

HRB

Meeting Minutes

11/5/2019

I. Call to order

Hobart called to order the regular meeting of the HRB at 4 p.m. on 11/5/19 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 Bizaux-Scherson (HRB), Michele Guindani (HRB), Susan Pearlman (HRB), Andrew Herndon (ICHA), Kim Encinas (ICHA), Victor VanZandt (ICHA)

III. Approval of October 2019 Minutes

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

IV. Committee Reports

a. Transportation

Two main topics were addressed by the transportation committee during their previous meeting: (1) aftereffects and feedback regarding bike lanes, which received mostly positive feedback from both cyclists and vehicle drivers, and a discussion of next steps; and (2) a discussion of topics from the listserv including difficulties using the walking/biking paths due to cyclists and pedestrians sharing the small path and also due to differences in ability. A suggestion is that the paths include a sign indicating right-of-way. Also, communications were discussed and the way that information travels in all directions in a network from UCI campus, ICHA, HRB, and residents; how these communications might be improved or streamlined to anticipate future campus projects; the way in which residents are informed; and how feedback might be shared between the groups.

b. Entertainment

Entertainment committee has a new volunteer for future events. Salsa night was successful: about 250 people attended, Craft Club sponsored the free craft, and the food truck got positive

reviews and met the minimum. The Halloween movie was successful: about 100 people attended, and Harry Potter trivia and UCIPD Trunk or Treat were well received by the kids.

Upcoming events: karaoke night (Nov. 23); Holiday Bazaar (Dec. 14).

c. Welcoming and Wellness

i) The wellness talks at the Community Center have been ongoing. There will be no talk in December or January, with talks resuming in February. A new resident welcoming event is being planned for January. ICHA will collaborate with the Welcoming and Wellness Committee for this event.

ii) On the topic of disaster preparedness, Andrew noted that some residents may need evacuation assistance. Also, that talks on earthquake preparedness may be welcome, and that the Campus Emergency Preparedness office may be willing to coordinate.

d. Sustainability

i) Margo Finlayson, Vice Chair of The Climate Reality Project, OC Chapter, will come to speak on current climate change science, impacts, and solutions globally and here in Southern California. The event will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. The presentation will last about 30 minutes, followed by time for questions and conversation.

The Sustainability Committee is grateful to Karen Tanenbaum for this opportunity to get residents involved in this conversation. Sustainability requests waiving the fee for the Media Center and \$150 for light snacks and drinks. This was approved unanimously.

e. CSD

Sunday, 11/17/19, the CSD is sponsoring a performance by Pure Praxis, a social education theater group used by organizations such as the U.S. Military and major universities. There will be two performances: a family-oriented show at 2 p.m. and a 5 p.m. show geared toward adults. The name of the scenario is "KNOCK, KNOCK? WHO'S THERE? YOUR NEIGHBOR. WHO?" Volunteers will set up and clean up.

f. Summary of PSAC meeting

Andrea Canfield attended the PSAC meeting in Hobart's absence and presented a summary to HRB members via email.

g. Summary of ICHA board meeting

Hobart Taylor and Andrea Canfield attended the ICHA board meeting and Andrea emailed a summary to HRB members.

V. New Business

a. New board member

Susan Pearlman was officially appointed to HRB to fill Stephane's position, from which he stepped down in the previous meeting. Welcome, Susan!

b. Resident reimbursement request

The board considered a Homeowner Reimbursement Request for a Halloween block party that included a bounce house. The HRB agreed to grant \$100 for this block party as a one-time occurrence. There was a brief discussion of a possible community-wide Halloween event at the Community Center in 2020, as Halloween will be on a Saturday.

c. Small Grant Fund for Block Parties

HRB unanimously agreed to establish a small grant fund for future requests for block parties.

d. Architectural Update

i) A homeowner's property improvement application that was denied was partly put back to its original state.

ii) A resident replaced their garage door erroneously in the incorrect color and will repaint it.

e. Property Improvement Application

A resident has installed an exterior EV charger without permitting. The resident must seek a permit from the City of Irvine and submit a property improvement application and relocate the charger within the garage.

