

**UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 8, 2014 MEETING**

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

Excused: None

Absent: None

Guests: Sherri Lightner, San Diego City Council; Mel Milstein, Sherri Lightner's Office; Rachel Gregg, Toni Atkins' Office; Julio DeGuzman, City Attorney's Office; Scott and Angela Weathers, AlphaGraphics; Jerry and Janet Herrman; Nancy Groves; Venkat Sethuraman; Brianne Loggea, Barry Coggan; David Cox; Ashlee Cortopassi, Curie Elementary PTA.

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

Agenda: Terry Jones made a motion to approve the October agenda. Barbara Henshaw seconded the motion and the October agenda was unanimously approved.

Minutes: Sandy Lippe made a motion to approve the September minutes. Terry Jones seconded the motion and the September minutes were unanimously approved.

Police/Fire Dept. Reports: Capt. Jerry Hara gave an update on the status of serious robbery incidents, one on Nobel Dr. and the other on Campus Point Dr. involving the robbery and kidnapping of two UCSD students. He reported that the suspects involved in both crimes have been apprehended and are now in custody. Capt. Hara also reported that the Bait Bike program is successful and has resulted in a 27% drop in larceny crimes in the UC area. This program is also being conducted in Pacific Beach and Bird Rock. He also said that during the first week of December, 45 to 50 new officers will be graduated from the police academy and hopes that the Northern Division will receive a good share of the officers. Capt. Hara said that there will be 45 to 55 new officer candidates rotating through the police academy and thanked San Diego City Council for funding the increase in officers on our streets. He also reported that there are now three PSO officers serving at the Northern Division.

Terry Jones brought up an issue of increased traffic and speeders on Gullstrand St. and north. Capt. Hara replied that he would station officers in that area to address the issue. The issue of 'party houses' was raised and the Captain was asked what the proper procedure was regarding police response. He said that officers would respond as soon as they were available. He also said that when reporting noise (parties, etc.), that callers should report the name of the owner of the residence. Frequent complaints would result in citations and fines for the owners.

Sandy Lippe asked about the contamination in Swanson pool that closed the pool on a recent Friday. Capt. Hara will check into it.

Legislative Reports:

Sherri Lightner, San Diego City Council: Sherri reported that Mayor Faulconer is seeking Level 2 drought restrictions, or a 20% reduction in water use throughout the city. The voluntary restrictions put in place in July will now become mandatory. Residences will be able to water only 3 days per week and those with odd or even number addresses will be given specific days in which to water. For more information on water regulations, she suggested people to go online to the city's "Water Conservation" site. Sherri also reported that the State of Calif. plastic bag ban will take effect starting July, 2015. Small plastic bags for veggies and deli items will still be used at this time. She then distributed shopping bags with the logo "B.Y.O.B. (Bring Your Own Bag) to all.

Sherri then reported that the City Council is moving ahead with amended traffic circulation plans, which include the removal of the plan to widen Genesee Ave. and also the removal of plans for the Regents Rd. Bridge. Additionally, she said that seeking a site for a fire station in south Univ. City is a priority and that the work on the Governor Dr./Genesee Ave. intersection would be completed by the end of October.

Rachel Gregg, Toni Atkins' Office: Rachel reported that the San Diego Airport Authority has started a new veterans' readjustment to civilian life program, including job training, resume composition. For more information, go online to san.org/careers. The program will run from Nov. 15, 2014 to Feb. 15, 2015 for all veterans. Rachel also reminded all of the new Calif. State law now in place that says that autos must be at least 3 feet away when passing bicyclers, or at least slow down.

Julio DeGuzman, City Atty's Office: Julio introduced himself and said that he is a member of the City Attorney's Office Criminal Division. He explained that the Attorney's Office has 3 divisions; criminal, civil, and advisory. He then explained each division's purpose. Criminal division defends the city against crimes; civil division defends against lawsuits brought by citizens against the city; and advisory division's purpose is to advise the Mayor of San Diego. He said that people should call 619-531-2000 (non-emergency number) if they see anything suspicious in their neighborhoods, but to always call 911 if one sees a crime in progress.

Public Forum: Ashlee Cortopassi, Curie Elementary PTA, asked the Board for continued support for their Jog-A-Thon. She requested \$600, which is the same amount of support UCCA provided last year. Ashlee reported how the money would be distributed at the school and added that the UCCA logo would again be on t-shirts and banners as a sponsor of the event. Barry requested that Ashlee ask the Curie PTA as a group to join UCCA and she said that she would pass along the request, but was sure that the PTA would agree to join.

Kelly, the Spreckels Elementary PTA representative, requested \$500 from UCCA for their Jog-A-Thon. She said that this is the first time the PTA had requested support from the Board and assured the group that UCCA would be shown as a marathon sponsor. Kelly also described how the funds would be used at the school and also assured the Board that she would get the Spreckles PTA organization to join UCCA.

Venkat Sethuraman requested publicity in the UCCA newsletter regarding the north UC cricket team that plays at Standley Park on Sunday mornings. He asked if the Board would consider advertising Doyle Park & Rec's meetings/activities in our newsletter and requested delivery of our newsletter to his apartment building. Venkat also assured the Board that his cricket team would join UCCA.

Jerry Herrman raised the issue of developers wanting to add 27 units to a 2-story, 75 unit complex built in the '80's, that would raise the level of the complex to 3 stories and the units would be 3 or 4 bedroom instead of the previously approved 2 bedroom units in the 2-story complex. He said that although the original permit given by San Diego City Council in the '80's said that the complex could never be changed, the developer is asking for variances on both the number of units and the height of the complex. Jerry and his wife Janet distributed a flyer regarding the next meeting of Univ. City Planning Group on Oct. 14th and urged all to attend as the developer will be presenting his plan for this complex at that time.

