

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

6:04 P.M. October 13th 2020

Directors present, directors absent:

Chris Nielsen (CN) (Chair), Roger Cavanaugh (RC) (Vice Chair), Meagan Beale (MB), Dan McCurdy (DM), Andrew Wiese (AW), Nancy Groves (NG), Caryl Lees Witte (CW), Joann Selleck (JS), Isabelle Kay (IK), Ash Nasser (AN), Rebecca Robinson (RR), Jon Arenz (JA), Amber Ter-Vrugt(ATV), Jason Moorhead (JM), Anu Delouri (AD), Kristie Miller (KM), Michael Leavenworth (ML), Kristin Camper (KC), Petr Krysl (PK), Carol Uribe (CU) Katie Witherspoon (KW)(City of SD Planning)

1. **Call the Meeting to Order:** Chris Nielsen at 6:04 pm.
2. **Attendance taken** quickly due to Virtual Meeting
Presentations – began the meeting with Todd Gloria – see presentations below
3. **Agenda:** Call for modifications and there were none
Approve the Agenda by Acclimation Vote: no objections
4. **No Minutes – Postpone September minutes approval - November meeting.**
Presentations – continue meeting with Barbara Bry – see presentations below
5. **Announcements:**

Chair's Report and comments:

- a- Costa Verde Revitalization Passed Planning Commission – going to council meeting in November
- b- UCSD Fire Station – Now called the “Torrey Pines Fire Station” (it will receive a station number later) City meeting Thursday 10/21 from 6 – 8 pm – mini scoping meeting and 4 designers will be there. Community members will vote on the Fire Station Design.
- c- AW and CPU Subcommittee – meeting 9/29 4 – 6 pm
- d- League of Women Voters Host a District #1 Debate – Will Moore and Joe LaCava

Moderator will ask questions – including Vacation Rentals

AW – Question – will there be a Fire station meeting for UCPG?

CN – Yes but after the 1st of the year. UCPG will have a seat at the table with Designers as an action item.

JS – Fire station 50 is done. Is there any Open House?

CN – No notice as of yet, maybe virtual? It will be operational next year, 2021

RC Comments - Annual Report – we need to read it. It is very comprehensive – a lot for CN to put together. Helpful if we could distribute this report, it would accelerate engagement in the community. Could we put copies in the library? It is the ability to represent the community – get a larger base of membership – broaden it! How can we bring on new members? Influencer / Higher expectations / with powerful representation

JS – a great idea -> publishing Annual Report may not be the way to do it. Library or publicize what we do!!

6. PRESENTATIONS:

A. Assembly member Todd Gloria presenting for Mathew Gordon this time.

Legislature adjourned - 9/1 Review

* 5 bills – signed into law

1-Domestic violence

2-Rental sale -> prices/costs ->renew SPAWAR site

3-5000 jobs

4-COVID-19 Response – stay in homes-extend evictions protection through 2021

5-Unemployment claims – 78th District can help unemployment benefits –

Covered California

*Continue to work with Governor to reopen California

-outdoor dining, hotels and events

*Thank you for letting me be your voice

Questions:

AW – Support from the state for Affordable Housing – desperate need for more low Income / affordable housing in UC. We need developers who want lower percentage of luxury housing. What can the state do?

T. Gloria response - likely to have more of an issue after pandemic. 1st – Hotel housing conversions but not in UC. 2nd – everyone has to do their fair share, SB2 dollars renewing annually – encourage developers to apply for these dollars
Community member – Janis Deady – restaurant owner – she doesn't know if they will be able to make it through the next year. As a small business – only 25% guests are allowed, between bites put on their masks, affects 50 employees

T. Gloria response – On the tweet from the Governor on masks between bites – He regrets comment!

Official guidance is wear masks to table. 4 tier reopening – Tier 2 right now restaurants open this is data driven. We want Tier 4 so we have to do more

B. Councilmember Barbara Bry – Rep. Justine Murray for District 1

Justine is keeping her up to date from UC – Thank you

1-Pandemic end – she agrees that it will take time

2-CPU – local planning with community input

3-She is so happy that we are engaging everyone in the community so their voice can be heard

4-Rabi incident on Saturday 10/10 – Barbara found out Monday with SDPD working to identify and apprehend – putting extra patrols in

At the UCCA meeting tomorrow night SDPD will be present

Questions:

AW -Affordable housing - increase supply for truly affordable housing? What can the city do to help us?

