

MAY 2005

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Editors: Lauri Barwick and
Nina Macdonald

HRB MEETING MINUTES - April 4, 2005

Present: Aileen Anderson, Jeffrey Beckwith, Brian Cummings, Komal Dewan, Rachel Gamby, Wayne Sandholtz, Alan Terricciano, Andrew Herndon, Ron Reid

Monthly Operations Report, ICHA Management

Community Development

Swings, teeter-totter and the sand play area as well as the new multi-component play structure at Gabrielino Community Park is complete. The freestanding Fun Jeep and Trolley are anticipated on site the week of April 4th. Resurfacing of the concrete area will be coordinated with the refurbishments of the Basketball and Tennis courts later in the month of April. Management continues to encounter coordination / scheduling difficulties with the construction of the bounce wall addition. The Slam Dunk B-Ball standard has been relocated. The Dog Run and landscape aspects of the park will follow, contingent on the Campus completion of the California Avenue improvements.

The Gabrielino Pool is under repair by Brookfield and is anticipated to be out of commission through the month of April.

Southern Radial Planting Plans are available for resident review by appointment. Andrew Herndon met with several interested owners and has agreed to accommodate their requests, which are generally minor in nature.

Community Maintenance

On going and completed Community improvements and repair work

Work in Progress:

Tree Pruning for many common areas is underway. It is estimated that work will continue through the month of April.

All missing components for the new Soccer Goals have arrived for the Gabrielino Field. Dismantling of the old and assembling the new should occur over the next two weeks.

Repairs to the Los Trancos Sewer manhole (sink / depression) are anticipated to begin 4/6/05.

Work Completed:

Pool One fence installation is 100% complete.

Police records continue to note no significant disturbances at the Garden Park.

The P&TS pedestrian flasher installation at East Peltason and Engineering Quad is in and operational. The Department is considering reinstalling the crossing flags, as the flashers are not very visible during bright sunny weather.

Architectural Review

Sixteen new Area 8 landscaping and hardscape applications were received this past month for homes on Frost, Fuertes, Murasaki, and Twain.

- One painting application has been received for a home on Russell (HRB Review Requested)
- One tiling of a porch and entry access on Harvey (HRB Review Requested)
- One Town home Skylight addition on Newton

- Two residences on McClintock and Bartok have not submitted improvement plans for their properties. Multiple correspondences have been sent requesting plan submittal and clean up. The HRB may consider a hearing to deal directly with the property owners.
- Requests for tree removals were addressed last month and management noted that all trees are healthy and structurally sound, and would be addressed with the current pruning operation. An additional ISA Certified Arborist would be requested to view the condition of the tree at the time they were being pruned.

HRB Committee Reports

Parking, Transportation and CEP - Aileen Anderson

There was no meeting with CEP during the past month.

As discussed at the previous HRB meeting, construction on the CalIT parking garage is proceeding on the weekends in order to attempt to complete construction on time and prevent UCI from incurring additional costs.

Solar powered flashing lights were installed when weather finally permitted. Jeff and I have had no communication from P&T about whether they view this as a success for pedestrians. Similarly, I have seen no comments on the listserv or in other venues from UH residents.

Meeting/discussion with phase 8 residents re: their concerns for a traffic study have been postponed again this month, due to the immediately pressing concerns imposed by the community center.

The Community Center - Rachel Gamby

The Community Center Committee (CCC) met immediately after the 3/1/05 HRB meeting. Michele Walot stepped down as CCC chair. Lurette Forrest will be the new chair of the CCC. The CCC drafted a letter to the ICHA Board protesting ICHA's refusal to facilitate the community mailing to advertise ICHA's March 16 Town Hall meeting, outlining our concerns with the current design, and requesting a timeline with clear parameters for community input as the design process continues. The letter was electronically forwarded to the ICHA Board on Friday 3/4/05 and copies (signed by 6 of 7 HRB members and 6 of 9 CCC members) were delivered to the ICHA Board meeting on Tuesday 3/8/05.

