Neighborhood Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
December 6th, 2023

The Neighborhood Advisory Committee met on Wednesday, December 6th, 2023 at 12pm.

Committee Members
Elizabeth Holloman
Dan Jensen
Rob Boice
Sandy Quinn
Laura Thomas
Mayor Dan Slater
Captain Adam Jevec
Laura Thomas

Absent
Chief Rick Gonzalez
Susan Galvan
Paul Guzman Sr.
Brian Lochrie

Administration and Staff
Alisa Driscoll, Chair
James Gerrard, Recording Secretary
Dean Jerry Price
Collette Creppell
SGA President Rachel Burns

Call To Order
Alisa Driscoll called the meeting to order at 12:10pm.
Mayor Slater spoke about the enthusiasm for the Hilbert Museum reopening from its renovation in the spring. He also spoke about the excitement the city has with some new businesses coming to town.

The mayor also spoke briefly about the micro-transit system the City and the Orange Chamber of Commerce are working on. This should help with parking in Old Towne and the Plaza.

The mayor noted that last year, he heard a lot of complaints about student behavior in the neighborhoods. While he has still heard some complaints since the start of the year, the number has decreased, and things have been improving in that regard. The mayor commented that he wants Chapman and the students to succeed and that is much easier when there are less behavior complaints.

Mayor Slater added that the City authorized funding for a traffic/parking study of Old Towne and the Plaza to ensure businesses and patrons have enough parking.

Ms. Holloman added that the Chamber is working on finalizing the funding for the micro transit. The primary goal is to have more people, including Plaza employees, park in the Lemon St. parking structure and take the shuttle around the Plaza and the city center. Another goal of the transit is that it will not only make loops to particular stops, but possibly have a ride hail component as well. They are hoping to have the shuttle up and running around July.

Additionally, the Chamber is working with the City on a new shop local program to incentivize more people to visit and shop in Orange.

Dean Price noted that students would be inclined to use the micro transit if it stopped at a grocery store and/or pharmacy. That would be an asset to students.

**OPD Disturbance Calls and Updates**

Captain Jevec talked about how the number of Chapman-related disturbance calls continue to decrease. The preventative steps the liaison team has taken at the start of the year by meeting with Greek life and the football team, combined with consistent visits to students after getting calls has helped with the reduction in calls. Most of the students do not have more than one call at this point in the year and there are only 9 addresses that have received multiple calls. Additionally, the responding officers have been very consistent in administering First Responses (warnings), Second Responses (fines) and Citations when needed. This has also helped to set the tone for the year and contributed to the reduction in calls.

Mr. Boice asked Captain Jevec to clarify the responses and how officers decide if the party is out of hand.

Captain Jevec explained that a first response is given when the responding officers hear or see a disturbance or loud noise. The first response is a warning from Orange PD and they can only receive one of those per year (July 1st through June 30th). If OPD is called out again during that year, the address would be issued a Second Response, which is a fine equal to the cost of the responding officers and supervisors time required to respond to the call and/or break up the gathering. However, second responses can only be given during the city quiet hours of 10pm to 6am. A citation is a misdemeanor when the “Loud and Unruly” party ordinance is broken, and this can happen at any time of day. There are usually several factors that lead to a loud and unruly designation such as, underage drinking, people loitering beyond property line, excessive noise, and other factors.
Mayor Slater asked if we tend to see an attitude or behavioral change after receiving a response or a liaison visit.

Captain Jevec responded that most addresses do not receive more than one call, except for the few mentioned before. Students are cooperative and respectful to the officers when they arrive and don’t typically have any more issues moving forward.

Mr. Gerrard added that the preventive measures at the beginning of the year, the consistency of OPD issuing responses, and consistent liaison team visits have helped set the tone and understanding of student behavior in the neighborhoods. The students are receptive to the information during liaison visits and appreciate the opportunity to ask OPD questions. Again, most addresses do not have more than one call throughout the year.

Ms. Driscoll added that more and more students are being proactive and seeking support from the University when a conflict arises with a neighbor. They are eager for guidance on how to navigate those difficult situations and learn how to be a better neighbor.

**Chapman Updates**

**Student Affairs**

Dean Price announced that he hired a new assistant dean, Tristan Hilpert, to oversee Student Conduct matters.

He also reported that the University just had the Undie Run Prep meeting, so the campus and staff are fully prepared for this to happen on 12/13. While this is not a sanctioned event, Chapman allows the students to gather on campus for safety and to keep them contained in one location, rather than gathering all over the neighborhood. Chapman has partnered with OPD, as in years past, and they are very good at directing the students around the Plaza and back to campus with minimal issues. The intoxication level continues to decrease, as have parties around the event and this is credited to OPD’s pre-run party patrols. Additionally, more finals are scheduled on Thursday and Fridays, which means more students don’t have the night to sacrifice on the run and need to prepare for tests instead.

Captain Jevec added that the monetary support that Chapman provides for the additional officers and patrols is a big help and appreciated. That financial support helps to ensure that OPD has the staff available to help with this event.

