



UPTOWN COMMUNITY PLANNERS GROUP

Tuesday, August 1, 2023

BOARD MEETING MINUTES-FINAL-APPROVED 10/3/23

Present: Stu McGraw, Chair; Mary Brown, Juli Hyde, Mary McKenzie, Lu Rehling, Tony Silvia, Jim Walsh, Clifford Weiler, Susan White

Absent: Susan Blackwell, Matt Brown, Chris Cole, Patty Ducey-Brooks, Don Liddell, Blake Peterson

I. Parliamentary Items.

a. Adoption of Agenda and Rules of Order. Approved

b. Approval of Meeting Minutes (April 21, May 2, June 6). Approved unanimously.

c. Treasurer's Report

Mary Brown, Treasurer. Current balance is \$33.95. Fiscal year ending June 2023, expenses were March election. Website hosting, technical expenses for website. We have received our \$500 reimbursement from the City.

d. Balboa Park Committee Report. None.

e. Airport Noise Advisory Committee Report. None.

f. Chair's/CPC Report and selection of CPC Representative and Alternate

- All BOD members will be required to take a mandatory training before 6/2024. According to Shannon Mulderig-Corr, the results of the training will go directly to the Planning Department, with no requirement to report to anyone else.
- UP bylaws state that the maximum number of absences for board members is three consecutive meetings or four meetings in the 12-month period from April to March. This includes special board meetings but not committee meetings.
- The 301 Spruce Street Project was approved, and the UP filed an appeal as approved at February board meeting. Because the city changed rules, CPG appeals are no longer free (except in coastal areas), so the appeal fee of \$1000 is being funded by donations from concerned individuals and a community non-profit.
- UP has sent three emails to Todd Gloria (Mayor), regarding the appointment of Brer Marsh as UP representative to the Balboa Park Committee: in April (requesting to replace Brer Marsh, documenting why); in May (requesting that the Mayor appoint Mary McKenzie), and in July (repeating requests and explaining again the rationale). Copied Stephen Whitburn (Council Rep) and Shannon Mulderig-Corr (UP liaison). NO replies from anyone.
- SB 10: Was proposed by the Mayor, but not approved by the Planning Commission on August 3. Next steps : City Council, possibly later in August or in September. So, we may agendize a special meeting of UP board in August to decide whether or what to recommend.

- CPC: Lu Rehling substituted for Stu McGrath at the June meeting. During non-agenda public comments, she read a letter approved at UP's June board meeting regarding the Planning Department's process of responding to external complaints. After the meeting, Andrea S (CPC Chair) said she would agendaize a discussion of the letter at a future meeting and, after the June meeting, she routed the complete letter to all CPC members.
The main topic of the meeting was a presentation on CPG changes by Marlon Pangolian, which Lu will discuss later in the O&O Committee report.
Future CPC meetings: July: No meeting; August: Meeting on Tuesday, 8/2. All future CPC meetings, at least until the end of this year, will be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month.
- UP needs to select a CPC representative and alternate. We need volunteers and approval of the BOD. Discussion was tabled due to low attendance at this meeting.

II. Non-agenda Public Comment.

Sharon Gehl. Regarding the community planning maps. (Difficult to hear)

Clifford Weiler. SB10. The wrong way to provide more housing.

Mary McKenzie. The Planning Commission will be discussing on August 3 if anyone would like to submit a comment.

III. Representatives of Elected Officials, Agencies, and Institutions.

Logan Braydis, CM Whitburn's office. In June, the unsafe camping ordinance was passed. On July 30, the enforcement of the ordinance began, focusing on public parks, proximity to schools, trolley stops. But the City has also begun its safe sleeping sites program, with the first at 20th and B in Golden Hill. With tents and bathroom facilities.

Questions re: SB 10, vacant lots on Washington Place, still in progress. Additional questions re: enforcement of unsafe camping ordinance.

Shannon Corr. Planning Department, Project Manager for Hillcrest Focused Plan Amendment. Over the past few months, we've focused on smaller/targeted focus groups to discuss opportunities regarding an LGBTQ+ Cultural District. A discussion draft should be ready in fall of this year. There is a CIP survey on our website. She encourages everyone to participate in this survey.

Andi McNew from State Senator Toni Atkins. State Budget was passed with significant funding for several Balboa Park infrastructure projects, Business Improvement Districts, the Zoo, library materials. On recess until September 14. SB447-the Bridge Project, to lift the boycott against travelling to states with very anti-LGBTQ+ policies because it has come to be detrimental as the number of those states has increased to 23 states. ACA 5 a constitutional amendment to protect gay marriage. Will be on the November ballot. SB10 is state law and includes affordable housing (1 unit for every 5 built). It is now in the cities' hands. The purpose of SB10 is missing middle housing, 10-12 units on one parcel.