The HRB and CCC met again 3/9/05 to hear the ICHA Board's response to our letter. No written response was received to this letter. On 3/8/05 the ICHA Board had approved the mailing, but the HRB/CCC agreed that sending the letter at such a late date would not provide enough advance warning to justify the cost. It was decided that the letter should be put in the April Newsletter instead. The ICHA Board had asked that Andrew Herndon would work with the HRB/CCC on the finalization of the community survey. After having one meeting with Andrew, ICHA subsequently declined to participate in the process to finalize the survey. The survey and pdfs of the plans were posted on the U Hills web site on 3/31/04.

ICHA provided a pdf of ICHA's Town Hall Meeting presentation to post on the U Hills web site. The HRB/CCC requested corrections and suggested that the U Hills web site link to it on the ICHA web site.

Dog Park - Brian Cummings

Planning has been completed by ICHA and Andrew Herndon will share these plans with Brian Cummings in the next week. Layout of walkways and general shape will begin in the next few months, but the park cannot be completed until construction of the new California Ave. is completed (mid-summer?).

Parks - Komal Dewan

The Parks Committee met on March 28th. Playground equipment choices from various vendors were discussed. The committee chair is going to meet with the Kompan representative to get preliminary cost estimates. The preliminary plan will be prepared with detailed measurements and costs.

The new playground is being enthusiastically used. The jeep and cable car should be installed by the middle of April.

An ice cream truck has been requested for the official opening of the playground at a date to be determined.

Pools - Wayne Sandholtz

ICHA management reported that the pool-heating budget was still about \$2,500 in the red through February. In order to help close the budget gap, management proposed not heating the Jacuzzis at the Upper and Gabrielino Pools on weekends during the spring break period. The Upper and Gabrielino Pools and Jacuzzis would be heated starting May 27th (Memorial Day weekend). The pool committee was overwhelmingly supportive of the change, which has gone into effect. Ron will post a notice of the change on the UHills announcements listserv.

Members of the Pool Committee made a number of additional suggestions:

1. Shutting off the Jacuzzi heaters at 8 pm instead of 10 pm might also save money.
2. One member thought the Lower Pool was too cold to swim in. What is its temperature in the winter? ICHA management said 76 – 78 degrees.
3. Some residents in Phase VIII mentioned to one committee member that having the upper Jacuzzis off was more inconvenient for them because they live a greater distance from the Lower Pool.
4. One member suggested solar heating for the pools. Andrew Herndon said he is working with some faculty to investigate solar heating for the Gabrielino pool.
5. One member suggested having a page on the UHills web site with the current heating schedules for all of the pools. HRB agreed to implement this.

HRB/ICHA RELATIONS

Rich Haier, ICHA Board Chair, joined the meeting to provide some background on ICHA's and the HRB's roles in University Hills' governance for the benefit of the HRB members whom he had not previously met. A short discussion of the HRB/CCC's community survey concerning the Community Building followed. More detailed minutes of the meeting with Rich Haier will be posted in the online version of the newsletter.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

---Respectfully submitted, Jeffrey Beckwith, HRB

COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

A total of 332 responses to the survey were submitted. (Total responses to each question are in parentheses)

- 50% approve of Community Center, 29% disagree, 21% Neutral (304)
- 75% Consider a "green" building important (296)
- 67% Do not think the Great Room will be used regularly (289)
- 66% Agree the Great Room will be used more if it is capable of being divided into two spaces (281)
- 91% Think they will have events for less than 50 people
- 61% Do not want a dues increase to furnish the building (272)
- 58% Are willing to pay a dues increase of \$5 per month (120)
- 62% Are opposed to a one time assessment to furnish the building (262)
- 89% Agree that reservation priority should be given to University Hills groups (251)
- 73% Agree that outside groups use should be approved by the HRB (243)
- 88% Agree a fee should be paid for private use of the great room or multiple rooms (248).
- 18% like the design of the building (283).

For the entire results of the survey, please see the posting on the UHills website www.uhills.org. To engage with your fellow community members, we encourage you to join the listserv at the same time if you are not currently subscribing.

