



**UPTOWN PLANNERS**  
Uptown Community Planning Group  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 7, 2015  
Meeting Place, Joyce Beers Community Center

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by past Vice Chair Jaworski

Present: Tablang, Fox, Ward, Pesqueira, Daniel, Mullaney, Jaworski, Hook, Brennan, Newington, Heiskala, Bonn, Mellos, Wahlstrom, Dahl

Absent: Winter, Bonner

**Board Meeting: Parliamentary Items/Reports:**

Election of Officers:

Motion by Daniel to appoint Jim Mellos as Chair; seconded by Jaworski. Hook nominated Fox; who declined the nomination. Motion to appoint Mellos as chair passed by a vote of 10-4-1; In favor, Tablang, Fox, Pesqueira, Daniel, Mullaney, Newington, Bonn, Dahl, Wahlstrom, Bonn; against Hook, Brennan, Ward, Heiskala; Acting Chair Jaworski abstaining.

Motion by Mullaney to appoint Tom Fox as Vice Chair; seconded by Jaworski. Motion passed unanimously, with Acting Chair Jaworski abstaining.

Fox nominated Jaworski as Secretary; who declined the nomination; Hook nominated Brennan. Motion to appoint Brennan approved by a vote of 14-0-2; In favor, Tablang, Fox, Pesqueira, Daniel, Mullaney, Newington, Bonn, Dahl, Mellos, Hook, Brennan, Ward, Heiskala; Abstaining Wahlstrom and Acting Chair Jaworski abstaining.

Motion by Fox to nominate Roy Dahl as Treasurer; motion approved by a 14-1 vote, Acting Chair Jaworski abstaining.

Motion by Dahl to appoint Pesqueira as timekeeper; motion passed unanimously, with Acting Chair Jaworski abstaining

Mellos assumes roll as Chair.

Mellos indicates the Uptown Planners can decide whether to have its own website, or only use the City's Uptown Planners website. If Uptown Planners continues to have its own website, it must be maintained and properly updated. Wahlstrom volunteered and was appointed to be the Uptown Planners website webmaster.

### Adoption of Agenda and Rules of Order

Chair Mellos announced that the applicant for the 3844 Albatross Street project had requested the project be continued, so that the applicant could make further revisions to the project. The continuance had been requested on short notice, so Uptown Planners could not notice the community. It was not yet know whether the project would be on the May agenda.

Motion by Jaworski, seconded by Daniel, to move the Letter of Support for the 2015 LGBT Pride Event to the consent agenda; Motion approved with unanimous vote of 14-0-1, with non-voting Chair Mellos abstaining

Motion to approve the agenda, as modified, passed by 14-0-1 vote; with non-voting Chair abstaining.

### Approval of Minutes;

None

### Treasurer's Report

Dahl reported \$140.65 in the bank account; the same amount as the previous month.

## **I. Public Communication**

Kara Kong, representing the Rock & Roll Marathon, spoke regarding the event. It will be held on May 31<sup>st</sup>, and in addition a May 30<sup>th</sup> 5K run would be held which will have about 3,000 runners. Both events would involve a temporary closure of Sixth Avenue. Jim Frost, who resides along Sixth Avenue, questioned whether too many special events were being held on Sixth Avenue, forcing repeated street closures. This resulted in a hardship for the residents in the neighborhood. The two day closure proposed by the Rock & Roll Marathon imposed an even greater burden.

Board members Fox, Hook and Newington, who reside along Sixth Avenue, spoke regarding the negative impact the large number of special event road closures has upon the local community, especially upon those who resident on Sixth Avenue. Wahlstrom inquired what role Uptown Planners played in the oversight of special events along Sixth Avenue. Jaworski requested that Uptown Planners be provided further information as to how many special events were held along Sixth Avenue, and what was the process for review.

Eugene Davis had attended to speak regarding the 3844 Albatross Street project, but as it was continued he spoke about an event in Balboa Park at the House of Hospitality.

## **II. Representatives of Elected Officials: (3 minutes each)**

No reports from elected officials.

Marlon Pangilinan reminded new board members they needed to attend a community planning orientation workshop (COW), which will inform new members about compliance with the Brown Act, and regulations governing community planning groups. The City once permitted new board members to view an electronic version know as an E-COW. However, this option is not available this time.

Jaworski inquired whether the board would be informed if a new member had not attended a COW, since community planning board members are only legally indemnified by the city if they had completed COW training. Pangilinan indicated the board would be informed.

