



UPTOWN COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

MINUTES-FINAL (approved August 1)

In attendance: Stu McGraw, Acting Chair; Patty Ducey Brooks, Mary Brown, Chris Cole, Juli Hyde, Don Liddell, Mary M. McKenzie, Blake Peterson, Lu Rehling, Jim Walsh, Clifford Weiler, Susan White.

Absent: Susan Blackwell, Mathew Brown, Tony Silvia

I. Board Meeting: Parliamentary Items

a. Introductions/Roll Call. 6: 10 pm.

b. Election of Officers: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer.

Because of the changes resulting from the April 21 meeting (the vacancy of Mat Wahlstrom's seat), new officers should be elected. Elected officers: Stu McGraw, Chair; Patty Ducey Brooks, Vice Chair; Mary M. McKenzie, Secretary; Mary Brown, Treasurer. All officers were approved, unopposed.

c. Adoption of Agenda and Rules of Order.

d. Approval of Meeting Minutes. April 4 minutes approved as amended. Chris moves to approve as amended. Juli Hyde, 2nd. Clifford abstains because he hasn't had time to review. Vote: 9-0-2.

e. Treasurer's Report. Began the month with \$150.65 in the bank. Mary B. issued a check to Mary M to reimburse for election expenses, leaving \$21.74 in the bank account. Mary B. will be submitting a request for reimbursement.

Lu Rehling, Operations & Outreach, brings up the process necessary to get reimbursed from the City (up to \$500 annually). We have this meeting and the next to decide what we need to submit the reimbursement by June 15. What the O&O needs is to renew our siteground hosting license (Wordpress) for the website. Lu could use help on the website. Then discussion shifted to what would be needed to go hybrid. Stu asks whether the discussion should go to committee and then come back and report. Chris Cole suggested that the remaining funds be dedicated to the website. Patty agrees.

Motion: Lu Rehling moves that we authorize the O&O Committee to decide what expenses to incur before June 15 related to website issues and/or hybrid meetings. Chris Cole, 2nd.

Unanimous, in favor; Chair abstaining. 11-0-1

f. Balboa Park Committee Report. No report.

g. Airport Noise Advisory Committee Report. Chris Cole. Nothing to report.

h. Acting Chair's/CPC Report (Housing Package 2.0/SB10, Mobility Master Plan; stop sign).

Clifford hopes that in future letters we receive from City official contain facts, not just their conclusions. How did the "stop sign" meet the criteria? Not explained.

Mary Brown. Frustrating that one person can affect the whole community in that way.

II. Non-agenda Public Comment.

1. Jim Walsh was nominated by Mary McKenzie to serve as time keeper; 2nd by Susan White. Unanimous in favor, with Chair abstaining.
2. Tom Mullaney. SB 10. Opposes SB 10. It is a “massive upzoning” with no citizen input. I believe this needs to be on the agenda. Lu: point of order that Tom spoke longer than allowed. Bad precedent.
3. Lu Rehling explains why she always votes against “call the question.” Someone is not being allowed to speak, and that goes against the spirit of consensual decision making.
4. Mary McKenzie has a teaching moment: explains the difference between “to move” and a “motion.”
5. Clifford Weiler. If the Senate approves SB10, it is irreversible. Patty believes SB10 should be added to agenda.
6. Stu McGraw. I thought “call the question” was Chair’s discretion. Not the case.

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

1. Logan Braydis, representative for CM Stephen Whitburn. They brought the “unsafe camping ordinance” to the Land Use and Housing Committee where it passed. The Ordinance will be coming to full Council in early June. Also in early June, the Council will consider the historic designation of the (old) Mission Hills Library. No unpermitted camping on public lands. He has received public comment about new developments in Mission Hills (esp. 901 W. Washington and the little red house) and believes in the need for more public input. Chris Cole, Juli Hyde, Lu Rehling, Patty Ducey Brooks speak to a perceived unresponsiveness of CM Whitburn and on several issues, voting against the interests of his constituents in D3.