---Community Center Committee

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

[Editor's Note: The following letter was sent to the ICHA Board Members and a copy was forwarded to us for publication in this month's Newsletter]

6 April 2005

Dear ICHA Board Members:

University Hills residents have long wanted a community room; the architectural plans presented by ICHA at the March 16 community meeting were those for a conference center. How did this disconnect happen? Unfortunately, we were out of town for the March 16 town meeting when the ICHA/Community Center plans were unveiled. Had we been there, we certainly would have raised questions discussed here. From what we can gather much of the decision process underlying the proposal is quite opaque; additionally, it is disturbing that community members have not been presented with any cost estimates for construction and furnishings for this structure.

The combined conference center/ICHA complex is slightly over 12,000 sq. ft. Of this, 4,400 sq. ft. is dedicated conference space, including: an auditorium with stadium seating, a great room suitable for serving 120 people at a sit-down meal, and eight additional break-out meeting rooms. No doubt, an onsite staff will be required. An additional 2,000 sq. ft. of space consists of a kitchen, restrooms, a sizeable entry lobby, and stairway, elevator to ICHA offices on the second floor. To support this facility, parking for 132 cars is proposed.

The largest structure in University Hills is the Tierney University House. When residents objected to the initial University House plan, once they realized it was really intended to be a major meeting facility more-or-less attached to the residence, they argued correctly that a conference center was unsuitable for a residential neighborhood. Among other things, the resulting traffic would be offensive. Consequently, University House was redesigned to be a space used only for Chancellor-hosted events and the parking lot was scaled down to accommodate 42 or so cars.

It appears that, once again, such a major meeting facility, to be passed off as the community center, is being imposed on University Hills. And once again it is an offensive idea for exactly the same reasons: it is located in the center of a purely residential community and it would create undo traffic and noise burdens on us, its neighbors. Who among the faculty living here will be hosting conferences requiring several large rooms or sit-down social events for 120+ people? Such functions are much better carried out at the UCI club, the Beckman Center, or at one of the local hotels. Most residents want a community room with a modest kitchen for smaller groups, such as children's birthday parties or scout meetings, not for major social or professional events.

We believe that the scope and footprint of University House should be the outside limit for any structure built within University Hills: a combined community room/ICHA office complex no larger than 8,000 sq. ft. and a parking lot downsized to accommodate no more than 42 cars. There is no good reason to inflict a residential neighborhood with a major venue to be used for conferences and large scale social events that require parking for 132 cars. It is also disturbing that such a facility would be situated next to playing fields used by our children. Appropriate facilities for a community—not a conference—center would include a flexible conference room that could seat at most 15 to 20 people, a multipurpose room about the size of the University Club library (which the architect described as being half the size of the proposed 1,764 sq. ft. great room), a small kitchen, and rest rooms. The building should be constructed to the highest earthquake safety standards so that it could serve as a meeting place and first aid station in a disaster.

Another aspect of this project that currently is most opaque to the residents, if not to ICHA, is just how it will be financed. Clearly, as envisaged, it is a multi-million dollar project—just how many millions no one seems willing to estimate. There was vague mention of an unspecified “assessment”. But no one seems to know, or is willing to say, how large that will be, but rough calculations are easy. For each \$1,000,000 that has to be covered by the somewhat less than 1,000 households of U Hills, the mean assessment is over \$1,000 per household. Given the range of home prices, we suspect that the assessment will vary from \$500 to \$3,000. If the building and furnishings, which costs are non-trivial, runs to \$3,000,000 for the residents to assume, that means each household is responsible from \$1,500 to \$9,000. Presumably this will be handled by some sort of building loan, which typically means a payout of something like \$3,000 to \$18,000. How many of us think our use of it warrants such familial expenditures?

It is unfortunate that ICHA has proceeded to develop elaborate plans without significant input from the community. The ICHA management should address unambiguously residents' concerns and present plans for a structure that is more

appropriate for our community. We look forward to your prompt response.

