

# UPTOWN PLANNERS

## Uptown Community Planning Group Meeting

June 4, 2019

### DRAFT MINUTES

In attendance: Bob Daniel, Brer Marsh, Clint Daniels, Gail Friedt, Matthew Medeiros, Michael Brennan, Roy Dahl, Stephen Cline, Tim Gahagan, Zach Bunshaft, William Smith, Bill Ellig, Soheil Nakshab, Stu McGraw, Tom Mullaney.

Absent: Dennis Seisun & Amie Hayes

#### I) Call to Order and Introductions - Meeting called to order by Soheil at 6:01 pm

- 1) Agenda Approval: Motion to approve agenda by Roy, Stephen 2nd, unanimously approved.
- 2) Minutes Approval: Motion to approve the minutes from February to March 2019 by Zach, Matt 2nd, (14/0/1) Clint abstained because he did not see that the meeting minutes were sent out.

#### II) General Information and Officer/Committee Reports

##### 1) Officer Reports

- a. Treasurer Report: Roy reported that there is \$150.65 in the account and that we will be billed \$143.88 for website renewal, which the City will reimburse.

- b. Ad Hoc Operations/Outreach Committee Meeting Recap

Ad Hoc Committee met again & solidified lists of suggestions for improved outreach & bylaws, to be presented at this full board meeting. Tom voiced concerns with voting on these items without them posted on the agenda. William & Tim echoed these sentiments. Soheil apologized for not listing outreach and bylaw revisions on the agenda, but he believes we should go through with outreach at this full committee meeting because it was listed in the minutes and approved as an action item at the last meeting. Soheil believes we should push votes on bylaw revisions to next month to allow for more transparency and community input. Tom moved to discuss the outreach suggestions, Stephen 2nd.

##### Board Discussion:

- i) William Smith asked about membership fees for nextdoor & which website platform is recommended for switching from Yahoo & why it is believed to be necessary. Matt answered that he will find out about fees for nextdoor and the switch is for security purposes. William also asked about whether the signs would be stolen and it was answered that other community groups, like the Mission Hills Town Council does the same thing & hasn't had a problem.
- ii) Roy voiced concerns over losing the godaddy domain name. Matt recommended keeping it because it is inexpensive.

##### Public Comment

- i) Sol Schumer asked why these expenses are needed?
- ii) Sharon Gehl responded saying she saw on nextdoor after the last Uptown Planners election that community members largely were unaware of the election & the board as a whole.

iii) Mat Wahlstrom voiced concerns over comments being allowed on social media posts.

iv) Carol Emerick voiced concern about the phrasing of "limiting comment" and wants something more concrete against it. She also suggested creating a LinkedIn account. She likes the new website design but believes the mission statement on the website needs to be revised to be consistent with the City's.

v) Ian Epley does not see an issue with spending more to increase community involvement. Voiced concerns that the City used to send out an agenda and post it on their website but hasn't in a while.

Motion made by the Ad Hoc. committee to pass the outreach recommendations as is, Tom 2nd, (15/0/2) Clint & Soheil abstained. Soheil abstained so as not to show bias and Clint abstained because it was not agendaized.

c) Design Review Subcommittee - Did not meet/nothing to report.

d) Policy for Standing Subcommittee Member Appointment

Zach mentioned having attended the Community Orientation Workshop that it appears subcommittee membership must be set ahead of meetings and that assignment to subcommittees need to be made at a future meeting. He also requested set dates and times each month that subcommittees will meet.

### III) Public Communication – Non-Agenda Public Comment

#### 1) Civic & Elected Official Representatives Remarks

a) Ty Burch with Councilman Chris Ward's office spoke about inclusionary housing requirement updates coming to the Council. Mentioned that their office held a forum on proposed Permanent Supportive Housing in the old Mission Hills Library. Mat Wahlstrom asked if the City makes changes to bylaws uniformly, when will that be? Ty said he does not know but will try to get an answer.

b) Toni Duran with Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins office said that the deadline has passed for the chambers to pass bills to one another. Bills must pass both chambers by July 1st to continue to the Governor's desk. Her office is now taking underwear donations for Stand Down June 28th-30th. Carol Emerick asked for an update on the Maple Canyon Restoration. Brer mentioned that the City has been invited to speak about this, but will be invited again.

c) Javier Gomez with Assemblymember Todd Gloria's office reported the State now has 16.5 billion in its rainy day fund, 1.75 billion specifically for housing. He reported that funds were found to ensure clean water without the need for a water tax.

#### 2) Non-Civic & Elected Official Representatives

Public comment was held during Ad Hoc Operations/Outreach Committee Meeting Recap

### IV) Consent Agenda

No items on the consent agenda.

