

UCCA Board April 15, 2025 Minutes

In Person meeting at the University Community Library

Present: Katie Rodolico (KR), Jemma Samala (JS), Diane Ahern (DA), Bill Beck (WB), Phil Fowler (PF), Barbara Gellman (BG), Merle Langston (MeL), Mack Langston (MaL), Barry Bernstein (BB),

Absent: Jim Beshears (JB), Greg Hom (GH), Valerie Upham (VU),

One on One with City Attorney Heather Ferber: 5:30

Heather Ferber gave an overview of the City Attorney's office, discussing staff size, areas of responsibility, etc. They handle all types of law except family law and bankruptcy. They prosecute misdemeanor offenses. They are general council to all city departments. When someone sues the city, her office is in charge. There were 335 lawsuits filed against the city in 2024.

She also addressed some of the challenges of the job. She defended her decision to let a direct report take four months of working from home while on a cruise. She admitted the press and political fallout was significant. She took questions from the audience including why not all cited offenses were prosecuted. She also addressed the costs and lawsuit related to La Jolla becoming its own city.

Call to order:by JS: 6:17

JS: Thanks for attending 1 on 1. Forward additional questions for City Attorney Ferber to Jemma and she'll forward them on to the city attorney.

Announcements of action from 4/15 board meeting

Approved minutes from the March 18, 2024 meeting.

Approval of a \$1000 grant to the Community Recreation Group (CRG) for the UC Celebration.

Minutes for meeting on 4/15/2025

Motion to approve minutes: WB

Second: MaL

Public Safety Reports:

Officer Anderson Brown (AB)

Talked about the perspective of cops to non-prosecution.

Crimes against person: down 1.6%, for the month compared to the last 3 years.

Crimes against property down 18%.

Crimes against society (public drunkenness, prostitution, etc.) up 12.9%

AB: You need to know who is in charge of an area. For example Standley Park is covered by city Park Rangers, and they have domain.

AB: There will be a torch run for the Special Olympics on May 27th. AB will be driving the support van. Officers from the northern division will be starting around 1pm
Torch run for special olympics. Officers from the Northern division will be running, May 27th, Funds raised will go to the Special Olympics.

There will be a big turnover in staff as people retire. 6 beach staff are being added..

Neighborhood watch meeting season. BG and AB will be visiting neighborhood watch groups.

DA: Heard about the law enforcement coordination center - part of a security action with Marines, city, state, etc. to coordinate responses.

AB: Exercises like this are pretty common, coordination and practical exercises..

Helen Liebowiz (HL) - who are the park rangers - what government? (city, state?)

AB - city.

SD Commision on Police Practices: Yasmeen Obeid

History on Commission Police Practices - police oversight started in 1985 in various citizen boards and commissions.

2020 measure B - gave them independence and funding.

The commission's purpose is to hold law enforcement accountable and build trust with the community and law enforcement. As a third party with oversight of reported complaints about the police they work to review the complaint, the internal affairs report, etc and find the truth.

WB: Do you have subpoena power

YO: yes.

WB: My experience is that body cameras solved a lot of these disputes..

AB: I love having my camera on. And it's great the commission members do ride alongs.

YA: staff member employed by city - but not a commissioner. Supports day to day operations to move commissions work along.

25 community volunteer commissioners.

The commission meets 2x month on the first and third wednesday.

Elected Official Reports:

Omar Telon-Sosa (OTS) from Supervisor Terra Lawson Reemer:

Supervisor Lawson Reemer gave a April 2025 state of the county address in Balboa Park where she unveiled her agenda. OTS reviewed the highlights of this address.

Audience: What would be necessary for the county to be able to dip into the reserve fund?

OTS: They would need a majority of the supervisors to vote for this - which would be 3 votes. District 1 is currently vacant. The election for district one is in June.

Special Reports and Non Agenda Comment:

UCPG - Chris Nielsen (CN)

Cass Street Partners gave a second presentation of their plans for the Costa Verde site. UCPG approved the new parcel map. The amendment done by Regency and Alexandria was rescinded, and the new community plan is the governing document for land use. This will be a phased project with the first development occurring in the Esplanade Ct area at the north end of the site. There will be a main street, new utilities water, storm water. Parking for each building will be under each building and serve that building. Mcdonalds and gas station/car wash will remain till at least 2030. UCPG requested that the developers work with Vi and the neighboring residential towers. Requested native plants, Asked to use the storm water retention system to improve resilience.

CN: and some of the other planning group chairs met with Kent Lee about the bonus ADU proposalsf on Thursday. The advocated the city adopt the state limits and put in height restrictions..

Audience: What's going on over by the Hyatt?

CN: that area is vacant. No new projects.

BB - Will cul de sacs be addressed in new ADU legislation..

CN - We advocated that areas with very high fire danger shouldn't be able to do bonus units

DA: the recording of UCPG is on the UCCA website - the Costa Verde project is about 2 hours in.

CN: The project will be going before the planning commission in next couple months. Then LU&H, then council, after summer. .

UC Library Grant Requests:

HL for University Community Friends requesting \$500 for Friends of Library - will be added to foundation for matching funds. TThis year they will lose sales from book sales during renovation. Plus reduced funds due to City Budget issues.

Naomi McClain for friends of North UC Library:(NM): Requesting \$2k in order to replace furniture in the children's room. The children's program is one of the most attended programs at the library. Furniture dates back to 2007.

KR: are you a member of UCCA, is the north UC library friends group a member.

NM: she is a member, friends group is not, yet. .

Audience: Can fund raising also be done from the parents who utilize the program.

NM: Good idea.

JS: We've already approved the CRG grant. Here's Matt from the CRG

Matt: UC Celebration - the UCCA grant is the seed money for the overall event.

BG: When can we sign up for booth

Matt: Tom Cartier is the man, started today.

BB: Can we do open forum for the audience before the committee reports?

JS: Sure:

Fred Begeley (FB) .: Lives on Combe way. Large ADU development proposed on Combe - owner raised kids and is now developing his backyard with 8 units. Similar project on Edmonton. Dan Scheitz is the developer of the edmonton adu project.

UCCA Committee Reports

Financial Report PF:

PF: Report as of 4/30/2025.

Motion to approve: MaL, Second: WB

Approved.

Neighborhood Watch BG:

BG - We need street captains. Contact me.

Socks for Safety - We will have a booth at UC Celebration.

DA: Construction: Water main and sewer main work on Governor Drive between Stadium and Radcliffe. They will start in June at Stadium. It will be on the south side of Governor. (in front of park.) After the sewer is done they will do the water main.

BB - can we appeal to the city about how disruptive this will be for the summer?

DA -The city needs to minimize school year impacts to Spreckels and Standley.

Upcoming dates:

Tuesday, June 17, 5:30pm - One-on-One: UC Construction Projects, Genesee Avenue and Governor Drive

Tuesday, July 15, 5:30pm - UCCA General Meeting at University Community Library