---Sincerely yours, R. Duncan Luce, Carolyn A. Scheer

PLAYGROUND NEWS

To celebrate the installation of the new playground equipment at the Gabrielino Park, the HRB approved funds for the "Gabrielino Playground Ice Cream Party", which will be held on Sunday, May 15, from 2 to 4 pm. Please come and enjoy some free ice cream, balloons, bubbles, and face painting! In addition, a larger celebration will be forthcoming when the rest of the Gabrielino Park improvements, including the new dog park, are finished.

Please consider joining the Playground Subcommittee for some important work we are currently undertaking. The playgrounds at the Lower Pool and Upper Pool are badly in need of renovation, which we are in the midst of planning. New state regulations mandate that all swings be well separated from climbing structures. Thus if we include swings where they currently exist we may be severely limited in amount of other equipment we can include. Another new regulation prohibits using sand in the fall zones of swings and climbing structures. So there are some critical trade-offs to consider and important decisions to be made. If you're a fan of either of these playgrounds and want your favorite equipment to remain available then you should join us for the critical planning process. We're a very friendly group of people, we relish new ideas, and we strive for short, concise and infrequent meetings. (Meeting times are typically on Thursdays at 8pm.) Please email me your name, email address and phone number to join the group.

In addition, there has been a suggestion that as a replacement for the log fort that was originally built at the Vista Bonita playground, we get together as a community and build a replica of a Gabrielino Indian reed hut. A local expert, who is a descendant of the Gabrielino tribe and has done similar projects before, can help us with the construction. We might be able to obtain reeds from the San Joaquin Marsh Reserve at little or no cost. However we need someone from the community to step forth and spearhead the effort. Contact me if you are interested.

---Tammy Smecker-Hane, Parks Committee Chair, tsmecker@uci.edu

VISITOR NIGHT AT THE UCI OBSERVATORY

The next public Visitor Night at the UCI Observatory will be **Friday, May 6, from 8 – 10 p.m.** **Postponed to May 13th.** Come and see Saturn, Jupiter, star clusters and nebulae with our telescopes, learn to locate your favorite constellations, tour the Observatory dome and listen to a lecture about the Solar System. Visitor Nights are fun for the entire family -- children, teens, parents and grandparents -- but remember to dress warmly and bring along flashlights. For more information about the Observatory, see our website at <http://www.physics.uci.edu/~observat>.

University Hills residents should plan to walk out to the Observatory using the new entrance to the road off California Dr near its intersection with Gabrielino Dr. Only if you are transporting telescope equipment or a handicapped person will you be permitted to drive out to the Observatory. If you or your friends must drive, please be aware that directions on where to park have changed because of Lot G's closure. Visitors should now park in the Student Center Parking Structure at the corner of W. Peltason and Pereira Drives. A \$5 parking fee must be paid at parking structure. We will have shuttle buses to transport you from the parking structure to the road leading out to the Observatory road. Shuttles will cycle between the parking structure and Observatory road every 10 minutes at the start and end of Visitor Night, from 7:30 - 8:10 pm and from 9:20 - 10pm.

---Tammy Smecker-Hane, Associate Professor, Dept. of Physics & Astronomy

ORANGE COUNTY WOMEN'S CHORUS PERFORMANCE

The Orange County Women's Chorus will be joined by Men in Blaque (the UCI Men's Chorus) and the All-American Boys' Chorus for two performances of Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* on May 21st and 22nd. Our performances always include a reception afterwards with lots of goodies, so if you come save room for cookies!

The Saturday night performance will be at Newport Harbor Lutheran Church, just off PCH at 798 Dover in Newport Beach. The Sunday performance will take place at the Concordia University Performing Arts Center, 1530 Concordia West, in Irvine. Both will be at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets (\$15 regular, \$12 students with ID) can be purchased online at <http://www.womenschorus.org>.

---Betty Guthrie, Dickens Ct.

