#### **UASRA GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING MINUTES**

#### May 16, 2018 7:00 PM

#### Attendees:

- President (Helena McDermott)
- Vice President (Negar Omid)
- Treasurer (Tracy Martison)
- Secretary (Jeff Hedrick)
- Event Coordinator (Noelle Vellios)
- Newsletter Editor (April Duggan)
- Community Center Coord. (Jesica Grinberg) ABSENT
- Sawtelle A Unit Rep (Mindy Patterson) -ABSENT
- Sawtelle B Unit Rep (Faeze Nateghi)
- Sawtelle C Unit Rep (Talya Cohen)
- Sawtelle D Unit Rep (Kirk Kanesaka)
- Sawtelle E Unit Rep (Phil Chung) -ABSENT
- Mentone/ Clarington Unit Rep (Aleksandar Kondic)
- Sepulveda A Unit Rep (Umut Tok)
- Sepulveda B Unit Rep (Magdalena Cline)
  - ABSENT

- Sepulveda C Unit Rep (Natalija Markina)
- Sepulveda D Unit Rep (Jian Liu)
- Keystone Unit Rep (Eve Emmanouilidou)
- Venice/Barry Unit Rep (KT Bender)
- Rose Unit Rep (Esther Claudio)
- Green Coordinator (Jda Gayle) -POSITION VACANT AS OF MAY 14, 2018
- Community Garden Supervisor (Jocelyn Bellairs)
- Community Ctr Maintenance Coord. (Deevi Soumyasri)
- Sepulveda Maintenance Coord. (Liz Stephenson)
- Residential Life Advisor (Addae Jahdai-Brown)
- Officer Briggs ABSENT
- Brian MacDonald, Residential Life

# **Summary of Key Meeting Topics:**

- Discussion of Facebook group and posting guidelines; the disclaimer and posting guidelines will be updated based on feedback from UCLA Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- Certain UASRA positions remain open post-election; a call-out will be distributed soon for those interested in applying for any open position
- Workshop item was held to discuss "Reimagining UASRA" for the 2018-2019 academic year and beyond

# Minutes:

- 1. Meeting Called to Order
- 2. Meeting Intro
- 3. Public Comments
  - a. Facebook Post & Comments -- update by Addae (Res Life Advisor) on post offering childcare services at a discount to people of color (and the responses to the post)
    - i. The UASRA Facebook group does not fall under UCLA's aegis

- ii. EDI (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) doesn't have jurisdiction but did provide some suggestions for updates to the disclaimer and guidelines for posting on the UASRA Facebook group
- iii. Board decided no win on either side of the argument from the perspective of UASRA making a statement and there was such overwhelming support for original poster, UASRA didn't feel need to insert itself in the dialogue
- iv. Post and responses were discussed at UASRA board meeting
- v. Helena -- person who created the main post revised her posting
  - 1. Bullying/harassment on FB group translates to how they feel in the community and will not be permitted
  - 2. Helpful for UASRA as moderator for residents to flag or notify of problematic posts/comments
  - 3. Any comments residents submit to Helena she will bring to the Board
- vi. Addae admins of FB page are Res Life Advisor and UASRA Pres
  - What UASRA could say about the post changed once original poster changed post (by the time UASRA had an opportunity to fully discuss, the original post had been changed)

### 4. AC Report

- a. Don't tamper with smoke detectors
  - i. If issues after-hours, call maintenance
- b. Drawer at bottom of ovens is a broiler -- do not use for storage

# 5. UASRA Recognition

- a. Helena -- thanks to the UASRA Board for clearing out the UASRA office!
- b. Noelle -- everyone in UASRA has been very responsive recently via email, including Board, Unit Reps, etc.
- c. Addae Umut has been working hard to generate sponsors for upcoming event
  - i. Umut -- Trader Joe's takes a minimum of 3 weeks to process requests

### 6. Election Update

- a. Addae -- Pres, VP, Treasurer running unopposed so will continue in positions next year
- b. There are some vacant positions (no one ran for the position) and a call-out will be sent out soon for those who are interested

### 7. Officer Reports

- a. Management not in attendance so issues usually raised at meetings can be sent to UASRA Pres account and she will facilitate
- b. KT Venice Barry has been demolished in the middle; noise has been a major problem
  - i. Glad it's finally getting done but timing is bad (right when people need quiet space as end of term approaches)
  - ii. It's been going on for 2-3 weeks
  - iii. Response from Curtis to some residents who've complained was to talk to KT not an acceptable management response
- c. Helena -- feel free to copy UASRA President email account on issues so UASRA has visibility
- d. Kirk hot water lost recently at 3320 Sawtelle; leaking problem has flooded hallways; multiple residents called and management seemed each time to think this was a new

problem each time, indicating the problem wasn't being properly addressed and/or miscommunication within management/maintenance

