

HRB

Meeting Minutes

10/1/2019

I. Call to order

Hobart called to order the regular meeting of the HRB at 4:02 p.m. on 10/1/19 at the University Hills Community Center Conference Room.

II. Present

The following were present:

Brad Conley (HRB), Hobart Taylor (HRB Chair), Andrea Canfield (HRB Communications Coordinator), Zach Nelson (HRB Timekeeper), Sandrine Biziaux-Scherson (HRB), Michele Guindani (HRB), Andrew Herndon (ICHA), Kim Encinas (ICHA), Barbara Correa (ICHA), Kim Huxman (resident), Linda Tacey (resident)

III. Approval of September 2019 Minutes

The minutes were approved. The minutes are posted at <https://uhills.org/hrb-minutes/> .

IV. Resident statement regarding HOOT group

Residents Kim and Linda were present to discuss that they have formed a resident-organized group called HOOT (Helping Our Owls Thrive) to investigate the possibility of using owls as an alternative to rodenticides. The group is in support of natural methods such as owls and snap traps rather than the more traditional methods of bait boxes and rodenticides to control rats and other rodents. An underlying concern to rodenticides is the secondary poisoning of wildlife and pets. Information was presented on the listserv and the group will be at the Fall Fiesta to provide further information to residents and to display a trap on loan from ICHA that can be purchased. The group's first goal is to educate the community about the harmful effects of rodenticides and the final goal would be to phase in owl boxes to attract owls as a natural method to control rodent population. The group has discussed that Pepperdine University has twice as much land mass as UCI and has 7 predator perches, and has discontinued rodenticides, and has seen fewer rodents overall. HOOT is in talks with the Irvine Company regarding their cost-benefit analysis of baits versus other methods not involving rodenticides.

Andrew Herndon noted that residents are asking for rodent control, and ICHA does use the vitamin D overload baits rather than the more harmful anticoagulant baits. ICHA has supported snap traps that have caught about 200 rats during a two-month period.

Andrew will investigate the bulk price for T-rex rat traps and will communicate the costs to the HOOT group; ICHA will lend a trap to the HOOT group for display at the Fall Fiesta.

V. Committee Reports

a) Entertainment Committee

i) Events include Fall Fiesta, the largest event of the year for UHills; Trivia Night November 2; Harry Potter trivia and Harry Potter movie October 25; Karaoke Night November 23; film "The Biggest Little Farm" October 27, in conjunction with HOOT.

ii) Salsa dance night budget was approved, allowing all to participate in dance lessons for free. Craft Club will provide free kids' craft.

iii) Farsi storytime has been canceled due to lack of attendance.

b) Sustainability Committee

i) Solar info session was successful.

ii) CRV Recycling program collecting CRV items from residents in order to donate the revenue to student food pantry needs volunteer assistance. HRB will highlight this program and include a call for volunteers.

iii) A proposed Zero-Waste Talk sponsorship will not be funded due to its location on campus rather than in the Community Center.

iv) Butterfly-friendly plants are supported in an area to be planted by a Girl Scout Troop at Oak Grove Park.

v) HRB supports a booth at Fall Fiesta for the Sustainability Committee.

c) Welcoming and Wellness Committee

i) Name change: The Welcome committee name has officially changed to the Welcoming and Wellness Committee.

ii) The committee will sponsor talks at the Community Center every other month.

iii) A logo and information of use to new residents is being made in preparation for the Fall Fiesta.

iv) The group will continue to seek volunteers and they will continue to seek ways to help residents with medical or other needs who could use community support.

d) **Community Safety and Diversity Working Group**

i) The Community Book Club will begin "The 1619 Project."

ii) Updates regarding the November 17 Pure Praxis event will be forthcoming to residents via email.

e) **Upcoming PSAC Meeting**

HRB request for a designee to attend PSAC meeting for the October PSAC meeting. Brad and Andrea volunteered to attend.

VI. ICHA Report on ongoing projects

a) **Resident and Campus Use Fees for Community Center**

Resident and campus use fees will increase to cover the current costs of cleaning and security. New fees were proposed by ICHA at the previous meeting and now have been revised.

b) **National Drug giveback is October 26.**

c) **Tree trimming timing**

Sustainability committee is available to coordinate timing to have the least impact on nesting birds.

VII. Aesthetic and Architectural Diversity in University Hills

a) **Regarding property improvement applications**

The HRB will establish a proactive plan to aid in resident understanding of the process of property improvement, community landscaping, and personalizing homes. Andrea and Sandrine will coordinate a pamphlet providing examples of supported changes and an infographic of how to apply to make changes.

The HRB supports creative expression within the rules. There are many ways aesthetic diversity is supported in the architectural guidelines and property use and maintenance regulations, by

what is specifically allowed and also by what is not prohibited. Property improvement application must be submitted for any changes to the exterior of homes.

VIII. Property Improvement Application

A property improvement application submitted after the fact for paint colors outside of the approved palette was denied and residents will be asked to consider paint colors closer to the palette and resubmit the application.

IX. Continued Assessment of Communications to Residents from HRB and ICHA

The group discussed several potential ideas to aid residents in directing their ideas and questions to the individual or group that can best assist. For example, a flow chart of ICHA personnel listing their areas of responsibility could be provided online.

As discussed at the June HRB meeting, there are three basic levels of communication to residents from HRB and ICHA. 1. Announcements of Events; 2. HRB Direct Communications of important information; 3. information that comes from ICHA, and HRB is consulted. All levels of these communications have been collaborations between the Chair and ICHA Director of Communications. Ideas were discussed to facilitate direct communication between HRB and residents, such as town hall meetings, HRB "office hours," or other ways beyond the listserv. FAQs could be created for main issues that are presented on the listserv, and HRB members who use the listserv could provide a link to the FAQ in response. Discussion is ongoing.

X. New Business

a) A retirement:

With sadness we announce that one of the HRB, Stephane Muller, must step down from his position. The first runner-up from the most recent HRB election will be invited to serve the remainder of the term.

b) Report on September 2019 ICHA Board Meeting

Brad Conley reported to HRB on items of interest discussed at the ICHA board meeting.

c) Subcommittees

i. Core Values: The group will soon meet to discuss a template for outlining core values of University Hills.

ii. Garden mentoring: Andrea proposes beginning the neighborhood garden walks in conjunction with the condo associations, with possible timing in the spring. ICHA is reaching out to Master Gardeners and is identifying a possible location for a display garden in University Hills.

XI. Tabled for future discussion

a) Recommendation for non-homeowner representation / Status of HRB Representation for Renters Letter to ICHA

b) Discussion of community feedback regarding swim lane use in the Coltrane pool.

XII. Summary Statement

Agenda items included a resident report regarding the UHills HOOT (Helping Our Owls Thrive) group, which will be present at the Fall Fiesta; there were reports from the Entertainment Committee, Sustainability Committee, and the Community Safety and Diversity Working Group; Welcoming Committee has changed its name to Welcoming and Wellness; one property improvement form was received and discussed; HRB thanks outgoing board member Stephane Muller for his service on the board; the HRB endorsed creative expression within the sublease; and other agenda items. The minutes, which will be posted once approved, will include more information on these and other matters

XII. Adjournment

Hobart adjourned the meeting at 6:32pm

Minutes submitted by: Andrea Canfield

Minutes approved by: Hobart Taylor, Sandrine Biziaux-Scherson, Andrea Canfield, Zach Nelson, Michele Guindani, Brad Conley