



## Uptown Community Planning Group Meeting

April 4, 2023

### MINUTES, approved as amended on 5/2/23

In attendance: Susan Blackwell, Mary Brown, Mathew Brown, Christopher Cole, Patty Ducey-Brooks, Jason Frye, Juli Hyde, Don Liddell, Stuart McGraw, Mary McKenzie (arr. 6:15), Blake Peterson, Lu Rehling, Tony Silvia, Mat Wahlstrom, Jim Walsh, Clifford Weiler

Absent: Susan White

#### **I. Board Meeting: Parliamentary Items.**

##### A. Introductions/Roll Call/Seating of New Board Members

1. Call to order at 6:15pm.
2. Seating new board members: Don Liddell, Jim Walsh, Susan Blackwell, Jason Frye, Juli Hyde, Clifford Weiler, Blake Peterson.

##### B. Election of Officers

1. Motion by Mary Brown to nominate Mat Wahlstrom as Chair. Second by Patty Ducey-Brooks.  
Discussion: Clifford suggests the board vote no. Lu points out it's an agenda item thus appropriate. Jim Walsh asks if there are any other nominations.

Vote: In Favor: Susan Blackwell, Mary Brown, Chris Cole, Patty Brooks, Jason Frye, Juli Hyde, Don Liddell, Stu McGraw, Mary McKenzie, Lu Rehling, Tony Silvia, Jim Walsh. Opposed: Clifford Weiler. Abstained: Mat Wahlstrom. 12-1-1

2. Motion by Mat Wahlstrom to nominate Stuart McGraw as Vice Chair, Second by Mary Brown.

Vote: Unanimous in favor

3. Motion by Lu Rehling to nominate Mary McKenzie as Secretary, Second by Mat Wahlstrom.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

4. Motion by Patty Ducey-Brooks to nominate Mary Brown as Treasurer, Second by Chris Cole.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

(Matthew Brown in attendance.)

##### C. Adoption of Agenda and Rules of Order. Unanimous

(Blake Peterson in attendance.)

##### D. Appointment of Committee Chairs

1. Design Review: Patty Ducey-Brooks
2. Historic Resources: Patty Ducey-Brooks
3. Operations/Outreach: Lu Rehling



4. Public Facilities: Stuart McGraw

5. Ad Hoc Plan Hillcrest: Mat Wahlstrom

E. Approval of March 7th 2023 Board Meeting Minutes: Unanimous

F. Treasurer's Report. Mary Brown.

\$150.65 is our balance. June 15 is deadline for reimbursement. UP is allowed \$500 per year for expenses for operational purposes.

G. Balboa Park Committee Report.

Brer Marsh is the UP representative to the Balboa Park Committee even though he no longer serves on UP.

Parking will increase on Balboa Park at the expense of an activity trail.

H. Airport Noise Advisory Committee Report.

Chris Cole nothing to report.

I. Incumbent Chair's/CPC Report (COW training, Brown Act and Bylaws reminder, Calling the Question clarification).

New members need to take the COW training within 90 days (links provided on supplemental materials). There will also be a live version in June.

## **II. Non-agenda Public Comment**

This is an opportunity for members of the public to comment only on issues which are within the scope of Uptown Planners, but not on the agenda. Two minutes per person.

A. Tom Mullaney on the Hillcrest Plan Update. Argues the plan is unnecessary because current allowances exceed current growth.

B. Bill Keller. 600-24 does not require committee members to be members of the Board. Please allow non-Board members to serve on committees.

C. George Weidemar. When the new library was built, we were told there would be a median with trees to alleviate the problems caused by increased traffic on Washington. Mat suggests to share the info with Public Facilities.

D. Clifford Weiler. Bylaws need to be corrected.

E. Mat Wahlstrom. When are the new Bylaws shells coming forward from the City? (Shannon Mulderig: guidance at the end of the month)

F. Karen Ebner. Thank you to UP for the appeal of the Spruce Street project.

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

A. Councilmember Stephen Whitburn. Logan Braydis. Beautifying our streets, and also new evaluations about 4-way stops in Mission Hills.

Bridget Naso on safe sleeping locations (possibly Inspiration Point), and ordinance.

B. David Meir, UCSD Medical Center. Hillcrest.ucsd.edu. Sign up for our newsletters. "We might be getting even bigger."

#### **IV. Action Items**

A. Notice of Formal Complaints. Uptown Planners has received two unsigned evaluations of complaints of violations of the Brown Act and our Bylaws from the Planning Department in connection with the 1/25 Election Committee and 2/7 Regular Board meetings, as well as a separate Letter to Cure and Correct by Brer Marsh. Consideration of whether to place one or more of these matters on future agenda for discussion and response (if any).

Shannon Mulderig, Planning Department. Hopes that the UP can find a remedy without going so far as to involve the City Attorney. Two issues: The appointment of Mat Wahlstrom on February 7, when appointments are not permitted. Second, it wasn't an action item. However, one possible remedy might be to fill the seat in a special election or it could remain vacant until the next election. "We're willing to work with you."