### V) Information Items

#### 1) Balboa Park Planning Committee Update - Don Liddel

Uptown Planners representative to the Balboa Park Planning Committee was invited to give an update on what the Committee is currently working on and what would be needed to get a new representative up to speed should the Committee select a new one. Don was on the Uptown Planners and has been on the BPC now for 10 years. He is happy to continue and/or assist new representative as needed/requested. Reported that the last meeting discussed the Mayor's budget with a 9.5 million reduction. The BPC voted to voice a strong opposition and within days it

was reversed. Announced a workshop on July 11th at 6pm at 3325 Zoo Drive to discuss Inspiration Point and put together an RFP (Request for proposals) for this area. BPC does not have bylaws, however they are currently being drafted. BPC meets on the 1st Thursday of each month but will not meet until August. Bill Smith requested a clarification of the BPC rep's connection to the Uptown Planners Board and Clint wants to clarify going forward that the representative's decisions should reflect the will of the board.

- 2) UCSD Campus Renovation & Expansion - David Mier - Information item was moved ahead due to UCSD's time constraints. Renovation taking place in order to get campus up to seismic codes. Long Range Development plan will be approved by UC Regents in November, but UCSD believes it is important to engage the public. The EIR (Environmental Impact Report) is 75% complete.

Board Comment & Public Comment

- a) Brer asked about market rate housing on-site, whether it is reserved for faculty, and what happens once faculty leaves their employment. He requested UCSD Health visit the Design Review sub-committee.
  - b) Clint requested no parking on top of what is required by law.
  - c) Tom requested direct access from the 163.
  - d) Ian Epley requested coordination with Scripps Hospital as they renovate at the same time.
  - e) Jill Weisberg asked if Bachman is two lanes would it be going North or South? Answer: South with Bike Lanes.
  - f) Mat Wahlstrom asked the net gain for housing units. Answer: From 20 to 980 units.
  - g) Michael Donovan asked if there will be retail. Answer: Yes.
  - h) Bill Ellig requested Scripps present a similar presentation.
- 3) Airport Noise Advisory Committee - Chris Cole  
Chris said that he has two years left in his term, but he serves at the pleasure of the Board. Currently working on NEPA, CEQA & terminal 1 changes to transit. Also a board member of Old Town Academy & would be willing to provide updates on redevelopment if requested.
  - 4) Champions for Health Partnership - No representative showed up to the meeting.
  - 5) Rights to Appeal: Soheil announced that the public has the right to appeal 1) Special Events Permit 2) Park Use Permit 3) Slurry Seal Group 1925

VI) Action Items

- 1) City Liquor House Project No. 627235 - Chris Kasid (Owner)  
Chris spoke about his store's desire to move from 5th and Elm to 5th and Grape and the need to have a (CUP) conditional use permit re-approved in order to sell alcoholic beverages. All budget alcoholic items will be eliminated as they would not be allowed under the CUP. The old site was bought out for mixed use residential. He will be changing the business name and adding a deli.

Tim Gahagan left the meeting.

Public Comment:

- a) Jill Weisberg asked what is conditional about the permit? Answer: It is not given by right, but with permission.
- b) Sol Schumer brought up the opposition sent to the Board by a community member.

Motion to approve the CUP by Roy, Matt 2nd, (13/0/1) Soheil abstained.

- 2) Finalize FY21-25 CIP (Capital Improvement Project) Priority List - Clint Daniel (Public Facilities)  
In April, the CPC (Community Planners Committee) solicited feedback on CIP programs, but a special meeting must be scheduled or can be sent late after a vote at the next Uptown Planners meeting. Bob asked if a sub-committee could receive permission to approve on behalf of the entire board. Matt wishes to schedule a special meeting for June 25th, Bob 2nd, unanimously approved.

3) By-law revision discussion (continued)

Board Comment:

- a) Gail advocated for more diversity on the board, which can be helped by appointing members proportionally by community.
- b) Roy believes Chair should only be able to break ties.
- c) Matt believes that the bylaws should clarify this instead of saying the chair can't vote.
- d) Clint clarified that being chair is not a sufficient reason for abstaining, but no wanting to show favoritism is acceptable.

Public Comment:

- a) Lu Rehling showed that the bylaws explicitly say the chair can't vote and Matt said he would update the bylaw revisions to reflect the boards desire to leave it to the discretion of the Chair. Also opposes changing required meetings attended to 1.
- b) Mat Wahlstrom disagreed with public comment and representative reports coming after action items on the agenda.
- c) Lori asked if comments on social media will be sent out to the public as letters to the board are?
- d) Ian Epley commented on the reason why the board elects 7, then 7, then 3, then each year and that the nature of the bylaws should not allow the loophole for an extended term past 8 years with 1 year off the board.
- e) Tom distributed a list of comments and concerns regarding neighborhood distribution of seats.

The secretary had to leave the meeting at 9:07pm. Discussion continued on these proposed amendments and it was decided that they would be noticed for a vote at the special meeting on June 24th.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:40pm.