

Neighborhood Advisory Committee Minutes
Aug. 2, 2017 Meeting

The Neighborhood Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, Aug. 2, 2017, in Kennedy Hall 237A.

PARTICIPANTS

Committee Members:

Lt. Jennifer Amat (for Capt. Dave Nichols)
Marc Colin
Tom Davidson
Michelle Duman
Jeff Frankel (for Sandy Quinn)
Dan Jensen
Mitchell Rosenberg
Tim Virus

Administration and Staff:

Dawn Bonker
Randy Burba
Alisa Driscoll
Jerry Price
Jack Raubolt

Guests:

Kris Olsen

Absent:

William Crouch
Brian Lochrie
Mayor Teresa Smith

Call to Order

Jack Raubolt called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions:

Committee members introduced themselves, as this was the first meeting for several new to the committee. Jack Raubolt introduced Mitchell Rosenberg, the new president of Chapman's Student Government Association.

Building Projects

Kris Olsen gave the following updates on university building projects:

Villa Park Orchards

The City of Orange Community Development Director, Bill Crouch, approved plans for the Villa Park Orchard Residence Hall proposed at Palm Avenue and Cypress Street, pending appeal. The 15-day appeal process continues through Aug. 11. The university is proceeding with construction drawings while it awaits the outcome of the appeal period, which will allow it to move forward promptly once final approval is reached. The university wants to open the hall in time for student move in during fall 2019. However, it is a very limited timeframe and further delays will delay the opening until 2020.

Panther Village

The university would like to create more student housing on the Panther Village properties it owns near the 57 Freeway and Chapman Avenue. A repurposed residence-inn style hotel there accommodates about 200 students. With the recent University purchase of the adjacent parcel from the City of Orange the university hopes to replace the old structure and build a higher-density village using both parcels. Such a development could house upwards of 900 students and provide a variety of on-site amenities and parking. Requests for proposals were sought from seven architectural firms. One was selected and has been recommended to university trustees. It's hoped that university trustees will be able to meet soon to make a final decision.

North Residence Hall

Preliminary plans are in development for a high-density North Residence Hall that would replace the older residence halls and apartment-style building on the north side of campus. A new project could potentially house 650 students.

Center for Science and Technology (CST)

The new center is approximately 65 percent complete and on schedule for opening in fall of 2018. The dry-in process is nearly complete, meaning windows, walls and roofing are largely in place and the building is weather proof. Brickwork is beginning to go up. The university is continuing to rent parking spaces for construction crews at First Christian Church on Walnut and a shuttle brings workers to the construction site.

Discussion of the projects included questions regarding the timing of the new student housing. Jeff Frankel asked if the university planned to have new facilities online before closing older ones for new construction. He indicated that was a concern in the community. In addition, Jack Raubolt asked if Center Street pavement would be repaired after construction of the CST.

Mr. Olsen said coordinated timing was key to the planning of new student housing as the university did not want to lessen campus housing in the process of building more. Center Street's restoration is part of the CST project. The City of Orange will analyze its condition and the university will perform repairs and/or replacement as requested by the city, Mr., Olsen said.

Mr. Raubolt said community members had asked what the plan is for the Hashinger Science Building, once the CST opens.

Mr. Olsen said renowned architect William Pereira designed the 1967 building, so it will likely be designated as historically significant. He said the plan is to preserve the building and use it for science and health science programs and classrooms. After the CST opens, his goal is to renovate one floor a year to bring it up to current science instruction standards.

Dan Jensen asked about the construction work on a lot at the corner of Maple and Lemon. Mr. Olsen explained that it was a mock-up site for the CST project.

Mitchell Rosenberg asked how much underground parking would be available after the CST is open. Mr. Olsen said total parking would be about 340 spaces, with all entering through Walnut Avenue.

City of Orange Update

Disturbance Summary

Lt. Jennifer Amat with the City of Orange Police Department reported that party calls were down from January to May. Citation numbers remain about the same, but that is because of stepped up enforcement, she said. She attributed the ongoing decrease of party and noise disturbances to liaison visits her officers and Chapman Public Safety officers make in the community. Officers visit residences where past problems have occurred, but also take a proactive approach by building relationships with students before an issue arises.

Mr. Raubolt and Jerry Price said their staffs also make contact with students before problems arise, advising them on neighborly behavior.

Mr. Frankel said the progress was noticeable and appreciated by the community.

