

**UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2014 MEETING**

Present: Barry Bernstein, President; Barbara Henshaw, Vice President; Ginny Charvat, Treasurer; Bonnie Hornbeck, Secretary; Diane Ahern, Publicity & Promotion, Sandy Lippe, Newsletter; Darlene Ventimiglia, Historian & Tree Lighting Coordinator; Merle Langston, Beautification; Barbara Gellman, Neighborhood Watch/Beautification; Mack Langston, UCCF Rep.

Excused: Terry Jones, Hallie Burch

Absent: Allison Don, Marty Block's Office; Hugo Carmona, Scott Peters' Office

Guests: Delores Gonzales, UCHS Football Booster; Lisa Oschmann, UCHS Football Booster; David Cox, Dawn Yandel, EdUCate/Oktoberfest; Anne St.Louis, EdUCate/Oktoberfest; Mel Milstein, Sherri Lightner's Office; Rachel Gregg, Toni Atkins' Office; Amber Teri-Vrugt, Scripps Health; Ginger Steketee, UC Garden Club; Carl Speicher, UCHS Football Booster; Theresa Fox, UCHS Football Booster; Nancy Weiss; Ruby Huizar; Ernest Smith, UCHS Hall of Fame project

President Barry Bernstein called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda: Bonnie Hornbeck made a motion to approve the September agenda. Ginny Charvat seconded the motion and the September agenda was unanimously approved.

Minutes: Sandy Lippe made a motion to approve the July minutes. Diane Ahern seconded the motion and the July minutes were unanimously approved.

Police/Fire Dept. Reports: Chief Finnerty, UC Fire Station #35 reminded everyone that October is a particularly dangerous month for brush fires and left handouts for everyone regarding brush removal. He also reminded all about disaster preparedness and said that all families should have a meeting place after an evacuation and that they also should have a designated person outside the disaster area that family members can call regarding their well-being.

Captain Hara, SDCPD No. Division, introduced Lt. Tina Williams the replacement for Lt. Misty Cedrun who was promoted. Lt. Williams was formerly a gang negotiator and has been with the department for 20 years. Both Capt. Hara and Lt. Williams reported on 3 incidents – a stolen Tesla, a sexual assault at UTC, and the Swanson Pool incident. Arrests were made re: the stolen Tesla and the Swanson Pool incident. Witnesses heard cries for help in the UTC sexual incident and the attacker was chased away but has not yet been caught. Both reminded everyone to always be aware of their surroundings, particularly after dark.

Legislative Reports:

Mel Milstein, Sherri Lightner's Office: Mel began by thanking the SDCPD for the arrest of the Swanson Pool perpetrator. He then announced that the Mayor will be holding a forum on Oct. 6th at 5 p.m. at the meeting room above the Wells Fargo Bank at UTC. He also reported that the Regents Road work is completed and that the work on the extra left turn lane at Governor & Genesee should be completed in about a week. Mel also added that Allison Don, formerly with Marty Block's office will be joining the staff at Sherri's office next week.

Rachel Gregg, Toni Atkins' Office: Rachel reported that Toni was sworn in as Speaker of the House in May and that she was actually Governor for a day. While holding that title, she created a resolution for Tony Gwynn. Rachel added that spending for a water bond will be on the November ballot. She reported that Toni Atkins is out of her office frequently, but there is always a staff member present to answer questions or address issues. Rachael also announced that representatives from Toni Atkins' office will be at our community library on Tuesday, Sept. 16th from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. to answer questions from the community.

President's Remarks: Barry mentioned the proposed joint effort between San Diego City Schools and Park and Rec to develop an expanded school learning campus between Spreckel's elementary and Standley Middle School. He said next month more information will be made public. He, along with Greg Zinser and Sandy Lippe are part of the initial discussions. Barry also reiterated the date and time for the Mayor's forum and that it will focus on infrastructure. He then thanked the Volunteer Event committee (Bonnie Hornbeck, Barbara Henshaw, and Darlene Ventimiglia) for organizing a successful 'thank you' event in August for our many volunteers and that he has received many thank-you messages from the recipients of the awards.

Barry then reminded parents who have children attending Curie and Spreckels Elementary school that traffic will be heavy while the additional left turn lane is added at Governor & Genesee intersection. He also reported that he has met with Scott Peters regarding the Miramar air traffic over the UC community. Peters will appoint staff knowledgeable about piloting planes, air traffic lanes, etc. to be involved and that hopefully dialog can begin with the air base. Other reports - the Blue Angels will be here for the air show on Saturday, Oct. 4th, same day as Oktoberfest which is also October 4th; Westfield's Vice President John Alderson says the expansion of UTC will begin in the first part of 2015 and Barry has invited him to attend a UCCA meeting in the spring. Repairs to UCHS gas/water lines has not yet been completed.