STREET BIOGRAPHY: ELIOT (ONE IN A SERIES)

George Eliot, born Mary Ann Evans in 1819, was a British author whose novels include *Adam Bede* (1859), *The Mill on the Floss* (1860), *Silas Marner* (1861), and *Middlemarch* (1871-1872). With her innovative literary style, Eliot explored the inner moral dilemmas that confront people and earned D. H. Lawrence's praise: "It was really George Eliot who started it all. It was she started

putting action on the inside.”

After her mother’s death in 1836, Eliot took care of her father and his household until his death in 1849. Eliot eventually moved to London and, using the name Marian Evans, became an editor of “Westminster Review.” She associated with a group of literary friends and met George Henry Lewes, who was unhappily married but unable to divorce his wife. Lewes and Eliot fell in love and scandalously, for the times, lived together until his death in 1878.



With the publication of her first novel, *Adam Bede*, Eliot acknowledged that she was Marian Evans, the author. Her next two novels followed quickly and were also successful. Her fourth and greatest novel is *Middlemarch*. Two lesser-known novels were *Romola* (1863) and *Daniel Deronda* (1876). At the age of 59, after Lewes’s death, Eliot married John Cross, an American banker twenty years younger than Eliot. After the couple honeymooned in Venice, they returned to London, where Eliot died a few months later of kidney failure. Her wish to be buried in Westminster Abbey was denied, and she was buried instead in Highgate Cemetery in 1880.

---Ellen Elghobashi

UCI CAMPUS RECREATION 2005 UNIVERSITY HILLS SUMMER AQUATICS PROGRAM

About the Program

UC Irvine, Department of Campus Recreation will again offer the swim instruction program at University Hills. This program, group lessons, is open to children age 3 years and up. Only University Hills residents are eligible for these swim lessons.

Lessons will be offered at the “upper” pool in University Hills. Instruction will begin July 11, 2005. Classes will be offered in three two-week sessions, which will meet 3 days a week (Monday-Wednesday-Friday). All classes are 25 minutes in length and taught in the mornings between 9:00am and 12:00 noon. Classes will have a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 students. All children will receive a UCI Campus Recreation Swim Certificate. Our instructors have completed Red Cross certification in Lifeguard training along with UCI’s in-service training program. This program is supervised by the Campus Recreation staff.

Dates

Session 1 July 11 - 22, 2005

Session 2 July 25 - August 5, 2005

Session 3 August 8 - 19, 2005

Enrollment Information: Contact Campus Recreation Services at 949-824-3738 for Registration packets. Swim Registration packets are also available on-line at <http://www.campusrec.uci.edu>. Look under Classes & Clinics, Youth & Family links.

Early Registration Day: Wednesday June 1, 4:30-6:00pm at the Upper Pool in University Hills.

Enrollments will continue for all classes at Campus Recreation Services located in the Anteater Recreation Center. The office is open from 8am – 6pm, Monday - Friday. You may pay with cash, check (payable to UC Regents) or credit card (Visa/MasterCard). Take the registration form to the ARC or mail the completed form (with signed waiver) to:

Campus Recreation Services, 680 California Ave., Irvine, CA 92697-4515

Please register at least 5 days prior to the desired session to allow for confirmation.

Cost: \$36

Levels: Levels 1-4 are listed on the enrollment forms. These will be used as our guidelines and will be adjusted and adapted to meet the individual participants. We will attempt to group students by age and ability.

Private Lessons

Private lessons will be offered through UCI Campus Recreation and taught by our staff of instructors. Private and Semi-private lessons are available for children 2.5 and up. The lessons will be available 9am -12noon, space permitting, and in the afternoon between 2:30pm and 4:30pm. The Private lesson schedule will vary to accommodate pool use and staffing demands. Private swim lesson sign ups will be available at the ARC beginning Monday, June 13th. Cost: \$14

for privates, \$16 or semi-privates (\$8 per student) for a 25-minute lesson. Semi private children must be at the same level, and must be grouped by the participants.

ARC Swim Lessons

Swim classes will also be offered through Campus Recreation at the Anteater Recreation Center. Adult lessons as well as children's classes are offered. Classes at the ARC will go up through level 6. Lessons at the ARC are open to the children of the UCI Community including UCI Students, Faculty, Staff, and non-ARC members.