Public Comments by Isaac Warner, Brer Marsh, Sharon Gehl.

1. Motion by Clifford Weiler to hold a Special Meeting, Second by Jim Walsh.

Provides documents to public.

Moves the UP hold a special meeting on April 6 or April 7 with the agenda to include at least: a special meeting; action item to respond to cure and correct letter; action item addressing other complaints re: the February 7 meeting.

2. Substitute Motion by Don Liddell. 1<sup>st</sup>, that we don't take any consideration of the Cure and Correct issue right now. And 2<sup>nd</sup>, that we call an immediate special election to fill the vacant seat. Substitute Motion not accepted by Weiler.

3. Substitute Motion by Lu Rehling that we decide tonight to hold an Emergency Special Meeting in closed session in the time period required (by April 7). Don Liddell seconds Lu's substitute motion. Substitute Motion Not Accepted by Weiler.

Tony: can we have a vote in closed session?

Mat: emergency meetings are meant for things like nuclear attack.

Weiler: Our bylaws allow special meetings. My proposal does not propose an answer to the question open for discussion.

Lu calls the question. No objections.

Vote on Clifford Weiler's motion: In Favor: Susan Blackwell, Mary Brown, Matthew Brown, Chris Cole, Patty Brooks, Jason Frye, Juli Hyde, Stu McGraw, Blake Peterson, Tony Silvia, Jim Walsh, Clifford Weiler. Opposed: Lu Rehling, Don Liddell, Mary McKenzie. Abstained: Mat Wahlstrom.

Passes 12-3-1

4. Motion to revise agenda by Mary Brown to permit a recess. Second by Juli Hyde. Recess from 8:15-8:25. Vote in favor: Unanimous

#### **B. Discussion Regarding Inspiration Point**

1. Bridget Naso, CM Whitburn's office.

This issue has two components. 1) An ordinance that disallows camping on public land if shelter is available. (proximity to schools, transit hubs, are issues to consider; 2) Locating safe sleeping sites.



One of the places under consideration is Inspiration Point in Balboa Park. The ordinance is coming this month, but the decision on location is likely to be made in the fall. Inspiration Point is one of several sites being considered.

## 2. Public Comment

- a. Kathy Hunyer: Supports the effort but the location is wrong.
- b. Nevo Magnezi: In support.
- c. Tom Mullaney: Wrong location.
- d. Michael Donovan: Shelters are not safe.
- e. Nancy Flores: The location is wrong citing student safety.

Lu Rehling: when will you be making your decision? Bridget Naso suggests the decision on safe sleeping sites will be in the fall. The Ordinance on camping on public lands will be sooner.

Lu Rehling moved that if it is decided to use Inspiration Point as the safe-sleeping site, we ask that CM Whitburn and the Council as a whole give the Uptown Planners at least 90 days notice, so that the public can weigh in and have its questions answered. Chris Cole seconds.

Don Liddell calls the question. Mat Wahlstrom objects. Six opposed to ending debate. Debate continues.

Mat Wahlstrom asks for a vote on Lu Rehling's motion. Unanimous in favor. Non-voting chair abstains.

C. Decision on Balboa Park Committee Representative. Review of Council Policy 600-24 and the qualifications for community planning group appointees to serve on this committee.

Lu Rehling, Operations & Outreach Committee Chair raises this issue.

A member of the Uptown Planners is supposed to be on the Balboa Park Committee. Brer Marsh's term on the committee was renewed February 28 for two years, even though he ended his term on UP in March.

Lu Rehling moves that UP advise CM Whitburn and the Mayor that Brer Marsh is no longer eligible to serve on the Balboa Park Committee as the representative of the Uptown Planners, even though his term was extended on February 28. Uptown Planners would like the opportunity to offer a candidate who is currently serving on the UP.

Second by Mary Brown. Vote in favor: 14-0-2. Don Liddell abstains because he believes the motion is unclear on the motion. Mat Wahlstrom, non-voting chair.

D. Determination Regarding Parking Changes. Stu McGraw, Public Facilities Committee Chair reports: The City of San Diego is proposing to convert the existing parallel parking spaces to angle parking (45 degrees) on the east side of the 300 block of Union St between W. Redwood St and W. Quince St. 78.4% of owners in favor.

Motion to approve: Mary Brown. Second: Chris Cole.

Clifford. Friendly amendment. Why aren't they looking at looking at west side of Union instead of east side? Friendly amendment: We are in favor if they look at the west side. (was not made as a friendly



amendment)

Lu friendly amendment: recommend that the city look on the west side.

In favor: Unanimous in favor, Non-voting chair abstains.

**V. Administrative Action Items.**

A. Ad Hoc Plan Hillcrest. Will not meet until later in 2023. Jason, Mat, Stu, Lu members

B. Further discussion tabled with the advice that committee chairs and interested committee members contact one another.

C. Next monthly meeting May 2

**VI. Adjournment, 10:00 p.m.**

Submitted by Mary M. McKenzie, Secretary