Ms. Driscoll added that Chapman also financially covers the cost to fence off the fountain to ensure it is protected during the event.

Dean Price also noted that the main Chapman sign in front of Memorial Hall will be fenced off this year to prevent students from gathering there.

Mr. Quinn asked about the current student headcount.

Dean Price responded that the full-time undergraduate count is about 7,300 and about 1,500 graduate and doctoral students on the Orange campus. There are about 900 students at the Irvine campus.

Ms. Driscoll noted that we did have a smaller incoming freshman class this year.

Dean Price also commented that Chapman Court will be open for the ’24 academic year, which will house another approximately 950 students.
Mr. Quinn asked what percentage of students would be housed when Chapman Court opens.

Dean Price answered that it would be about 57%-59% of students in housing. They are also making sure that freshman know it will not be easy to get out of the two-year housing requirement. The last couple of years have made it difficult to hold that full 2-year requirement due to recovering from COVID and on-campus housing density limitations. But with Chapman Court opening and the state requirements being removed, there will be plenty of housing and the 2-year requirement will be enforced. Additionally, with Chapman Court, we will be moving to a possible 3-year live-in requirement for the incoming ’24 freshman class.

Mr. Quinn asked if applications are up.

Dean Price answered that applications are up, which is very encouraging for Chapman.

Mr. Quinn asked if acceptance is high.

Dean Price answered that we accept about 50% of applicants. We do this because we are not the only school students apply to. This means we need to accept a higher number of students because we know some will decline and go elsewhere.

Mr. Quinn asked if Hispanic/Latinx student numbers are going up.

Dean Price answered that these numbers are going up, as are all demographics.

Mr. Quinn asked if there have been antisemitic issues from the current conflict.

Dean Price noted that there have been tensions between students on campus, but we have done a great job in finding ways to allow students to express themselves. We have not had disrupting or violent incidents between students.

Mayor Slater asked about the students’ desire to continue living in Chapman housing given that most of it is very nice.

Dean Price answered yes, but we are not always sure how many students will request housing. This year we had more than 100 students on the waitlist for housing. With Chapman Court opening, we are not sure what the demand will be until students start requesting housing next semester.

Mayor Slater asked if most students would select Chapman housing.

Dean Price answered that there will always be students that pick renting a house for whatever reason, but after comparing costs, a lot of students pick Chapman housing. Additionally, with Chapman Court opening we can book blocks of rooms together for student organizations. For example, if a Greek organization or a sports team wants to have some of their members in one cluster, we will have the capacity to do that next year.

Mr. Boice asked if there are any plans for the vacant property adjacent to Panther Village.

Dean Price answered that we do not plans at this time due to the purchase of Chapman Court.

**Campus Planning**

Ms. Creppell talked about the excitement for the reopening of the Hilbert Museum and its completed renovation. The Hilbert has a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy, which allows the staff to begin moving
the art and prepping the interior, as well as working on the mosaic mural on the exterior. The reopening is still scheduled for February of ’24.

Ms. Creppell also talked about the Killefer School and its renovation. Construction has begun with an expected completion at the end of 2024. They were able to salvage several of the original chalkboards and will be reusing them in the new building.

Additionally, Chapman Court is on track to open, and the interior updates are underway. There is a lot going on that people cannot see, such as replacing all the doors, updating Wi-Fi and technology, and creating new spaces for Public Safety and other offices.

Mr. Quinn asked if each unit at Chapman Court would hold 4 students.

Ms. Creppell answered yes, but units are different and size and layout, so not every unit will hold 4 students. It was originally designed for residences, so there is a combination of 1- and 2-bedroom units that will house between 2-4 students.

Dean Price added that Chapman Court should house approximately 950 students. The students’ top request is to have a private room and we don’t have the luxury of giving everyone that option. Students will have to share rooms and spaces. Additionally, we will be strongly promoting the shuttle service and during heavy class times Chapman Court, Chapman Grand and Chapman Court will all have their own shuttles.

Mr. Boice asked who the historic planner is and have they been out to the Killefer site recently.

Ms. Creppell answered that John Locasio is the historic planner, with Historic Resources Group, and he is at Killefer on a regular basis.

Mr. Jensen asked if all the pieces for the mosaic are on site at the Hilbert.

Ms. Creppell answered that it arrives in batches because they had to laboriously take every piece out, number it, and organize it for reconstruction. The mural was reconstructed and laid out and then brought in batches to be installed on the museum.

Community Relations

Ms. Driscoll provided an update on Specific Plan 7. Due to the addition of Chapman Court we had to make some adjustments to the technical studies. The EIR is currently underway and more updates will be available for our next NAC meeting.

Additional Questions and Announcements

Ms. Holloman announced that the May Parade planning is under way and will have a Space “Star Wars” style theme.

Ms. Thomas announced Orange Park Acres’ annual membership meeting and offered booth space for Chapman to exhibit.

Adjournment

Ms. Driscoll adjourned the meeting at 1pm.