

Neighborhood Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

The Neighborhood Advisory Committee met on March 12, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.

Committee Members:

Captain Scott Trausch
Charlene Cheng
Laura Thomas
Mayor Dan Slater
Pattie Cordova
Paul Guzman, Sr.
Sandy Quinn

Absent:

Brian Lochrie
Cintya Felix
Dan Jensen
Rob Boice

Guests:

Diana Zdenek
Kristian Villalovos
Raquel Lomeli

Administration and Staff:

Alisa Driscoll, *Chair*
Chief Rick Gonzalez
Collette Creppell
Dean Jerry Price
Mandy Moncure, *Recording Secretary*
Marie Williams

Call to Order

Alisa Driscoll called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting started with introductions for new members: Marie Williams, Senior Vice President of Marketing and Public Affairs at Chapman University, and Charlene Cheng, Public Affairs and Information Manager for the City of Orange.

Kristian Villalovos gave a brief presentation for The Frances Smith Center for Individual and Family Therapy and the services offered.

City Updates

Mayor Slater reported that the City has been relatively quiet and that there have been very few complaints regarding Chapman student parties. The Orange Police Department continues to monitor gatherings and address any issues that arise. Mayor Slater expressed appreciation for the collaboration between the City, Chapman University, and law enforcement.

Mayor Slater announced that the State of the City event will take place Friday, March 20th at 3:00 p.m. at the Musco Center.

Mayor Slater also provided an update on the City's recently implemented paid parking program in the downtown area. The program has been active for a little over a month and has received positive feedback from local merchants, who report increased access to parking for customers. While some community members have expressed frustration about paying for parking, the program is working as intended by encouraging employees to park further from storefronts and allowing customers easier access to businesses.

Mayor Slater shared that the City is working toward establishing a Chapman Liaison Committee. The goal of the committee will be to create a structured opportunity for the City and Chapman University to collaborate on issues of shared interest and to identify areas where partnership could benefit both the university and the community. Mayor Slater noted that a meeting with Chapman's president later in the month may help initiate this effort.

Mayor Slater also announced that approximately 15 new pickleball courts at Hart Park are nearing completion and are expected to open later in the spring.

In addition, Mayor Slater reported that the City has hired a new economic development staffer, who is expected to bring new ideas to help increase economic development activity in Orange.

Finally, Mayor Slater noted that the weekend of May 2 and 3 will combine three traditional community events into one weekend: the Rotary Club Car Show, the Assistance League Taste of Orange, and the May Parade sponsored by the Orange Chamber of Commerce Foundation.

Mr. Quinn commented that a merchant recently reported that sales at their store have doubled or tripled since the installation of parking meters, indicating strong support among some business owners for the new program.

Mayor Slater confirmed that increasing business access to parking was a primary goal of the program. Mayor Slater added that parking revenue has also enabled the City to resume regular sidewalk cleaning downtown. The cost of each cleaning cycle is approximately

\$700, and parking revenue is expected to more than cover those expenses. Revenue from the parking program is projected to generate approximately \$1.2 million annually.

Dean Price asked whether parking in the downtown garages remains free. Mayor Slater responded that garages remain free and that there are roughly 1,000 free spaces available within a two- to three-block radius of downtown, and parking is free after 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Guzman asked whether the parking meters apply only to street parking or also to parking lots, like at the Orange Senior Center.

Mayor Slater clarified that parking meters in downtown Orange apply only to on-street parking and not to parking within parking lots. The metered areas are located within the downtown commercial core, described as eight blocks—four north of Chapman Avenue and four south of Chapman Avenue. Streets in this area have meters, while nearby lots may operate differently, with some allowing up to three hours of parking compared to two hours on the street.

The Mayor also addressed parking near the Senior Citizen Center, noting that the City is mindful of ensuring seniors continue to have access to available parking that has existed for years. The City is attentive to any concerns and is willing to make adjustments if needed over time, emphasizing a commitment to ensuring the system works as effectively as possible for those who rely on these spaces.

Ms. Cheng added that maps showing both paid parking and free parking locations are available on the City's website.

Ms. Driscoll reminded attendees that parking at the library should only be used by individuals visiting the library.

Disturbance Call Summary

Captain Trausch provided an update on disturbance-related calls and enforcement activity. He stated that citywide party calls in 2025 decreased by approximately 30 percent compared with 2024. However, Chapman-related party calls increased from 117 in 2024 to 156 in 2025.

Captain Trausch explained that enforcement activity increased significantly during the past year. First responses, which serve as warnings, increased by approximately 40 percent, and second responses increased by approximately 50 percent. Eleven loud and unruly gatherings received citations during the year.

Captain Trausch noted that the department clarified enforcement policies because some residents and students previously believed parties could not be cited before 10:00 p.m. Officers can now cite loud and unruly gatherings at any time if the behavior violates

municipal code, such as excessive noise, public urination, or disruptive activity spilling into public areas.

Captain Trausch reported that proactive outreach efforts have also increased. Law enforcement and university representatives conducted approximately 22 liaison visits with fraternities, sororities, and other student groups to communicate expectations and encourage compliance.

Despite the increase in enforcement, Captain Trausch noted that neighborhood complaints have decreased, suggesting the outreach and enforcement efforts are having a positive impact.