On July 13, when the Senate adjourned for recess, Sen. Atkins adjourned in the memory of Steve Cline. She gave a nice speech which you can find at the CA Senate website, at the media archive for July 13th, about 1 hour 5 minutes into the video.

IV. Consent Items

1. Capital Improvement Projects Request. Recommendation from the Public Facilities Committee of a list of Uptown Community CIPs to ask the City to include in its fiscal year 2025 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025) budget process. Stu McGraw, Public Facilities Committee Chair.

There were two public facilities meetings to decide on the CIP list. Motion to approve the list included with the agenda by Susan White; 2nd by Jim. In favor: Juli Hyde, Lu Rehling, Tony Silvia, Jim Walsh, Clifford Weiler, Susan White. Opposed by Mary Brown and Mary McKenzie. Stu McGrath abstains. 6-2-1

V. Action Items

1. Letter of Support for Future Use of 917 W Washington. (Item carried over from June 6, 2023 board meeting.) Mary Brown sitting in for Patty Ducey-Brooks, Historic Resources Committee Chair.

On June 30, the City Council confirmed the historic designation of the former library after a long period waiting for an appeal. The building is currently unoccupied.

The Historic Resources Committee requests that the Planners write a letter of support for Mission Hills Community Pre-School which has a proposal for utilization of the former Mission Hills Library property.

The letter would ask City officials to speak with Anna De Martino, the Director of the School, to discuss plans and opportunities.

Logan Braydis states that CM Whitburn would be very open to speaking with interested parties.

Lu: CM Whitburn and Mayor Gloria held a press conference in June where CM Whitburn expressed hopes for affordable housing. Mary B. says that a community survey reflected a preference for about the space valued child care, community meeting space, senior center. Logan emphasizes there is no plan yet.

Lu Rehling moves that Uptown Planners write a letter requesting that the City take appropriate and immediate measures to protect the historic structure at 917 W. Washington and accelerate the decision-making process about its future reutilization, considering all options put forward by members of the community, including affordable housing, use as a preschool, use as a senior center and for use as a library bookstore. 2nd by: Tony Silvia.

Mary McKenzie asks whether this was Mary Brown's intent. Mary Brown emphasized that her focus was on the preschool and getting someone from the City to sit down with them.

Stu suggests this sounds like a public facilities committee meeting. Lu suggests this will take time when the need is urgent.

In favor of motion made by Lu Rehling: Lu Rehling, Tony Silvia, Jim Walsh. Opposed: Mary Brown, Juli Hyde, Susan White, Mary McKenzie, Clifford Weiler. Abstaining: Stu McGrath, Chair. 3-5-1. Motion failed.



Clifford Weiler moves to continue this item to the Public Facilities Committee. 2nd Susan White. In favor: Mary Brown, Juli Hyde, Susan White, Mary McKenzie, Clifford Weiler, Tony Silvia, Jim Walsh. Opposed: Lu Rehling, Abstaining: Stu McGrath, Chair. 7-1-1. Motion passes.

2. University Avenue Bike Lanes. Everett Hauser, Program Manager, City of San Diego.

City's plans to modify University Avenue from 1st to 4th to include separated bicycle facilities, with striped bike lanes from 4th to 5th, including the repurposing of 33 curb parking spaces. Estimated timing August 2023. Makes sense to proceed with bike lanes at same time as slurry.

Mary McKenzie asks how much narrower will the car lanes be? Answer: shouldn't be much different. Second question: if you decide to go forward with hard borders for bike lanes, please keep in mind the needs of disabled folks.

Clifford Weiler: what is the minimum width of a traffic lane? And the turning lane on University to 4th Avenue. Nobody seemed to know.

3. West Mesa Precise Plan Request. Mike Singleton requests that Uptown send a letter of support for further development of the West Mesa as a local park and as a regional park under the Parks Master Plan.

Lu Rehling moved to extend the meeting to 9:30 pm. 2nd Clifford Weiler. Approved unanimously with Chair abstaining.

Clifford Weiler moved to recommend that the City of San Diego develop a precise plan for the West Mesa of Balboa Park and include Uptown Planners and other interested community groups in the development of the plan. 2nd Lu Rehling. Approved unanimously with Chair abstaining.

VI. Information Items.

1. Condominium conversion: 4072 and 4078 Stephens Street and 1705 W Lewis Street. Patty Ducey-Brooks, Historic Resources Committee Chair and Design Review Committee Chair.

VII. Administrative Action Items

1. Election (Ad Hoc). Mary McKenzie, Chair; Juli Hyde, Jim Walsh, Chris Cole, members. The committee was happy that Shannon Corr-Mulderig approved our Election Plan. As of tonight's 6 pm deadline, there were 3 candidates for 2 seats. Voting will be September 2 and 5.

VIII. Confirmation of next regular board meeting. September 5, 2023. Joyce Beers Community Center.

IX. Adjournment. 9:45PM