

CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
University Heights Community Recreation Group

MINUTES  
February 4, 5:30 pm  
**Virtual Zoom Meeting**

**Mailing Address:**

North Park Recreation Center  
4044 Idaho Street  
San Diego, CA 92104

**ATTENDANCE**

Marc Johnson, Chairperson  
Sol Schumer  
Jeffrey Taylor  
Chris Milnes  
Stu McGraw  
Ernie Bonn, Corresponding Secretary

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Andy Cameron  
Josephine Salerno  
Liem Do, Vice Chairperson  
Pat Johnston  
Rod Girvin

**GUEST**

Dan Weiss (arrived at 6:03 pm)

**CITY STAFF**

Michele Chicarelli, Area Manager II  
Council District 3 Representative – Benjamin Cartwright (arrived at 6:07 pm)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson – Marc Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** It was moved/seconded (Sol Schumer/Ernie Bonn) to approve January 2021 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously (6-0-0).

**COMMUNICATIONS** - None

**CHAIRPERSON REPORT** – None

**REPORTS**

**Parks and Recreation** – Michele Chicarelli reported maintenance staff have been busy. The last storm caused many tree branches and limbs to fall.

**City Council District 3 Representative** – Benjamin Cartwright reported:

- Old Trolley Barn Restrooms - CD3 is receptive to what the neighbors want.
- The Council office is working on the budget priority List.
- Ernie Bonn invites Councilman Whitburn to the next meeting to discuss Old Trolley Barn restrooms.

**San Diego Police Department** – No Report

**Birney Elementary** – No Report

**University Heights Point**

- Stu McGraw reported there are two dead trees in the area, 8' Oak and a Canary Palm, and the white guard rail, east side, is deteriorating.
- Michele Chicarelli recommended residents use Get-It-Done app to report maintenance concerns, this way, the issue can be reported immediately.
- Benjamin Cartwright asked for the reference ticket # be shared with him so he can check on the status of the Get-It-Done requests.

**Old Trolley Barn Neighborhood Park**

- Michele Chicarelli reported more maintenance has been scheduled; noticing more trash.
- Ernie Bonn mentioned an unsheltered man staying in the park and leaving trash in the area.
- Sol Schumer reported former Councilman Ward allocated 1/2 million on community outreach survey on restrooms in the park, and no money spent on designs.
- Chris Milnes reported in 1989 it was documented from University Heights Recreation Council that no restrooms were wanted in the park, even the Police said it was a bad idea.
- Stu McGraw mentioned there is a dead pepper tree at the back fence.

**Park and Recreation Community Parks II Area Committee** – No Meeting

**Uptown Planners** –

- Stu McGraw reported elections were postponed.
- Sol Schumer reported Park Coalition, Susan Baldwin, shared information on SANDAG Bike Ways.
- Information was shared on Scripps Mercy Hospital redeveloping site, no open space for public to use.
- Marc Johnson is not in favor of point system, San Diego funding not in favor, need framework.

**North Park Public Facilities Subcommittee** – No Report

**Education Center Redevelopment** – Marc Johnson attended a Task Force meeting with the UHCDC and UHCA, and that the SDUSD will continue to occupy their current site here for at least 3 years, as the development of their new location will take at least that long to prepare for them to move there. There will be a public meeting on a new 700-unit project in the area which is not advised.

**ACTION ITEMS** – None

**WORKSHOP ITEMS**

1. **Dog Park concerns at Birney Elementary Joint Use Field** – Marc Johnson reported we need the Humane Society to increase patrolling in the area. The community continues to have an issue with open space for the dogs. There is SDUSD land available in front of the Education

Center but is there funding available? Benjamin Cartwright stated he is working with the Councilman on this subject and will give an update next month.

2. **Old Trolley Barn Park Restroom Project** – Chris Milnes reported in 1989 it was documented from University Heights Recreation Council that no restrooms were wanted in the park, even the Police said it was a bad idea.

**INFORMATION ITEM**

- Dan Weiss introduced himself; University Heights resident for 7 years, participates in the Beautification Team.
- Sol Schumer shared the Uptown Planners meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs each month. The sub committee Hillcrest Amendment Plan – parks component, need park space. Venues to substitute for land. The agenda is on the website. Community Plan update, one topic each month.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

**NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, March 4, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting on Zoom

*MChicarelli*

Submitted by

Michele Chicarelli, Area Manager II

THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATE FORMATS UPON REQUEST, CONTACT MICHELE CHICARELLI, (619) 235-1161, or email [mchicarelli@sandiego.gov](mailto:mchicarelli@sandiego.gov) .