- Management didn't provide residents with any information about the issue or timing for a fix
- ii. The problem has been going on for about a month without proper resolution
- e. Helena has had conversations with Management about more proactive communication to residents and to UASRA; will continue to push management to improve in this regard
  - i. There have been a number of complaints from residents about Management lack of communication
- 8. Workshop Item Reimagining UASRA (facilitated by Brian MacDonald, Director of Residential Education, UCLA Residential Life)
  - a. Brian
    - i. Have never seen more passionate individuals than at UCLA (having worked at 4 other institutions)
    - ii. There's now lot of energy to provide better services to University Apartments residents
    - iii. Residential Life important to allow & facilitate students to thrive; create set of resources for residents
      - Are thinking about how to build same sense of connection to the UCLA community at UAS
      - 2. There are probably some things that have been done on "the hill" that can be ported to UAS
      - 3. Want to continue thinking about things that are missing in UAS as compared to what's provided on campus
    - iv. One of big priorities for UASRA is to maintain momentum from 2017-2018 year, particularly given that several board members are coming back next year
    - v. Think about conditions needed for innovation
  - b. Success stories from UASRA Helena/Board vision in giving unit reps freedom to plan events, which brought people out to socialize in a way they haven't in the past
  - c. It's important to know / be aware of what's critical to the organization, thinking about what brings people to UASRA and why we get involved
  - d. Helena -- UASRA needed to change (e.g. there was huge push-back by residents over a past proposed UASRA fee increase, indicating residents perhaps didn't understand UASRA's role in and contributions to to the UAS community)
    - i. Many changes have been made this year
    - ii. UASRA has tried to be experimental -- let's evaluate whether those things are working and should continue or whether we need to go in another direction
  - e. Workshop Item on "What Did We Learn This Year?" (See compilation on page 5)
    - i. Famous/epic failures
    - ii. Problems solved
    - iii. Opportunities created
    - iv. Messy problems still unresolved
  - f. Messiest Problem
    - i. Mixed Use residents representation, events, etc.

- ii. Reimagining resource allocations among various communities; facilitating access to events/resources
- iii. Purpose (why are we here, what are our priorities, UASRA's dual hats of event planning / community building and advocacy)
- g. Important to have a strong sense of "why" UASRA exists in thinking about reimagining it
- 9. UASRA Social
  - a. To be planned for end of year
  - b. There will also be an event planned at the beginning of next year
- 10. Events Upcoming
  - a. Garage Sale on Saturday, May 19
  - b. Keystone Mentone Social on June 8
- 11. Many empty positions for UASRA next year
  - a. Everyone is encouraged to go out and help recruit for positions
- 12. Helena -- we need to continue the dialogue next month and beyond as to how to reimagine UASRA and make sure we are fit for purpose
- 13. Meeting Adjourned

What did we learn this year?	
Famous/Epic Fails	Problems Solved
<ul> <li>Fewer classes offered</li> <li>Welcome event</li> <li>Mail theft</li> <li>UCPD insulting us</li> <li>Budget freeze</li> <li>Grant program</li> <li>Decline in class attendance</li> <li>Sepulveda fitness equipment</li> <li>No real mixed use events until June</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>New pool furniture</li> <li>Produce share @ mixed use; even coverage across</li> <li>Compost bins by the trash cans</li> <li>Active garden plots</li> <li>Extra keycard for community center</li> <li>Website creation—info in one spot</li> <li>Easy reservation of common space</li> <li>Entry without notice</li> </ul>
Opportunities Created	Messy Problems Still Unresolved
<ul> <li>Produce events (food and community)</li> <li>Corporate sponsors</li> <li>Community members raising concerns</li> <li>Unit rep budgets = community engagement</li> <li>Helena on Facebook very active and responsible</li> <li>ResLife organizing more mixed use events</li> <li>Jobs in community</li> <li>Welcome event</li> <li>Picture with Santa</li> <li>Building a stronger community</li> <li>More events on Sepulveda side</li> <li>Alcohol at events = socialization</li> <li>UASRA garage sale</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No summer shuttle</li> <li>How to do produce share in UV w/o separate paid position</li> <li>Outdoor gym</li> <li>Advocacy</li> <li>Wild animals (squirrels, raccoons)</li> <li>Renovations</li> <li>Hunger in community (food bank?)</li> <li>Broken laundry machines</li> <li>Aggressive dogs</li> <li>Rent increase</li> <li>Composting</li> <li>Access to resources for mixed use residents</li> <li>Website vs. newsletter</li> <li>Best way to communicate</li> <li>Budget procedures</li> <li>Moving laundry</li> <li>Being run over by residents' cars in community</li> <li>Produce program improvements</li> <li>Underrepresenting mixed use residents</li> <li>Mail theft</li> <li>How to communicate with non-English speakers — rules</li> <li>Area letters — Sawtelle A,B,C? How know?</li> <li>An extension/connection to grad/undergrad and postdoc unions</li> <li>Gym equipment?</li> <li>Racism in community</li> <li>405 freeway and its pollution</li> <li>Not providing shuttle from UV to campus</li> <li>Not having computer lab and gym in UV</li> <li>Not cleaning the study lounge often</li> </ul>