for major improvements, a ballot measure is being considered, along with enforcing a law that requires the city to fund 6% of its budget for libraries instead of about 3.5%.

Helen Liebowitz, of Friends of the Library, requested \$500 from the UCCA, of which the City will match 50% for a total of \$750. The request was approved unanimously after a Motion by Bill Beck and Second by Barbara Gellman.

### **Legislative and Community Reports**

**Allison Apfeld**, aide to Congress member Scott Peters reported: (1) People wanting to apply to the military service academies should obtain application forms from their office and submit soon. (2) Their office is working on a supplemental funding request to address the polluted water crises at the border. (3) Their office is seeking funding for housing the homeless and is supporting plans to increase housing close to transit centers. (4) Their office is working on ways to fund the federal government if there is no agreed upon budget.

**Evan Bridgham**, aide to Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer, reported: (1) Their office was working with the Office of Military Affairs to coordinate housing benefits for veterans. (2) A plaque was presented to Diane Ahern for her service on the UCCA Board.

**Marc Schaefer**, aide to State Senator Brian Jones, reported numerous bills have become law, including SB 566 regulating surveying practices, SB654 addressing airport regulation issues, SB 844 treating seasonal beer the same as holiday beer, and a Senate Bill controlling child trafficking. The Governor vetoed bills that decriminalized some hallucinate drugs, prevented caste designation, prevented surcharges being added to bills, and changed regulations of E-bikes.

**Fatima Maciel**, aide to Mayor Gloria, reported: (1) The City's Draft Community Plan Update and Draft Environmental Impact Report will be released some time in February 2024. (2) The tent camp for homeless people has opened at the "O" Lot by Balboa Park, with space for 360 tents. It will have bathrooms, showers, and laundry facilities. (3) A shelter on City property at the north end of the airport is under construction to rehabilitate former military barracks and convert them to homeless shelters.

**Zach Burton**, aide to City Councilmember Kent Lee, stated the Councilmember will be attending the Holiday Celebration at Standley Park on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Chris Nielsen**, Chair of the UCPG, stated the UCPG was working on revisions to its bylaws to reflect new City requirements, and rules on procedure. The December meeting will be on Tuesday, December 12th via zoom.

**Azaela Abba**, of the North UC Library, reported that it was starting a reading program next month entitled “The World Beneath”. Contact the library for details.

**Barry Bernstein** reported on the Holiday Celebration at Standley Park on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>. The event starts at 5:15 pm for those who attend the Dinner with Santa, catered by Lorna’s. The music will start at 6:30 pm.

**Election-** The slate of all four candidates was approved unanimously by 23 ballots. The election results were confirmed by a Motion by Mack Langston and Second by Barry Bernstein.. The new officers as of December 1<sup>st</sup> for two years are:

President	Jemma Samala
Vice-President	James Beshears
Treasurer	Philip Fowler
Secretary	Katie Rodolico

**Julie Nydam**, of Membership, reported there are 175 members who have signed up and paid for 2024. New forms and checks are coming in daily.

A Motion to Adjourn was made by Barbara Gellman and seconded by James Beshears, with unanimous approval.



