

UPTOWN PLANNERS

Uptown Community Planning Group Meeting

April 2, 2019

DRAFT MINUTES

Call to order by Michael Brennan at 6:06pm

In attendance: Amie Hayes, Bob Daniel, Brer Marsh, Clint Daniels, Dennis Seisun, Gail Friedt, Matthew Medeiros, Michael Brennan, Roy Dahl, Stephen Cline, Tim Gahagan, Zach Bunshaft.

Late Arrivals: William Smith arrived at 6:48pm, Bill Elig arrived 6:51pm, Stu McGraw arrived at 7:06pm.

Also in attendance: City of San Diego Planner, Michael Prinz.

Absent: Soheil Nakhshab & Tom Mullaney.

I. Board Meeting: Parliamentary Items/Reports:

A. Introductions

B. Election of Officers (Not all names of votes were taken)

Chair: Bob nominated Soheil, Amie 2nd, vote count (10/0/2) Michael abstained, + 1 other.

Vice Chair: Motion to nominate Michael by Clint, Stephen 2nd, vote count (8 in favor)

Motion to nominate Tom by Dennis, Roy 2nd (3 in favor) Amie, Dennis and Roy

Michael was named Vice-Chair by virtue of more votes in his favor.

Secretary: motion to self nominate by Zach, Roy 2nd, vote count (11/0/1) Michael abstained

Treasurer: motion to nominate Roy by Michael, Dennis 2nd, (11/0/1) Michael abstained

Time-Keeper and Interim Website Manager: Clint self nominated, approved by acclamation.

C. Adoption of Agenda and Rules of Order: Amie requested to put the letter of support for the 2019 San Diego LGBT Pride Parade on the consent agenda, motion to approve with that change by Bob, Matthew 2nd, vote count (11/0/1) Michael abstained.

D. Appointment of Subcommittee Chairs, and Subcommittee Membership

Amy asked for a point of clarification on whether subcommittee membership had to be assigned.

Discussion over membership on individual committees moved to the next meeting by Michael.

Historic Resources: (motion to self nominate by Amie, Dennis 2nd, (9/x/3) Michael & Amie abstained, +1 one other.

Design Review: (motion to self nominate by Brer, Stephen 2nd, vote count (10/x/2) Michael abstained, +1 other.

Public Facilities: (motion to self nominate by Clint, Matthew 2nd, vote count (10/x/ 2) Clint abstained, Michael abstained.

E. Board Procedures including Agenda Dissemination, Website, Use of Social Media, and other Policies (motion by Gail to self nominate for chair of new ad hoc sub-committee, Zach 2nd, vote count 11 / x / 1) Michael abstained.

F. Approval of Minutes: In preparation - will be presented for a vote at the next meeting.

G. Treasurer's Report

Prior to election there was \$150.65 in the bank. The election cost \$101.82 and current is \$48.83. The City will reimburse after Roy submits a report with Vice-Chair's signature. If Michael's signature is not approved then it will be re-submitted with Soheil's signature after the next meeting.

H. Chair/CPC Report (none)

II. Public Communication: Non-Agenda Public Comment (3 minutes); Speakers are encouraged, but not required, to fill out a public comment form, and provide them to the Secretary at the beginning of the meeting.

Rene Smith encouraged community to attend the Park Master Plan Update - Visioning 2nd Phase Workshop Open House, on April 23rd from 4-8pm at the Balboa Park Club. Michelle Diaz Agha, Mo Rosenberg, Michael D'Amelio working on a new project in the 160 Thorn that will need our approval on the street corner 2nd and Thorne - husband, Maxwell will be at the next meeting.

Michelle Diaz-Agha introduced herself, Mo Rosenberg and Michael D'Amelio to discuss the redevelopment of a new project that would need an adjustment in the community plan at 160 Thorn St., corner of 2nd and Thorn in Banker's Hill. Michelle's husband Maxwell Agha could not attend but will be at the next meeting.

Ian Epley congratulated the new board, mentioned that name-tags could use community titles, and urged for increased outreach and transparency.

Mat Wahlstrom took offense to the accusations of a lack of transparency, claiming every set of minutes and agendas were posted on time per the Brown Act. He urged for new committee members to study the Brown Act and avoid serial communications.

Carol Emerick claimed she never received the agenda in her email. Others echoed this sentiment. Michael Prinz with the City said he would follow up to check. Carol also requested an update on the Maple Canyon restoration. Michael Brennan will inform Soheil that this was requested and Michael Prinz will check with City staff for updates.

Dennis Seisun wants to thank all outgoing members, in particular Leo for his professionalism.