Ms. Zdenek asked whether particular neighborhoods experience higher numbers of disturbance calls. Captain Trausch responded that certain addresses consistently generate calls for service, but overall conditions have improved compared to previous years.

Dean Price noted that the increase in reported numbers reflects more consistent and proactive enforcement, rather than an increase in the number of parties occurring. As enforcement has become more consistent, a greater number of parties are being documented and cited than in previous years.

Captain Trausch stated that the increase in enforcement reflects a clearer stance by the department to ensure residents and students understand expectations. He noted that in 2024, the department received significantly more neighborhood complaints, particularly from repeat callers. Currently, those frequent complaints have decreased. Captain Trausch explained that part of the change involved clarifying enforcement authority for officers, as there had previously been confusion about whether parties could only be cited after certain hours. Officers now understand that loud and unruly parties can be cited at any time if conditions warrant it.

Ms. Moncure noted that much of the proactive outreach conducted at the beginning of the academic year previously did not emphasize that loud and unruly gathering enforcement could occur on a 24-hour basis. As the policy interpretation has been clarified, she explained that outreach efforts in the upcoming fall will be adjusted to better educate students about this change. Ms. Moncure added that there may initially be a slight increase in enforcement activity as students become aware of the updated interpretation of the ordinance. However, once students are informed and expectations are clear, she anticipates that incidents will decrease, particularly given the recent increase in citations.

Dean Price noted that although enforcement numbers have increased, the level of complaints he hears has remained largely unchanged, with some individuals commenting that conditions seem quieter than in the past. He added that students who receive citations or second responses are referred to the university's student conduct process, and

some have challenged the violations because past enforcement practices were perhaps not as strict and they are adjusting to the updated interpretation of the ordinance.

Ms. Zdenek asked whether the increase in on-campus housing requirements may also contribute to fewer disturbances in surrounding neighborhoods.

Captain Trausch and Ms. Driscoll agreed that the increased enforcement and clearer expectations have likely contributed to fewer disturbances in surrounding neighborhoods. Ms. Driscoll also noted that the addition of student housing has had a positive impact on reducing neighborhood impacts related to student gatherings.

Ms. Cordova asked whether calls related to student housing in Anaheim would fall under the jurisdiction of the Orange Police Department. Captain Trausch explained that while locations such as Panther Village may be farther from campus, Orange Police will still respond to calls within their jurisdiction; however, calls made to addresses located in Anaheim fall outside of Orange PD's jurisdiction.

Ms. Driscoll added that although Orange PD does not respond to calls in Anaheim, the Office of Community Relations still receives and addresses neighbor inquiries from Anaheim residents, though the number of such contacts remains relatively small.

Chapman Updates

Student Affairs Updates

Dean Price provided an overview of recent changes in Chapman University housing. Over the past several years, the university has expanded housing capacity through projects such as Chapman Grand, The K, and Chapman Court. Each addition increased the number of available beds, but demand for on-campus housing has continued to grow. Chapman currently maintains a three-year housing requirement for incoming students.

Dean Price explained that the three-year requirement will fully take effect in Fall 2026, when the first class admitted under that policy reaches its third year. The university anticipates that between 4,150 and 4,300 students will live in campus housing in the upcoming fall term. Demand remains strong, and more than 400 seniors who are not required to live on campus have expressed interest in remaining in university housing. Dean Price noted that apartment-style housing such as Chapman Court has allowed groups of friends to live together on campus, which previously motivated students to rent homes in nearby neighborhoods.

Mr. Guzman raised concerns about investors purchasing multiple homes near the university and renting them to large numbers of students, potentially driving up housing prices for local residents.

Dean Price responded that expanded campus housing may help reduce demand for off-campus rental housing, although the broader housing market involves many other factors.

Dean Price also reported that Chapman University has recently appointed a new Dean of Admission following the retirement of the previous dean after 40 years of service.

Admission offers for the incoming class have been issued, and students have until May 1 to accept.

Dean Price additionally announced plans to retire at the end of June after serving as Dean of Students since 2008. A search committee has been established and will begin interviewing candidates in the coming months

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Campus Planning

Ms. Creppell reported that campus construction activity is currently minimal. The most visible project is the renovation of a house at the corner of North Glassell and West Palm, which will house the university's Office of General Counsel.

Ms. Creppell explained that the university's leadership is currently assessing existing facilities and prioritizing careful planning before initiating new construction projects.

Mr. Guzman expressed support for the university's current approach of evaluating existing resources and operations before pursuing further expansion. He referenced the new university president's emphasis on taking stock of what is already in place and ensuring that commitments can be maintained before additional growth occurs, noting the importance of avoiding expansion that could outpace the university's capacity to support it effectively.

Community Relations

Ms. Driscoll provided an update on community engagement efforts, noting continued collaboration with the City of Orange and Orange Police Department regarding off-campus student behavior.

Ms. Driscoll highlighted the strength of the partnership between Community Relations, Student Affairs, and local law enforcement in addressing neighborhood concerns and supporting proactive communication with students.

Ms. Driscoll also announced that Chapman will partner with the Orange Unified School District to host a Visual and Performing Arts Showcase on campus. The event will bring hundreds of student performers to campus over two evenings to perform for their families and community members.

Mr. Quinn concluded by thanking Alisa, Vice President of Community Relations, for continuing to convene the committee and noted that it remains a valuable and important forum for the community.

Adjournment

Ms. Driscoll adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.