Mellos requested contact information from each board member, so he could provide them with documents and public communications prior to each meeting.

**Consent Agenda:**

**LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE 2015 LGBT PRIDE EVENT – Hillcrest –** The event will take place from July 17 through 19, 2015 in Hillcrest and Balboa Park.

The board decided to discuss the item, but did not pull it off the consent agenda. The item was voted on as an action item.

Public comment by Jim Frost, who pointed out the disruption the event causes for a whole weekend to the residents along Sixth Avenue; Ben Baltic complained about the parking impact throughout Bankers Hill, and requested a shuttle be provided by the event to mitigate this impact. Newington pointed out there were problems with noise, litter and carousing.

Motion to approve the letter of support was approved 10-2-2; voting in favor: Wahlstrom, Ward, Hook Heiskala, Dahl, Brennan, Tablang, Daniel, Mullaney, Jaworski; voting against Fox, Pesqueira, Bonn; abstaining Newington, and non-voting chair Mellos;

**Information Item:**

1. **AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT LAND-USE PLAN UPDATE –** Presentation by Keith Wilschetz of the San Diego Regional Airport Authority; the Airport Development Plan (ADP) is in the next master planning phase for the San Diego International Airport. The ADP is designed to identify improvements that will enable the airport to meet demand through 2035, which is approximately when projected passenger activity levels will reach capacity for the airport's single runway. Since the initial presentation to Uptown Planners on July 1, 2014, four potential plan concepts have been identified, and the Airport Authority is now seeking public input. A short, comprehensive video of the concepts may be viewed at the website below:

<http://san.org/Airport-Projects/Airport-Development-Plan>

Wilschetz was prepared to discuss the rental center plans, but spoke upon the Airport Development Land Use Plan, with the rental center as a component. A major issue is how to rebuild the runway and continue the operation of the airport. A road around the airport will connect the rental car center with the airport terminals, and connect to Laurel Street. The construction of the new airport rental car center will be completed in January; and the rental car center open for business several months later. The new rental car center will be in close proximity to the trolley station, and a shuttle will take people to and from the airport to the trolley station.

Construction of new parking garage in front of Terminal Two will begin next year. It will replace 1,400 parking spaces with a 3,000 parking spaces in the garage. The long-term plan is to replace the outside parking in front of Terminal One (now totaling 5,000 spaces) with 7,000 spaces in a parking garage. This will take place over a 25 year period. The terminal will be accommodating a 50% increase in the number of users over the next several decades.

**Potential Action Items:**

1. **3844 ALBATROSS STREET – Process Five – Hillcrest –** Public-Right-of- Way vacation and Site Development Permit to construct a 3,117 sq. ft., two story single family residence on a proposed 0.28 vacant lot at 3844 Albatross Street; the lot partially consists of land designed as potential open space.

Agenda item continued at the request of the applicant.

- 2. LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR REQUEST FOR SIXTH AVENUE TRAFFIC STUDY –**  
Request for letter of support for petition asking that the City of San Diego Traffic Engineering study ways to address excessive traffic speed and pedestrian safety issues along Sixth Avenue; between Elm Street and Laurel Street.

Ben Baltic made the presentation on behalf of Bruce Dammann. On Sixth Avenue automobiles travel at excessive speeds, and there are almost no crosswalks or stop signs. The speed limit is 25 mph, which is regularly exceeded. There have also been excessive accidents. Jim Frost indicated that various community groups have provided a series of recommendations to remedy the excessive speed on this area of Sixth Avenue, but all have been rejected by City Traffic Engineering.

The petition, signed by approximately 270 local residents, requests City Engineering to study the issue, and provide its recommendations that it would support that would remedy the excessive speed of traffic on Sixth Avenue, between Elm Street and Laurel Street.

Motion by Daniel, seconded by Hook: that Uptown Planners write a letter of support letter for the Sixth Avenue Traffic Study Petition, a copy of which should be attached. The letter should demand that City Traffic Engineering do the study requested in the petition, and that reasonable solutions should be provided as a result of the study should be provided Uptown Planners within 60 days.

### **III. Community/Board Reports: Potential Action Item:**

1. **ONE PASEO PROJECT** -- Request by Tom Mullaney that Uptown Planners consider passing a motion supporting the Carmel Valley Planning Group, and three adjacent community planning groups, in their objection to the City Council approving the One Paseo project despite all four community planning groups opposing the project.