B. Bry response – Adaptive reuse is her first thought; 1) Development Services – takes too long for approval – need to streamline 2) Pandemic – adaptive use of office & commercial buildings 3) Update community plans along transit. Ask for something

back as people who earn too much for subsidies need this. 4) get short term rentals back onto the market. City should enforce the existing ordinances 5) down payment assistance for 1st time buyers. Community reinvestment levels. **Council unanimously approved increased density in Mira Mesa - 1800 units in all price ranges.

JS – her sense is – come Feb – there will be a crisis in evictions due to moratorium stopping. What is being proposed for Feb/Mar?

B. Bry response – property owners say 95% of tenants are paying rent – the rent relief fund had \$17,000,000 and now adding \$5,000,000. The problem is commercial properties – tenants are not paying rent. You have to prove wage loss due to COVID-19 After the election – we will see if congress starts to help.

JS – what about small landlords?

B. Bry response – rent relief is only for residential property.

Continuing B -Justine Murray– update on Willmark – Late Aug. there was a walk through – There were fire hazards – Code compliance and code violations were witnessed. Fire department went through the site in Sept. and they noted safety violations – Willmark has 30 days to fix.

C. SANDAG / Mid Coast Trolley – Gia Ballash presenting

No further news on noise issue for La Jolla Colony project.

Project Note – mid coast trolley Nobel Drive Parking Structure will be finished by Thanksgiving.

D. CPU – Process, Plan Update Subcommittee – AW ->

9/29 meeting began with conservation and open space element of the Plan Update. Goals – business end of plan document that we use.

Goals discussed – it was a vibrant meeting – economic prosperity goals – seeking our input.

-Next meeting Tuesday 10/20 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm

JA – Are meeting announcements generated by KW?

Katie Witherspoon (KW): Planning Dept website is:

<https://planuniversity.org/meetings>

“Mailchimp” is used therefore email could be in spam folders

KW said that Kearney Mesa is going to City Council next so watch.

E. Senator Toni Atkins – Rep – Miller Saltzman reported

- Legislative session ended with the following new laws:

1-Protect equipment for cleaning supplies

2-Small Business – exclude from taxes PPP loans up to \$1,000 for loss of employees

3-Budget surplus that was projected ended up as a deficit

4-Census has deadline. Fill out Census - 73.7% of county and 70% of the state has filled out the Census

- Governor made an Executive Order – 2035 -> 0 emission vehicles

7. Public Comment: Non-Agenda Items (3-minute limit)

a. Bill Beck - Fire Prevention Month – Retired NY City Fire Chief

All citizens should have – floor plan of home, find 2 ways out of the home, make a meeting place outside, sleep with doors closed and phone near you, crawl don't walk out of the smoky room, check fire extinguishers and batteries in smoke alarm

b. Will Moore – District #1 will be at UCCA tomorrow and Woman's League Debate. Talking about favorite UC issues

c. Barry Bernstein – UCCA 6 pm meeting tomorrow. Topics – 1) attach on Rabbi Saturday, email blast for District #1 debates, Justine -> Aria La Jolla – Willmark Golf Course remarks and Standley Park rejuvenation Ground breaking Virtually Barbara Bry will be there.

d. Joe La Cava – City Council district #1 Forum tomorrow UCCA meeting then log off and on again for the debate. Thank you to CN and elected members

8. Information Item: Penasquitos Lagoon, Mike Hastings presented:

Mike is the Executive Director of the Los Penasquitos Lagoon Foundation (LPLF). AW and CN reached out to have Mike share general information about this watershed. -There are no members; it is a Coastal Conservancy & communications hub – Board consists of State Parks/City/Local Community/Environmental Community/Developers They all work together to see what is best for the lagoon – Mike has been there for 20 years.

-Lagoon is a green salt marsh/salt flat/with an alkaline marsh inland. Tributaries are seasonal and in 1996 – daily input from irrigation

-See presentation-

*Watershed – historic land use -> cattle ranches / gold rush

-Cows don't eat chaparral therefore grass planted. Railway moved water. 23 years lagoon was used for primary sewage treatment with legacy pollutants

*Genesis for the Lagoon Conservancy -Late 1990

-invertebrates so there was no food for birds

-Storm water / Urbanization

-2012 Beach Sand Project – all sand flows to the lagoon from north to south

*3 subwater sheds – Carroll Canyon, Pen. Creed – upper, Pen. Creek-lower

-Clean Water Act – Impacts 1-Fresh water seep 2-water seep overflow 3-railroad ties

-Salt marsh ends up being devastated, willows end up populating due to fresh water impacts.