Bob Daniel stated that all new members must take the training presentation online or in the beginning of May in person. Michael Prinz sent all new members the relevant info.

Clint Daniels wanted the community to be aware that Rescue Hillcrest has posted his family's home address and other personal information online, making him and his family feel less secure in the neighborhood. He reminded the community that this a volunteer board of concerned neighbors.

III. Representatives of Elected Officials:

Jawad Al Baghdadi with Rep. Susan A. Davis passed around the Davis Dispatch newsletter and informed the community about the upcoming Congressional High School Art Competition.

Office of Rep. Susan A. Davis Tel: (619) 280-5353

Javier Gomez with Assemblyman Todd Gloria informed that he will be replacing Nick Serrano in Asm. Todd Gloria's office as the field representative for the Uptown area. Informed the community about their

upcoming Easter Basket Drive on April 17th at InsideOut from 6-7pm. Also Informed of a \$5,000 scholarship opportunity through the Assembly Latino Caucus.

Office of Assemblyman Todd Gloria Tel: (619) 645-3090

Ty Birch with Councilmember Chris Ward's office did not have any specific updates about the Uptown Promenade. Clint asked for more info on the painted crosswalk. Ty did not have any news as of now, but will update at the next meeting. Bob asked for info about the extension of a quiet zone.

Office of Councilmember Chris Ward Tel: (619) 236-6633

Jon Ly with Mayor Kevin Faulconer's office discussed potholes being worked on after recent rains. He said rain also affected the completion of the 30th street pipeline, but the project continues. Clint mentioned that Sidewalks need fixing as well and Ian Epley recommended overlay instead of slurry. Jon clarified that overlay is every 8 years, slurry 2-3 years.

Office of Mayor Kevin Faulconer Tel: (619) 236-6330

William Smith arrived at 6:48pm.

Bill Elig arrived 6:51pm.

IV. Consent Agenda:

Letters of Support for Special Events: Action Item:

1. **LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR SAN DIEGO 2019 LGBT PRIDE PARADE – Hillcrest & Bankers Hill/Park West** – Event will take place on July 12th through July 14th; with the parade taking place on July 13th in Hillcrest, and two-day festival taking place in Balboa Park on July 13 and July 14th.

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Roy, Matthew 2nd, 13/x/1, Michael abstained.

V. Planning: Action Item:

1. **OLIVE STREET PARK CIP2/SDP (“WOODS/MCKEE PARK”) -- Process T3: Public Project – Bankers Hill/Park West** – Process CIP2 Site Development Permit for a new 0.69 acre neighborhood park with open turf area, children playground area, adult fitness area, rain and storm drain retention. The project contains environmentally sensitive lands for steep hillsides, and is designated OP-1 base zone.

Joseph Gutierrez with KTU&A presented the updated design for the 3rd and Olive Street Pocket Park in Bankers Hill, adjacent from Maple Canyon. February 22nd, 2018 was when designers from KTU&A last presented. At this meeting, the Uptown Planners voted to approve a community based vision plan over the KTU&A design. The designers at KTU&A took the community feedback and incorporated the requested changes into an updated design.

Stu McGraw arrived at 7:06pm.

Public Comment:

Amie Hayes asked about the regional AIDS memorial lacking from the presentation. Kevin Oliver with the City Public Works Department, clarified that the action being brought forward is part of the environmental review process for a site development permit. The AIDS memorial is not part of the environmental review

process and that determination will be made by the Park and Recreation Board. Amie mentioned that the Regional AIDS Memorial was not included in the plan approved on in February 22nd and that she believes the City may be attempting to circumvent the Uptown Planners approval for the Memorial.

Rod Wright asked Kevin Oliver if this is public money going to a private project. He believes the budget spent on this type of park is \$~3.25 million and the total that will be spent for this particular .69 acre park will be about \$6 million. He supports an AIDS memorial park, but not at this pocket park and finds this process deceptive. Mr. Oliver clarified that \$1.25 million has been spent to date and that the project total estimated cost will be \$3.37 million with additional funds included for staff time.

Gretchen Eicher with the City of SD, clarified that the Site Development Permit is needed because of the impact on the steep hill.

Lou Railing requested a shaded area for kids near the playground and asked whether there will be signage showing access to the Maple Canyon trails.

Ian Epley voiced concerns about the maintenance of the park and whether that is included in the overall funding formula.

Peter Raymond spoke in favor of the park with an AIDS memorial. He claimed that a future Banker's Hill MAD could possibly incorporate upkeep.

Patrick Santana spoke in favor of it as as a necessary public amenity.

