

BANKERS HILL COMMUNITY GROUP MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 19, 2021
Via Zoom videoconference

BHCG Acting Chair Nancy Moors called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. The following Steering Committee members were present virtually: Moors, Amie Hayes, Treasurer Jeanne Rawlings, Secretary John Lamb, Ann Garwood, John Percy, Becky Veen and Bruce Dammann. Approximately 33 people participated in the virtual meeting.

Non-Agenda Public Comments

Garwood announced that a cleanup of the Quince Street Bridge is being organized for some time between May 10-19.

Treasurer's Report

Rawlings reported that as of March 31, there was \$3,836.21 in the bank.

Government Representatives

David Vance, representing U.S. Rep. Sara Jacobs, said she completed her first 100 days in office last week. Vance said she supported the American Rescue Plan Act, co-sponsored 105 bills, missed no votes, gave six floor speeches, and visited two vaccination sites.

Kohta Zaiser, Mayor Todd Gloria representative for Council District 3, talked about migrant children staying through July at the San Diego Convention Center and the need for non-food items. He also talked about resources that are still available for housing assistance and the mayor's first city budget, heading to San Diego City Council.

Chevelle Tate, representing state Sen. Toni Atkins, brought attendees up to date on state legislative matters.

Jake Estrada, representative for state Assemblyman Chris Ward, discussed wildfire protection funding and urged everyone ages 16 and up to get vaccinated and wear a mask so businesses can reopen by June 15.

Moors said she and Veen had spoken to SDPD Community Officer Larry Turner (who could not attend the meeting) about plans for City Liquor at 5th and Elm to move a block away and how it's liquor license will be amended to preclude the establishment from selling small liquor bottles or individual cans. Veen said the homeless situation in that area has deteriorated, including cooking and defecating on the sidewalks.

Featured Business — San Diego Community Birth Center

Nikki Helms, a licensed midwife, said she was excited to be in Bankers Hill helping mothers prepare and give birth, both at her new facility at 2801 4th Ave. and in home settings. She also spoke with pride about the holistic herb garden she is developing on the property. She opened the facility in January.

San Diego Code Compliance Presentation

San Diego Fire Department Capt. Micah Doan joined city Code Compliance Supervisor Marci Garcia and compliance Officer Raquel Elias to discuss now-year-round-fire-season preparation guidelines. Doan said people interested in recommendations can download a copy of the *Ready, Set, Go! Wildland Fire Action Guide* at <https://www.sandiego.gov/fire/safety/tips/readyssetgo>. To complain about a potential brush/weed-related fire hazard, call 619-533-4444.

Elias said the city provides a “door-to-door program” whereby homes are inspected for defensible space. Garcia and Elias noted that Maple Canyon is scheduled for brush management in September.

Garwood expressed concern that palm trees that are dying in Maple Canyon could become fire hazards.

Florida Canyon Pedestrian Bridge

Hunter Ruthrauff of infrastructure-consulting firm T.Y. Lin International displayed renderings of his award-winning pedestrian bridge design that, if built, would span Florida Canyon in Balboa Park. The free-form, 3D-printed bridge design won the 2021 Forge Prize of the American Institute of Steel Construction. Ruthrauff said the bridge would align with the Prado, stand 140 feet tall, and span 250 feet, connecting with the East Mesa.

Ruthrauff acknowledged that generating funding for the bridge would be a challenge, but he envisioned a public/private partnership that would generate activities on the multi-pathed bridge that would also accommodate bicycles. Reception to the idea was generally positive from attendees.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by John Lamb, Secretary.