Old Towne Parking

As a member of the City Parking Focus Group, Mr. Raubolt described the city's ongoing efforts to offer valet parking in Old Towne. In addition, he reported that Chapman has made available free public parking to offset the city's loss of its Lemon Street Parking Lot during construction of the Metrolink Parking Structure. The university made available 187 free parking spots in the West Campus Parking Structure and the West Palm Parking Lot during the construction project. The West Campus Parking Structure is unavailable from 2 to 5 a.m. for maintenance and cleaning.

Dan Jensen thanked the university for offering the parking and said it is much appreciated by Old Towne businesspeople.

Campus Updates

Dean Price reviewed the move-in dates for the fall semester. Main dates included: Aug. 8, resident advisors return; Aug. 15, student athletes arrive; Aug. 18, special student orientations

begin; Aug. 21, law school classes resume; Aug. 22, freshmen arrive; Aug. 24, returning and transfer students arrive; Aug. 28, classes resume.

Lt. Amat noted that Orange Police Department officers will meet residence life students on Aug. 16 to answer questions and review the city's policies and ordinances regarding parties and noise disturbances.

Tim Virus asked that during the orientation process that all students be reminded that Old Towne's speed limit is 25 mph. He also asked Lt. Amat if it would be possible to get the portable lite speed limit sign(s) in the area during the move in time. Lt. Amat said she would look into it.

Mr. Frankel asked about student enrollment numbers. Dean Price said total enrollment – including students at the Rinker Health Sciences Campus in Irvine – is about 8,200. The enrollment cap for the Orange campus is 8,700, and won't be reached this year. Mr. Olsen noted that more students are graduating in 3.5 years, which has slightly reduced student population density.

Mr. Raubolt said two letters, one from the University, signed by himself and Dr. Price, and one signed by the City Manager and City Police Chief reviewing city and university policies regarding neighborhood issues, will again be sent to all known student addresses as part of fall term communications.

Community Relations

Mr. Raubolt described a new get-acquainted project his office plans to conduct during move-in days. He and his staff will personally visit several known student houses in the community to introduce themselves, acquaint new and returning residents with neighborhood expectations and provide a goodie bag with some fun, useful items and important information, such as phone numbers and merchant resources. As part of the neighborhood visits, he said they would also visit with and distribute bags to non-student residents in an effort to get out the word about the services and resources available from Chapman's Office of Community Relations.

Committee Member Updates from Community

Mr. Jensen expressed appreciation for ongoing work and collaboration of the committee and Community Relations Department.

Michelle Duman said she and several neighbors have noticed some Chapman students starting to use Santiago Oaks Regional Park, a secluded nature park with a variety of bike and hiking trails. She said they sometimes gather in the park after it is closed and that trash and street parking in the neighborhood was sometimes a problem.

Several committee members expressed concern about the homeless population and related conditions created along creek beds and streets. Lt. Amat advised that residents may call the department when they see anything of concern and the department's Homeless, Engagement,

Assistance & Resource Team (HEART) will respond. Mr. Raubolt said student engagement teams might be able to perform trash pickup in some of those areas.

Mr. Rosenberg said students are increasingly on board with the Community Relations efforts. In his own residence, he said he and roommates are getting acquainted with neighbors.

Mr. Olsen announced that the new Lastinger Tennis Center will open in time for the fall semester. The state-of-the-art facility will be available for free community use, as tournament, practice and class schedules allow, he said. Mr. Raubolt said he would get the hours of operation to the committee once they are known.

Chief Burba noted that he recently joined the Elks Club and is in the process of hiring a deputy chief.

Dean Price advised that if residents receive a letter from a Chapman parent offering to buy their Old Towne property that it was not a scam. The parent is interested in buying Old Towne properties, he said.

Mark Colin said a July 27 reception at the Hilbert Museum of California Art for members of the Orange Barrio Historical Society was well received and enjoyed by more than 60 attendees. He said members are looking forward to meeting students and sharing Orange Barrio history at a pre-orientation student visit to the Cypress Street Schoolhouse on Aug. 20.

Mr. Frankel said he was impressed by the progress made by all parties involved in neighborhood and community relations. He said he noticed that when there are complaints, students are much more responsive.

Alisa Driscoll shared information about the "Socktober Saturday," a free community pancake breakfast and service day on Oct. 7 that is part of Chapman Family Homecoming Weekend. The sock and underwear drive will benefit residents and clients of Mercy House.

Mr. Raubolt said the project was part of an effort by the Alumni Association to bring more community members to Homecoming activities, which will be available to open to residents via pre-registration.

Scheduling of Next Meeting

Ms. Driscoll said she would survey the committee regarding best dates to meet in November when minutes of the August meeting are circulated.

Mr. Raubolt adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.