IV. Action Items.

1. 46th Annual America's Finest City Half Marathon. Uptown/Downtown/Peninsula. Request for Letter of Support. Ellen Larson, In Motion Events. 2022 Letter, Map. In favor: Mary McKenzie moves to send a letter of support, 2nd Chris Cole. Unanimous in favor. Chair abstaining.
2. Appointment of Balboa Park Committee Representative. Consider current Uptown Planners board member candidates and select one for this position. Letter of 4/19 to Mayor and CM Whitburn that we would like the chance to nominate someone who currently serves on the Uptown Planners since Brer Marsh no longer serves on UP. The action item is to select someone from this Board to serve on the Balboa Park Committee to represent UP. Lu Rehling nominates Mary McKenzie. 2nd Juli Hyde. Don Liddell self-nominates. 2nd by Mary Brown. Clifford Weiler. Whoever wins needs a majority vote. Has to be an open vote. Susan White asked for a statement from each candidate.

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a. Mary McKenzie, Statement. Lots of work to be done in the Park. Will be diligent in seeking input from UP. There are huge needs in the Park for deferred maintenance. There is a huge commitment on the part of many people, but sometimes the Mayor/City falls short on the Park.

b. Don Liddell, Statement. When he served on the Planners years ago, he was appointed to serve on the BP Committee. Served 12 years.

Vote in favor: Mary McKenzie: 8

Don Liddell: 1 (Chris Cole)

Abstentions: Stu McGraw, non-voting Chair; Mary McKenzie, not voting for self

No Vote: Don Liddell

3. Discussion Regarding Inspiration Point. City staff has proposed the parking lot at this location as suitable for a safe camping site for the unhoused.

Public Comment:

Tom Mullaney, quotes David Lundin's piece in which he wrote that using inspiration point would be illegal and unwise.

Board Comment:

Juli Hyde. Park needs to be welcoming and safe for our visitors from all over the world. Cannot support the use of the Park for a site for the unhoused.

Susan White: Echoes Juli Hyde. Especially given the "closing" of Park Blvd. It's not going to be an inspiration at the point.

Chris Cole: Even before the shutdown of Park Blvd, this was an important place for visitors to park.

Lu Rehling: We need the shelter, we need a development like this. But Inspiration Point should be the last on the list. Because it is illegal, there needs to be a firm deadline for this "emergency use." Last, we need the first part first: ensure that there are no other encampments.

(Don Liddell left the meeting. 8:10)

Clifford Weiler: Numbers of visitors will decrease; museums will suffer. Long-term consequences will not be good.

Logan Braydis thanks the UP and will report to CM Whitburn's office. Will be decided within the next two weeks.

Juli Hyde expresses concern about lack of opportunity for community input.

Motion:

Chris Cole: *Based upon all of the information received by Uptown Planners to date, we do not recommend Inspiration Point as one of the sites for a safe camping site for the unhoused.* 2nd Juli Hyde.

Friendly Amendment:

Lu Rehling: Based on having insufficient information to date, because we don't have information, and maybe we'll still get information. So we shouldn't oppose it. No Second.

Clifford Weiler: As a friendly amendment, add toward the end: Based on probable short-term and long-term consequences. 2nd by Juli Hyde.

Lu Rehling: keep it simple to make it clear that we don't have enough information.



Juli Hyde: suggests to use “support” instead of “recommend.” Get rid of “all.”

Chris Cole: Does not accept “support.” Chris does not accept Clifford’s amendment.

Vote in favor: Unanimous, with non-voting Chair abstaining.

Clifford notes this should be put on next month’s meeting.

Chris asks that SB10 be on next month’s agenda. We need to get the word out.

(Mary Brown left the meeting, 8:40).

V. Administrative Action Items

Appoint committee members, set dates for May meetings.

1. Ad Hoc Election. Mary McKenzie, Chair. Members: Juli Hyde, Jim Walsh, Chris Cole. Ad Hoc committees are not subject to the Brown Act. First meeting set for May 10.
2. Ad Hoc Plan Hillcrest. Will not meet until later in the calendar year. Stu will Chair.
3. Design Review. Patty Ducey-Brooks, Chair. Mary Brown, Chris Cole, Lu Rehling.
4. Historic Resources. Patty Ducey-Brooks, Chair. Lu Rehling, Juli Hyde, Mary Brown, Chris Cole, Susan White.
5. Operations & Outreach. Lu Rehling, Chair; Mary McKenzie, Don Liddell, Clifford Weiler Jim Walsh.
Committee will need to reevaluate bylaws, to meet requirements of newly-reformed CP 600-24.
6. Public Facilities. Stu McGraw, Chair. CIP List (Capital Improvement Projects list will come up this year.) Juli Hyde, Susan White, Jim Walsh.

VI. Confirmation of next monthly meeting. June 6, 2023. Joyce Beers Community Center.

IX. Adjournment. 9:00PM