

UCCA March 13, 2024 minutes.
In person meeting at University Community Library.

Present: Jemma Samala, Merle Langston, Phil Fowler, Mack Langston, Diane Ahern, Barry Bernstein, Barbara Gellman, Bill Beck, Katie Rodolico (via zoom).

Absent: Jim Beshears, Julie Nydam, Greg Hom,

Call to order: 5:37pm

Approval of Agenda: motion to approve Barry Bernstein; second Bill Beckl. Approved unanimously.

Approve Minutes

President's remarks: Thank you to Kent Lee's office, Zach, the interns, and the UCCA board member volunteers for the Dumpster Day. Over 50 cars were unloaded. There will be a one-on-one meeting with CM Kent Lee on April 22nd at the University Library. Every other month is a public meeting, with alternate months being working meetings. Feb's working meeting we approved the January 2024 minutes, the 2024 budget, and approved a \$1500 donation to EdUCate for Taste of the Triangle.

Jemma presented a check to Laura Ravine for EdUCate/Taste of the Triangle. UCCA will have a table at Taste of the Triangle this year.

Laura Ravine announced that this year 15 restaurants were participating. Music would be provided by Mr. Marcus's string quartet and by the UCHS orchestra.

Public Safety:

Officer Brown introduced **Nicole Robertson**, the new Lieutenant for Northern Division. She's the new lieutenant but not new to Northern. She mentioned the smart streetlights program is active. It was used successfully to find a missing senior when his license plate was captured by the system and he was found and returned home safely. Officer Brown brought up AB392 which directs that deadly force only be used when necessary. Officers are trained to make a plan. There is advanced officer training. He also mentioned the CPTED program. Crime Prevention through Environmental Design which recommends plant design around buildings to allow visibility. Questions and comments from the audience included inquiries about the Palisades shooting (suspect is identified, targeted victim, no danger to general public.). Question about staffing cuts. Cuts are possible but the department has gotten better at doing more with fewer officers. Public safety is a priority and overtime will be used for staffing shortfalls as needed.

Barbara Gellman read a statement from Captain Hara about dispatch times. Wait times have been reduced, and staffing has been increased to close half of the deficit of dispatch staff. The 911 wait time is now averaging 15 seconds. Dispatch is considering partnering with Microsoft to improve response times. Barbara also mentioned that if you call the police department and need to speak to a dispatcher ASAP press '1', but if it's a non emergency such as a filing a report, don't press '1', go through the options. Also, call 211 if you are making a general inquiry.

Pure Water: Mariah Hugo and Clem Wassenberg

Sarah Bowles has moved on. Sarah Rosetto introduced Mariah Hugo as the new UC community liaison. Clem reviewed the progress on Genesee, north of Governor and southbound on Towne Center, moving towards Nobel. Most work will be daytime, M-F, 9am to 5:30pm. He requested people not park in the construction zone, they will be towed. Towne Center from Golden Haven will be soon. On Genesee, construction north of Governor to Luigi is wrapping up and in the next few weeks barriers will move to Luigi through Centurion. Hopefully they will be done through Centurion by September. The pine trees are being monitored. Some branches have been trimmed, but the roots are healthy. The tunneling at 52 is progressing rapidly now. Only 10-15 days till that tunnel is done and the contractor will move on to the Rose Creek tunnel. In response to audience questions he stated he would instruct crews to not place construction signs in bike lanes. SDPD has been notified about cars running the stop signs on Nobel. Air vents will be in vaults and will not emit odors. Construction in UC should be complete in 2025.

Elected Official Representatives:

Zac hBurton from **CM Kent Lee's** office announced a forum for the commission on civilian police oversight on March 16th. RSVPs needed. He thanked UCCA volunteers for their participation in the dumpster day. Dumpster Day collected 3 large dumpster bins plus some overflow into a 4th. He mentioned that Marcy Park had received funding in the budget for parks. Mentioned again the April 22nd one-on-one with CM Kent Lee.

Evan Bridgham from **County Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remers** office mentioned her website focuses on Creating Change and Delivering Impacts . Last month she voted on Evergreen Funds, which are federal funds. She supported Prop 1 which provides funding for mental health beds.. There is a small business stimulus grant which expires on June 30th for small businesses that were impacted by covid. Small business is defined as 20 or fewer employees.

Reports were provided to Jemma from Mayor Todd Gloria's office, AM Tasha Boehner's office, Representative Peter's office.

Chris Nielsen, chair of UCPG, reported that Costa Verde is going through a revised plan. They have filed for an extension to their expired permit. Requests from the community for community amenities like a post office are needed. It was originally approved in 2018. Elections were held and most seats were unopposed. Tim Garret won in the contested 2C residential contest. At the UCPG meeting they announced that the planning department planned to release the Community Plan Update Draft and EIR on 3/14 or 3/15. There will be 45 days from release for public comment. At the April 9th UCPG meeting the city will present the Draft plan. Attendance can be in person or via Zoom. On Tuesday April 16th there will be a zoom meeting for the community plan update subcommittee via zoom and open to the public. Andy Weise and Chris Nielsen plan to compare the new Draft community plan to the discussion draft issued last year as well as to the recommendations from the subcommittee generated last June.

Azalea Ebbay, North UC library manager, announced a program based on the *She Persisted* series by Chelsea Clinton at the Downtown Library. They are expecting budget cuts to the library in the order of 2%. They are hosting household organization classes. They are looking into owl boxes.

Melissa Martin, University Community Library manager, acknowledged that community members continue to inquire about the grant from the **Toni Atkins'** office for new or upgraded library. The city changed its policy to not start new construction till it's fully funded so the city and state are in negotiations as to whether the funds can be repurposed. The library is open to suggestions but is looking at upgraded wifi, more computers, fix/repair/replace the ceilings, the bathrooms, the carpet, a new circulation desk, new reference desk, and upgraded HVAC. The library was able to use a grant from **CM Lee's** office for senior programming and plans to start a Mahjong program. They are looking into plans for a self defense class.

Grant Requests:

University City Fire Safe Council requested \$500 for outreach and education. They have hired a biologist to identify public lands adjacent to homes for fuel reduction. They encourage fire hardening in landscaping and construction. Bill Beck motioned, Merle Langstrom 2nded the request for funds. The motion passed.

Phil Fowler presented the treasurer's report. Diane motioned for approval, Bill Beck 2nded and the report was approved. There was discussion that one number was off by \$5000 because that is held in reserve.

Merle Langstrom gave an update on the street median project on Governor, west of Radcliffe.. Work will start the week of 3/18. There is no need to close lanes of traffic.

Diane Ahern reported on social media and grant status. We currently have two open grant requests. One is specific for beautification such as banners and utility boxes. The other grant application is for communication such as the newsletter.

Barbara Gellman, neighborhood watch: 5 of the 6 neighborhood watch signs from **CM Lee's** office have been installed. There are a couple of condo complexes looking to start neighborhood watch. Socks for Safety is now selling pickleball themed socks.

Meeting adjourned at 7pm.

Katie Rodolico, Recording Secretary for UCCA.