*we bring bulldozers to keep inlet open during the summer – 6 times to dig out the lagoon and it is still closed

*Mosquitoes are a problem – city dropping larvicide there

*Restoration plans – see presentation

Debbie Knight – It was a terrific presentation – This lagoon is downstream from UC. Make a maximum effort to reduce negative impacts. What can developers can do?

ML – What function does run off play. Impacts from Carol Canyon – catch and retain water

IK – Appropriate due to Open Space and Conservation low impact developments – We drain to LPL and to Mission Bay as well.

JS – Development on mesas that drain into watersheds
Debbie: Put this into our Plan Update – KW can help us.

9. Information Item: Torrey Pines State Reserve – Darren Smith presented:

Darren is an environmental scientist and he feels guilty for not connecting earlier

-see presentation – 1850 founded Torrey Pines State Park do to Torrey Pine Trees

*1/4 of the county is state park – 3,000 acres coast parks

*Scripps bought - TP State Park has -600 acres of wet land

-60 acres Del Mar Highland which has conifers next to coast

-Burning and grazing cows

-Pueblo lots reserved

*1950 Land was given to the State – Master Plan for Reserve – Nature / Natural

- Boundary to the north – brown/green natural chaparral and sage brush

- Camp Kalen – 1st then became UCSD and Golf Course

- Non native wetlands and more development

*Torrey Pines is so amazing – 19% of county's flora, 50 special status plants, chaparral,

Soil/Geology spectacular 6 listed species of birds

*Transportation and Development Corridors – Utility infrastructures, volumes of fresh

Water, Interstate hwy, water and gas and power lines and finally Development

- this brings invasive plants

**see presentation

IK-thank you for the presentation, prevent problems ??Nurseries and landscapers – tell them which trees to plant

JS – Great presentation - Planning Groups and impacts: what can we do?

Darrin – Plant palettes – city rules about flood waters, fuel/brush management on their own property. Wish non-invasive plants would be changed to native plants

Debbie Knight – people don't realize when they plant that seeds blow into street/water washes them into reserves. Birds plant seeds as well. Changes need to come from

Developers! Great presentation

AW – thanks to Darrin and Mike – this is about the most biodiverse area in the world!!

We want to help

NG – great presentation. Golf Course – fertilizer / run off?

Darrin – Blacks Beach has run off bloom from Golf Course

NG – City plant plan needs updating, yes, but does the county have a plant plan?

Community member – Janis Deady – Saguaro Cactus and Torrey Pines. Taking them down is a crime -> community needs to know that we need to protect these special trees.

Signage / information are important

Darrin – working with zoo on Plant Conservation with Torrey Pines as the focus

Community member – Frank – invasive plants on MSCP lands suggest to developers coming to UCPG that those plants are OK. This needs to change.

10. Information Item: Public Power option for San Diego Franchise Agreement.

Public Power San Diego, Jerry Wanetick presented

Jerry is advocating for change in Power Franchise Agreement

-SD – highest power prices
- Franchise holder makes \$1 million /day
-Mayor has asked for bids 1) SDG&E 2) Berkshire Hathaway
-It expires January 2021
-\$65,000,000 per year – SDG&E collects money from customers, pays franchise, pays nothing themselves
-\$64 billion value over 20 years
**See presentation
Jerry is asking for 1 year to give Public Power San Diego time to get this info together – figure out how to transition to public power
IK – wondering – is City Council pro public power?
Jerry -SDG& E will supply power even if the franchise agreement expires.
JS – 1 year is too short, suggest 5 to 10 years Public Utility Option / deal with other municipalities. Should City make this a ballot measure?
Jerry – 1 year is to study this plan and yes they need a bond, therefore it will need to be voted on.
NG – will the perspective new company have to bid? Open bids that are lower
Jerry – bidding war
AW – What kind of impact on utility's land easements?
Jerry – renegotiation for easements would occur.
KM - CN, who was the gentleman that spoke to us about Franchise SDG & E
CN – not sure, Kristie to look into it.

11. Action Item: Approval of the UCPG Annual Report to the City

AW – Open Space – there was significant action in July 2020? Is this included?
CN – No, July not applicable until next annual report
CN – UCSD Housing correction – North Torrey Pines Living and Learning Center – not officially done, AD is giving input. Finally, JS we should add paragraph on progress of the Trolley. KM will put Trolley update together.
CN – motion,
CU moved to approve
NG-seconded
Call for a vote to approve: Yes 14 – No 0 – ABS 1 RRW (did not receive information), motion passes

12. Adjournment at 8:54 pm. Next meeting will be Tuesday, November 10, 2020 on zoom

Thank you, Chris