

MINUTES OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD-UNIVERSITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Vice Mayor Patricia M. Mahan (Chair)
Councilmember Raj Chahal
Councilmember Karen Hardy

MEETING MINUTES May 20, 2019

Committee Members: Vice Mayor Patricia M. Mahan

Councilmember Raj Chahal
Councilmember Karen Hardy

City Staff Members: Director of Community Development, Andrew Crabtree

Planning Manager, Reena Brilliot Chief of Police, Mike Sellers

Code Enforcement Technician, Juan Padilla

Principal Planner, Lesley Xavier

I. Call to Order& Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Vice Mayor Mahan at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmember Mahan welcomed residents to the NURC meeting. Councilmember Mahan stated that maybe it was time for to NURC to go into a different direction, something a little more interactive. She stated that the relationship has improved so much over the years and that tonight residents will be participating in small group discussions.

II. Public Presentations

There were four community members who spoke. Joann Bruna stated that there was remarkable progress made. She thanked Chief Sellers for the officer's work. She also thanked campus security for their work in the community. She also stated that she wants the neighborhood to be safe and quiet neighborhood.

Kimberly Gilkey-Wall with Santa Clara University introduced Amanda Chavez as the new office campus coordinator. She is located at 862 Market Street.

A member of the public thanked everyone for the outdoor gathering. Was very impressed there were so many college students

Chris Shay with Santa Clara University stated that the University has a new art piece on display.

III. Reports and Discussion

Councilmember Mahan directed participants into their small groups to discuss the issues that are very important to them and to prioritize their groups top three. The small group discussion took about 30 minutes at which time Councilmember Mahan reconvened the small groups back into one group to prioritize all of the issues that were identified. Each group reported out to the larger group on their issues as follows:

Group A

- Solving parking issues and parking challenges
- Attacking non-compliant property owners so that they can be held accountable
- Mini dorm issues, treating them as businesses instead of residential uses

Group B

- Community events and more collaboration between the City, University and the Police
- Historical resources with property management and neighborhood preservation
- Engaging property owners and absentee owners

Group C

- Noise and noise disturbance that happen in the middle of the night with the beer pong tables
- Parking is a big concern in the neighborhood
- Garbage is a big concern and more garbage cans would helpful for the public

After each group reported out, they engaged in discussion.

The University clarified for the resident that garbage cans for the public were installed from the City and are still there.

A concern from one of the residents are the blind spots in certain areas of the University and the resident asked if the City can investigate this as well. Chris Shay stated that he is working with the City and was able address cross walks, two on Lafayette Street and is working on the one across the street from Safeway for better pedestrian safety.

Council Mahan stated that there are some common themes with reference to common neighborhood issues. She stated that we need to address those parking issues. She asked staff to look into this. She also said that trash was a big problem.

Mini dorms and what initiative can be done about this. Historic resources are a concern as more homes are being converted. Community events could help to bridge understanding of the community. Councilmember Mahan stated that if you know your neighbors there is more respect for each other

Noise is a big problem and concern and the Police Department also does education with brochures to address these issues.

Councilmember Karen Hardy asked the question of why not having a rating system for each residence. If there are code enforcement issues the University can have a rating system for each house. The rating system would identify the type of house a student is moving into.

Councilmember Mahan stated that USC has something similar, but the goal of tonight meeting is to identify problems that can be worked on. Rating systems can be rated through police calls, code enforcement and building issues.

A community member questioned what a noncompliant property owner was? Reena Brilliot stated that we address issues directly with the property owner whether they live there or are absentee and penalize them for violations instead of the property managers. Andrew Crabtree stated that there are owners who are more responsible and more plugged in with the neighborhood issues.

To close the discussion, Reena Brilliot asked the public to rate their top issues by placing their dots (stickers) that were passed out up on the chart pack where all of the issued were listed.

After everyone placed their dots, Reena Brilliot tallied them up. There was a tie for first place, the solving of parking issues received 12 votes, as well as solving the mini dorm issues. Noise disturbances rounded out the top 3 issues. The voting for all of the identified issues is detailed below. The issues highlighted are the top three vote getters.

Votes	Issues
12	Solving parking issues
8	Non-compliant property owners
12	Mini dorms – business permit
7	Community events
2	Historic resources
0	Engage absent property owners
10	Noise disturbance
0	Garbage cans for public and more private service

Council member Mahan stated that the list can serve as a work plan for the community, whether the item is an issue or a solution. The Councilmember then asked if maybe there can be another session for a status and what programs are in place and come up with suggestions for community input.

IV. Scheduling of Next NURC Meeting

Councilmember Mahan would like to meet in September, but Chris Shay stated that students will not be arriving until towards the end of September. Councilmember Mahan said that maybe the NURC can meet again the first week of October.

If members of the public want to be notified of these meetings, they can sign up with enotify from the City.

Next meeting date, October 7, 2019

V. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.