Seamus Garland asked if the presentation would be put online.

Jennifer Haso informed the Board that she has filed a lawsuit claiming that part of the land with the deck is not owned by the City.

Amy asked if the AIDS Memorial Task Force would weigh in. Nobody did.

Public comment ended.

Board Comment:

Bill Smith understands the community concern, but thinks if the lawsuit has merit then it will work itself out. Believes Promenade may be a better site for the AIDS memorial. Regardless, Bill will vote in favor.

Clint Daniels was opposed to the fact that the Board was given information about this decision at 2pm on the day of the vote. Clint understands the AIDS memorial is not our decision to make and will be supporting this plan based on design alone.

Bob Daniel believes we should table it and come back next month based on a lack of information about the lawsuit.

Dennis wants to know what percentage is planned to be spent on the overlook - believes we should keep it simple. Dennis does not believe he will support the design.

Roy does not believe the lawsuit weighs on tonight's decision. Roy does not have a problem with having an AIDS memorial at the park claiming it will not be a "regional" memorial because it is in a pocket park.

Michael echoed Roy's sentiments. Hopes we can find a way to yes. He will vote in favor.

Stu asked when the lawsuit was filed. Stu will vote in favor.

Zach asked Amy if she had any opposition based on environmental concerns and then asked Gretchen from the City whether she was concerned about the impact of the deck (no significant impact). Zach also requested bike parking be included. He will vote in favor.

Stephen asked if there would be lighting along the back of the overhang deck. He echoed Clint's sentiments that we should have more time to review documents in the future. He agreed with the need for a shaded area and bike parking. Stephen will vote in favor.

Brer asked how this plan is different from the one originally presented to the community. Brer asked about endangered species or any sort of habitat damage - there is none that the City is aware of.

Matthew Medeiros believes the park fits community needs and that we should leave legal matters to the courts. He asked the City if there were any erosion concerns and there were none.

Gail asked requested an area designated for dogs, e-bikes, scooters. She will vote in favor.

Tim was concerned about neighborhood impacts of large gatherings. Tim believes that the new board members cannot make a well informed decision without full background on the history of the project and training from the City. He believes we should table the vote.

Bill believes that this is a pocket park and that brings its own limitations. Believes that a memorial is unsustainable and City is going around our approval. He echoed that he believes that new board members are not prepared to make this difficult decision.

Amie believes it is not fair that the City is attempting to put a community cultural facility in a pocket park, not in a community park like the City general plan states. She believes that under CEQA, the City should not be able to split the project as she believes they have.

Board Motions:

Amie motions to table the vote, Tim 2nd, Matthew asked if we could pass with the design with the exception of the AIDS memorial becoming a "regional" AIDS memorial.

Clint made the motion to approve the site permit with the recommendation that the City come back to the Planners for discussion of AIDS memorial, Stephen 2nd. Discussion continued...

Bill Elig urged that it would not come back to the Board for a vote.

Clint withdrew his motion.

Amie moved to table the vote, Tim 2nd. Discussion continued...

Amy removed her motion understanding from Roy that KTU&A would not need to come back for our recommendation.

Bob moved to approve the park design as presented based on design, William 2nd.

Bill Ellig offered an amendment to the motion that the Board would not approve the design if it contained a "regional" AIDS memorial in the future.

Bob accepted the amendment. Tim 2nd. Discussion led to calling a vote for both.

Clint called a vote on the original motion by Bob, Bill 2nd. Motion carried (10/3/2) Amie, Tim, Bill opposed, Seisun and Michael abstained.

Bill moved to pass a resolution that the Board does not believe a "regional" AIDS memorial should be accepted in a pocket park, Roy 2nd. Motion failed (5/6/4) Dennis, Roy, Tim, Bill, Amie voted in favor. Brer, Gail, William, Stephen, Bob, Zach opposed. Clint abstained generally, Matthew abstained believing permits would be necessary for any large event, Stu abstained because he has not heard from the AIDS memorial task force, Michael abstained as acting chair.

Kevin Oliver with the City urged that anyone with additional interest regarding the AIDS memorial may reach out to the City Park and Rec. Department.

VI. Projects: Action Item:

1. **AT&T T-MOBILE-COLUMBIA STREET – Process 4 – Middletown** – Conditional Use Permit application for an existing Wireless Communication Facility (WCF) consisting of six panel antennas and nine remote radio units behind existing decorative screens on the building located at 3217 Columbia Street. Existing equipment is located on the rooftop. The site is zoned RM-2-5

No AT&T representative was present. Board will re-request attendance and table to next meeting.

Adjournment: (8:13pm)