UCI POLICE/ATHLETICS OFFER R.A.D. (RAPE AGGRESSION DEFENSE) CLASS FOR WOMEN

The *UCI Police Department* in conjunction with the *UCI Athletics* is offering another **R.A.D.** class! This course is open to students, faculty, staff, and residents from the surrounding communities. The course will be held in Crawford Hall on the UCI campus on May 16th, 23rd, and June 6th from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Registration is on a first-come-first-served basis. Cost of the course: Students - \$15.00, Non-Students - \$20.00, Returning R.A.D. Graduates - Free! To reserve a position in the course, please pre-register on-line at: www.police.uci.edu. **Space is limited!**

What is R.A.D.??

The national standard in self-defense Instructor Certification, R.A.D. is internationally recognized for programming quality and organizational commitment to excellence. R.A.D. Systems balances the needs of women to acquire self-defense education in a relatively short period of time, with the life-long commitment required for physical skill mastery. How? By providing short term training opportunities in a progressive building block format, and combining each with R.A.D.'s trademark Lifetime Return and Practice Policy!

Why R.A.D.?

- R.A.D. is the only existing program with a free lifetime return and practice policy, honored throughout both the US and Canada.
- R.A.D. has developed specialized simulation techniques and equipment for use by certified R.A.D. instructors.
- R.A.D. is the only self-defense program ever endorsed by the [International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators](http://www.iaclea.org) (IACLEA).

R.A.D. Basic Physical Defense

This course has its foundations in education and awareness. The course includes lecture, discussion and self-defense techniques suitable for women of all ages and abilities. Classes range from nine to twelve hours in length. The Rape Aggression Defense System is a program of realistic self-defense tactics and techniques, and it is a comprehensive, women-only course that begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and risk avoidance, while progressing on to the basics of hands-on defense training. R.A.D. is not a Martial Arts program. Courses are taught by nationally certified R.A.D. Instructors and provide each student with a workbook/reference manual. This manual outlines the entire Physical Defense Program for reference and continuous personal growth, and is the key to our free lifetime return and practice policy for R.A.D. graduates.

Objective:

"To develop and enhance the options of self defense, so they may become viable considerations to the woman who is attacked."

---Sincerely, Cpl. Caroline Alberti

NEWS FROM THE CITY OF IRVINE

City of Irvine Launches Second Annual "Only in Irvine" Photo Contest

The City of Irvine Public Information Office is pleased to announce its' second annual "Only in Irvine" photo contest and invites all amateur photographers to submit photos of what they feel represents everyday life in the City of Irvine. The contest is open to residents and non-residents of all ages. The theme of the contest is, "What's special about Irvine?" Winning photographs will be featured on the City of Irvine Website, Irvine Community Television Channel 30 (ICTV-30), and will be used in other ways to promote the City. There is no cost to enter, and all participants will have the opportunity to win one of many prizes, which will be presented at a future City Council meeting. The contest is open to amateur photographers only (those who do not sell photography). Photographs can be entered in one of the following contest categories:

1. Residents under age 18
2. Residents ages 18 and older
3. Non-residents of the City of Irvine
4. City of Irvine employees

Entries will be accepted beginning May 2, 2005. All submissions must be received by the City of Irvine on or before May 31, 2005 at 5:30 p.m. The photographs must have been taken in the City of Irvine within the one-year period beginning June 1, 2004, and ending May 31, 2005. One photo per person will be accepted. Entries will not be returned and photos will become the sole property of the City of Irvine. To obtain an entry form and list of official rules, please visit the City's website at www.ci.irvine.ca.us, email pio@ci.irvine.ca.us, call (949) 724-6029, or drop by the Irvine Civic Center located at 1 Civic Center Plaza (at Harvard and Alton). For more information, please call Susan Ruble, Program Specialist, (949) 724-6029; Heather Morris, Public Information Officer, (949) 724-6252.