Public Forum: Ruby Huizar reported that traffic at the corner of Regents Rd. and Governor Dr. is getting progressively worse. While jogging, she has been hit while cars are making a right turn onto Governor without stopping. After a discussion, Barry suggested she work with Sherri Lightner's office regarding the problem and that a "No Turn on Red" sign be placed there. Ruby also said that traffic at Pennant Way & Stresemann St. as well as at Honors Dr. & Sandburg St. are also becoming more problematic.

Little League: Sean Dunne requested funds to improve the League's playing fields and to paint murals on the equipment boxes similar to the murals on the electric boxes along our streets. He said the League would then paint graffiti-resistant paint over the murals to protect them. UCCA will get a dollar estimate to paint the equipment boxes and will discuss it at the October meeting.

Street Banners (Sandy Lippe): A banner pole that was on city property was knocked down. The pole and banner have been replaced.

UCHS Hall of Fame (Ernest Smith): Ernie reported that the UCHS Hall of Fame event will be held Sept. 26th at 4 p.m. at UCHS. He said that there will be three new inductees - a Blue Angels pilot, Lisa Dodd who has been voted the best women's softball player in the United States, and Joseph Ring, Navy Commander. Smith then thanked UCCA for all their support and publicity in the newsletter.

UCHS Football Boosters: UCHS Football coach and his football staff along with many U.C. High members of their booster club were introduced. The Boosters requested \$2,000 to buy safer helmets for the team. The football coach spoke about the need for safer equipment for the players. The funds would allow the team to buy 4-star helmets. The team now has only 2-star gear.**

Garden Club (Ginger Steketee): Ginger thanked UCCA for its funding support and banners. She also announced that Bob Byrnes is now interim president of the club, Susan Himmel is in charge of communications, and Marilyn Mehr is historian. Ginger reported that events are scheduled through April, 2015, including speakers. She said that the Orchid Society is also involved with the club. The next Garden Club event will be at the Shankles residence on Calgary Ave. on Sunday, Sept. 21st from 1-4 p.m.

Oktoberfest Request (Dawn Yandell/Anne St. Louis): Dawn and Anne represented EdUCate and requested funds for their Oktoberfest event being held Oct. 6th. They requested \$1,000 to expand BigTown curriculum to Spreckels school. For the UCCA donation they would add UCCA as a sponsor on T-shirts and banners.**

Treasurer's Report (Ginny Charvat): Ginny reported that there are 2 newsletter past due accounts, but she was sure those bills will be paid soon. Ginny will also check to see if a check had been issued for the July 4th Celebration event. At that time Barbara Henshaw made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Bonnie Hornbeck seconded the motion and the Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Barry reported that as of Sept. 2nd, there are 573 members. Diane Ahern added that the businesses that have joined the "Buy Local" also have to be members, so there are now more than the 573 reported by Hallie.

Buy Local (Diane Ahern): Diane reported that the project is going great. Fourteen businesses have joined so far and will be featured in the November newsletter. Her goal is to get 1,000 UCCA members to join. After discussion, it was decided to eliminate the \$50 membership level and to change the \$20 'General' membership designation to 'individual'.

Beautification (Barbara Gellman & Merle Langston): Barbara handed out median landscaping proposals from the LaBahn's Landscaping for the Governor/Streseman and the Governor/Radcliffe medians. They requested up to \$7,500 to complete both projects. Barbara and Merle will meet again with the company to get a more accurate estimate as to the total cost and will present that to the Board at the October meeting. Diane Ahern then made a motion to budget up to \$7,500 for the project. Sandy Lippe seconded the motion and the funding for the median redesign project not to exceed \$7,500 was unanimously approved.

Improve UC (Mack Langston): Mack reported that they are still moving ahead with the planned permanent pavilion at Standley Park.

Newsletter (Sandy Lippe): Sandy reported that the newsletter committee will be meeting Thursday, 9/11/14, at 10 a.m. at Starbuck's.

November Elections (Barry Bernstein): Barry announced that the election committee will consist of Mack Langston, Diane Ahern, and Terry Jones. They will contact the current elected Board members regarding their plans to run again or not. Barry stated that according to our by-laws any member who has attended at least two UCCA meetings that year is eligible to run for office.

Other: Amber Teri-Vrugt, representing Scripps Health, reported that the new Scripps Cardiovascular Center will be opening in 2015. She also said that the state-of-the-art proton therapy recently saved the life of a 5 year old child. Scripps is one of the very few hospitals in the nation that offer proton therapy.

Barbara Henshaw made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bonnie Hornbeck seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

The next UCCA meeting will be Wednesday, October 8, 2014

****Addendum:** Due to the fact that votes were not taken to fund the UCHS Football Boosters request or the donation to EdUCate for Oktoberfest, Board members were asked to reply by Friday, Sept. 12th by 8:30 only if their reply was a "NO" to the funding requests. Approval of both requests was announced on 9/13/14.

Also, Ginny located the UCCA approval of \$1,500 for the July Celebration in the April 2014 Minutes and will issue the check immediately.