f. Voting Center Update

The OC Registrar of Voters would like to have the UHills Community Center as a voting location. New policies would make the voting center available to all members of local communities. There will be set-up, take-down, and more than one day of voting as well. This was unanimously approved.

g. Lockable mailbox

The first USPS approved lockable mailbox has been installed in University Hills. The resident applied online to the USPS for approval, the request was approved, and ICHA worked with the resident to replace the pole to accommodate one locking and one standard mailbox.

h. Change to Common Area Request

A resident has requested that a tree be removed in the common area. The California pepperberry tree has grown and is obstructing light and the view. The board denied the application but supports ICHA pruning the tree to provide more light for the resident.

i. Resident Window Request

A resident has requested to replace an upper window in a townhome that would open but not match the neighbor's adjacent window. The board requested that the owner consider a window that would open and also match the adjacent window, or that the owner retain the matching non-opening window.

j. Pool Heat

Coltrane and Los Trancos pools will be heated during the winter; the other pools will not be heated during this time.

k. Public trash cans

The board requested that ICHA put a sign on the trash cans reminding users to remove their excess trash. The board requested that ICHA consider animal-proof lids for the trash cans in parks and especially near the pools.

l. National Charity League annual fundraiser

This group would like to use the Community Center for their annual fundraiser. The group will pay the room cleaning fee and the refundable deposit, and HRB will waive the room fee. This request was made by a resident on behalf of the group, which has UHills residents in its membership.

m. Public parking policy

Zach notes that not all areas, for example in front of stop signs, are marked as no-parking zones, and residents park there, causing a danger as they obscure the stop sign and reduce visibility of crossing pedestrians and traffic. Also, some vehicles are stored on streets, which is not allowed. Andrew notes that ownership of such vehicles could be identified and residents could be assisted in moving their vehicles to driveways or garages.

ICHA notes that they are investigating ways to identify resident vs. nonresident vehicles.

VI. HRB/ICHA board meeting timing

VanZandt proposes a change in date of the ICHA/HRB retreat to February from December; and a potential retreat topic regarding investigating the neighborhood survey results, as well as a recap of last meeting's points. Zach suggests that communications could be improved to prevent misinformation, and this might be a good additional topic.

VII. Renter representation

In a continuation of previous discussions, the board considered different ways that rental residents, including subletters, can be represented by an organized group. An executive meeting will be held to further discuss options in depth.

VIII. Continued Assessment of Communication to Residents From HRB and ICHA

a. Resident request regarding increased dues

The resident request for an explanation regarding the increased dues for groundskeeping will be addressed by ICHA as it is not in the HRB purview.

b. Resident request regarding renter representation.

The board decided to hold a separate executive session meeting to discuss potential options for providing representation to rental residents.

c. Draft specific action items to facilitate transparency and responsiveness.

A suggested way to conceptualize an ideal response from HRB and/or ICHA to a resident request is with a “proactive, redundant, and rapid response.”

IX. Tabled to the next meeting:

a. Set a policy for charitable organizations to use the community center room for free at HRB discretion when there is a UHills sponsor.

b. Set recommendations and suggestions, in cooperation with CSD, on how to handle noise complaints.

X. Summary Statement

Agenda items included welcoming new HRB member Susan Pearlman; reports from the Transportation Committee, Entertainment Committee, Sustainability Committee, Welcoming and Wellness Committee, and the Community Safety and Diversity Working Group; resident property improvement forms; a request to make changes to trees in a common area; a request to add lids to public trash cans, especially in the pool areas; a discussion of public parking policy; continued discussion of best practices for communications between ICHA, HRB, and residents; and other agenda items. The HRB will dedicate a special meeting in coming weeks to explore the topic of representation for renters. The minutes, which will be posted once approved, will include more information on these and other matters.

XI. Adjourn

Hobart adjourned the meeting at 6:17 pm

Minutes submitted by: Andrea Canfield

Minutes approved by: Brad Conley, Hobart Taylor, Sandrine Bizaux-Scherson, Susan Pearlman, Andrea Canfield, Michele Guindani