Nancy Groves gave an update on plans for the site on Regents Rd. south of the Catholic church. She said that currently a developer wants to build 10 two story houses on the site and that the plan would block the view of other residences above the site. She will put an article in the UCCA newsletter regarding this plan and how to view the developer's plans.

Treasurer's Report (Ginny Charvat): Ginny reported that 2 past due amounts for ads in the newsletter have been paid and that payment for another is pending. Terry Jones made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Bonnie Hornbeck seconded the motion and the Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

Membership (Hallie Burch): Hallie reported that as of Oct. 8th, there are 588 members for a total amount of \$26,005. Barry commented that although 588 members is the highest number as yet, that UCCA membership still represents only about 10%+ of the total UC community population.

Correspondence (Terry Jones): Terry reported 5,000 UCCA envelopes have been ordered.

Neighborhood Watch (Barbara Gellman): Barbara reported that the Burn Institute will provide free smoke alarms to people over 65 years of age. They will be the new alarms approved by the city and they will install them. She also reminded people who live close to 'dorm' or 'party' houses to be sure to get the owners' names and contact numbers as most of these residences are rentals. If there is noise late at night, call the owners. If there is no response, then follow Capt. Hara's instructions on calling the police.

President's Remarks: Barry reported also on the completion of the work on the Governor Dr./Genesee Ave. intersection and commented that there is now a "No U Turn" sign attached to the traffic signal on Governor Dr. that faces west. He also commented that he was able to get the city to put in more attractive paving rather than asphalt for the divider. He also said that he attended the recent City Council meeting and was only able to speak for one minute on UC issues due to the high volume attendance.

Barry reported that the 2014 Tree Lighting ceremony at Standley Park will take place on Friday, December 12th. Darlene Ventimiglia, Tree Lighting Coordinator, has the band is set up to play and has Santa in place to see children at 5:30 pm and the food served at 6:30 pm.

Barry gave an update on working with Scott Peters' office regarding the UC community's aircraft safety issues with the Miramar Air Base. Barry said that basically the issue is going nowhere at this time. He did say, however, that the Blue Angels did not fly as many 'low fly-by's' at the air show this year.

Barry asked for a report on Oktoberfest. Sandy and Mack said that the park was really crowded and that people were having a good time...especially at the beer garden, which was jammed.

Barry requested the Board's opinions regarding Sandy Lippe's request to give a monetary gift to Sue Nizyboriski, UCCA newsletter editor, who recently resigned the position. After discussion, a motion was made by Sandy Lippe to award Sue with a \$200 gift card from CostCo. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

At this time president Barry Bernstein closed his president's remarks with an apology to the UCCA Board and to UCCA members for what appeared to be his representing a position of UCCA in favor of building the Regents Road bridge at the Sept. 25th Mayor's impromptu news conference. He regrets any misunderstanding.

Newsletter Committee (Sandy Lippe): Sandy reported that with Sue Nizyboriski's resignation that Diane Ahern will be the interim editor of the UCCA newsletter. She said that Sue is being helpful during the transition. Diane commented that the cut-off date for articles for the November newsletter is Oct. 10th. This short window for receipt of articles is because the newsletter will be coming out Oct. 30th. Sandy said that the committee is actively looking for a new permanent editor and that she had also contacted Jemma Samala as she had been involved with the newsletter previously. There will also be an article in the next newsletter announcing a search for a new editor.

Beautification (Merle Langston): Merle gave an update on the use of the \$7,500 for specific median landscaping projects. After meeting with the landscapers, they found that the Radcliffe and Stresemann medians couldn't have the broken asphalt removed and stay within budget. The tree roots have broken the asphalt because of the inadequate watering system. She reported that instead that there will be fewer plantings and the irrigation system will be replaced to allow the tree roots to grow deeper. The Regents Rd. & Genesee Ave. medians will require a different landscaper. Merle and Barbara Gellman will provide an update on that project at the November meeting.

Buy Local (Diane Ahern): Diane reported that there are now 18 local businesses that have joined including RoundTable Pizza and Outcast Grill. She then requested all to promote the 'Buy Local' program with all local businesses.

Election Committee (Mack Langston, Terry Jones & Diane Ahern): Mack said the committee had a complete slate of nominees for the November election. They are: Barry Bernstein, President; Barbara Henshaw, Vice President; Ginny Charvat, Treasurer; and Vince Reardon, Secretary. Terry Jones made a motion to approve the slate of officers. Barbara Gellman seconded the motion and the 2015 UCCA slate of officer nominees was unanimously approved.

Improve UC/Imagine UC 2020 (Mack Langston): Mark reported that the Standley Park pavilion and other projects supported by John Lee Evans and Greg Zinser are moving forward. Visual aids and posters have been prepared showing the projects. The group is trying to get the concept out to the public. The visual aids will be a great help.

Other: Barry commented that he had attended the UCHS Hall of Fame event. Three individuals were inducted. The event was well attended and UCCA was acknowledged for their support.

A vote was taken for the Curie and Spreckels' request for funds for their Jog-A-Thons. Hallie Burch made a motion to fund both schools. Barbara Gellman seconded the motion and the \$600 funds for Curie Elementary and the \$500 funds for Spreckels Elementary were unanimously approved.

Sandy Lippe announced that UCCA has received a commitment from Scripps for \$3,500 donation for the 2015 summer concerts.

Barbara Gellman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Hallie Burch seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

The next UCCA meeting will be Wednesday, November 12, 2014.