Tom Mullaney explained the requested action, stating that the One Paseo project is considered by some the worst project the City Council has approved in the last 20–30 years; and was opposed by four local community planning groups impacted by the project, two neighboring cities, and the local school board. Other community planning groups throughout the city are considering its consequences to the community planning process.

John Ziebarth spoke on behalf of Protect San Diego Neighborhoods, which is leading a referendum drive against the One Paseo project, and recently turned in over 60,000 signatures seeking to overturn the One Paseo approval. The objection to the project is its size and scale, which is not appropriate for Carmel Valley. The Paseo One project was triple the size allowed by the current zoning, and would increase car traffic from about 6,400 vehicles trips to 28,000 vehicle trips per day. Height would be 50% currently allowed; and required creation of a special zone.

Janelle Riella, of Presidio Public Affairs, spoke on behalf of the Paseo One applicant. The applicant spent six years holding workshops in Carmel Valley and adjacent communities. In response to community feedback, the size of the project was lowered by 30%, and more than 10 acres of open space were incorporated into the project. A nine million dollar advanced technological traffic system installed as part of the project. The 600 added housing units provide by the project replace 500 proposed units that were not built. Riella stated most community planning groups have declined to take a position on the One Paseo project.

#### Public Comment

Sharon Gehl stated that Uptown Planners should not take a position on the project.

Rob ---, who resides on Vermont Street, recommended Uptown Planners remain neutral, as the request for support did not come from the Carmel Valley Planning Group, but instead for a private group opposing the project.

Paul Jamason indicated reservations about the project, because it was not in a transit corridor, although it could be considered an urban retrofit project. He opposed Uptown Planners taking a position as it was not an Uptown issue.

Rich Gorin also indicated that since the project was not in Uptown, the board should stay neutral.

Board Comment:

Mullaney proposed the board approve a letter similar to that provided by Protect San Diego Neighborhoods supporting by the Community Planners Committee, opposing the project.

Board members Tablang and Brennan spoke in favor of the board remaining neutral.

Hook spoke of the need for infill to provide sufficient housing for new population growth; and felt the City Council should make the decision.

Board member Bonn spoke in favor of approving the letter.

Fox supported taking a position because the community planning group's recommendations were blown off and ignored.

Dahl did not support taking a position on the project, but felt a position could be taken on the fact a community planning group was ignored, and what the role of community planning groups should be in the city

Jaworski supported taking a position; stating that it was a very bad precedent for the City Council to ignore a community plan.

Daniel also spoke against the process, which he said was dramatically flawed, when the City Council ignored the opposition to the project by four local planning groups and several cities.

Ward advocated staying neutral, stating that the community planning process worked, as the project was extensively discussed, and the City Council weighed both the pros and cons.

Wahlstrom stated his concern was whether the community planning process was being properly followed, and would offer an amended motion.

Pesqueira commented it appeared the local community planning group was being run over, like Uptown is being with the SANDAG bicycle plan.

Newington supported approving a motion expressly solidarity with the other community planning groups, while remaining neutral on the One Paseo project itself.

Motion by Wahlstrom to amend the motion proposed by Mullaney, by striking three paragraphs that dealt with issue related design of the One Paseo project, and substituting language expressing concern the City Council ignored the recommendations of four community planning committees, and several cities, impacted by the project, and that they should rescind the approval of the project. Mullaney accepted the amendments to the original motion.

Dahl indicated he could not vote for the motion since it included a recommendation rescinding the project; he would only support a motion that focused on the process, not the taking a position on

the project. Fox suggested to remove rescind, and substitute the word reconsider. Wahlstrom responded he did not want to remove the word rescind.

Ward made a substitute motion to state that Uptown Planners takes a position of neutrality on the One Paseo project. The motion was seconded by Hook. Jaworski, Wahlstrom and Mullaney spoke against the substitute motion; Hook spoke in favor of the substitute motion. Daniel called the question.

Motion by Ward, seconded by Hook, that Uptown Planners take a neutral position on the One Paseo project item was approved by a vote of 7-6-2; Voting in favor: Ward, Newington, Pesqueira, Dahl, Hook, Brennan, Tablang; Voting against: Wahlstrom, Daniel, Jaworski, Fox, Bonn, Mullaney; abstaining, Heiskala, non-voting Chair Mellos

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn passed at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

X  
X Secretary

Leo Wilson,  
Transcriber