

# Associated Residential Community Housing (ARCH) Advisory Committee | MINUTES

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**Meeting date | time** 9/29/2017 10:00 AM

**Meeting location:** Board Room, Sixth College

<b>Type of meeting:</b>	ARCH Advisory Committee	<b>Attendees:</b>	
<b>Co-Chairs:</b>	Cory Stevenson Mark Cunningham	Cory Stevenson Robert Frazier Malia Mahi Ramona Ferreira Jana Severson Kim Ciero Betty Ramirez Mayra Estrada Rosie Jimenez-Negrete Mary Beth Ward Ian Hamilton Sophia Hirakis (inactive) Tatiana Zavodny Anindita Bhattacharya Madhura Som Burgundy Fletcher (guest)	
<b>Note taker:</b>	Leticia Ruelas		

## AGENDA

Meeting begun at 10:07 AM

- Cory introduced Burgundy Fletcher, who is interested in the committee.
- Cory asked if the committee was interested with changing the chair for single undergraduate parent to a graduate parent.
  - Sophia asked if the by-laws would have to change.
  - Jana confirmed charter would need to change as it's currently an appointed chair by AS.
  - Tatiana suggested writing something stating preference will be given to undergraduate parent, but if no interest is shown it will open to any parent.
  - Cory: tabled until quorum is met.

## Undergrad:

- Jana stated there are a total of 327 undergrads in grad housing, 109 in West Mesa, 218 in North Mesa and 88 have been relocated back to campus. She also stated the no show date was 9/28. If a student doesn't show up their contract is cancelled which could free up more spaces on campus.

- Sophia stated she is happy to have been relocated, but there are a lot of people who have contacted her who feel they were being rushed to move out.
- Jana responded residents were not rushed in her opinion. The work that had to happen is now being condensed.
- Sophia made a request to send an email to the old west mesa residents addressing this concern.
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### PUB:

- Cory stated the pub opened Wednesday, the same day there was a rooftop party.

### Playground:

- Cory stated related to the relocation, the playground is being moved. Wanted to get committee updated with specific detail, including a timeline.
  - Ramona stated they had a meeting yesterday with Hensel Phelps (who will be handling the relocation) and ECEC. There is a design sketched. The 3 children sections (2-5 years, 5-12 years and infant swings) will remain the same. Still working on a quote with Hensel Phelps. They are looking into putting up a fence by the end of next week around the new playground area. Housing will send communication email to the residents.
  - Cory asked when it will be ready.
  - Ramona stated the approximate/estimated completion date is November 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Bob stated at the end of October or early November playground will be moved and residents will not have a playground for about 2 weeks.
  - Sophia suggested building a new thing (ex. Parking structure) before tearing another one down.
  - Cory clarified they are actually moving the current playground equipment.

### Minutes:

- Cory instructed members to go review the minutes to either approve them or make suggestion so Leticia can update them.
- Sophia suggested minutes should be approved on a weekly bases.
- Anindita suggested update the ARCHAC appeals page.
- Madhura agrees minutes should be looked at weekly.
- Cory stated in the past members weren't prepared to approve minutes weekly.

### Housing Fund Project:

- Cory asked if members received the timeline of the relocation. He stated residents are being moved and some issues have arisen from it. Some concerns have been address individually.
- Ian proposed an idea. Feels a fund can be created for those that cannot afford housing. He stated that with the unique placement of UC San Diego, there are some benefactors who might be willing to help.
- Sophia stated she had previously suggested a similar thing for victims of violence and had suggested to GSA, but GSA cannot fund as they are student fees. GSA cannot fund single students.
- Mayra asked if it's something the GSA would manage?
- Sophia suggested they could.
- Cory stated this project would be a long term project. ARCHAC might not see results until the next years. He also stated ARCHAC wrote a white letter previously requesting the creation of new housing. It helped result in campus doubling the amount of housing within 7 years. ARCHAC could start a white letter to suggest a way to keep the housing cost low.
- Kim asked Cory to define the specific purpose.
- Cory responded ARCHAC should define it, they can make it as general or specific as they see fit

- Mayra feels Ian has a great idea, but feels it doesn't solve the bigger issue that graduate students in the Humanities don't receive as much financial aid as those in STEM.
- Cory suggested focusing only on housing as that is ARCHAC's jurisdiction.
- Sophia stated donors don't always ask for an itemized list, they simply would like a thank you letter.
- Anindita asked if in the letter the committee should propose who gets to live in this housing.
- Cory explained this is just the initial stage and, this would be a recommendation. It would then involve development, housing, and other groups.
- Madhura stated the International Student center also provides fellowships and has a network of people who collaborate with them. She feels ARCHAC might want to collaborate with them.
- Cory answered Ian would draft up an initial letter and the letter could be discussed during the next meeting.
- Kim asked what Ian would be drafting.
- Ian stated the financial worry is not helpful for academic success. The priority is to find resources from those who sympathize with those in need. He stated the University already does a great job as he was able to get food from the food pantry. The plan is to mitigate financial concerns to graduate students.
- Mayra reminded everyone that this committee suggested raising the rental rates. She feels ARCHAC needs to take responsibility and be consistent with their messages. She stated ARCHAC approved the rates and it seems as now that ARCHAC is receiving a backlash, they want to find a way to resolve it.
- Cory stated they increased the rates to match the needed expenditures. He mentioned rates had to increase 4% across the board. The committee didn't change the 4%, they discussed how it was distributed. The fund could help to cut down the cost.
- Mayra stated they can't decrease services either.
- Cory stated they could in some cases and explained a few years ago they reduced cleaning at SGA to keep cost down. Other years they didn't have to increase rates
- Cory stated Ian would write a draft for the idea above.
- Burgundy stated she has lived in Mesa the past years and the rent has been increasing constantly by 4%, but feels there is a difference in Mesa Nueva. She explained Mesa Nueva would be a 57% rent increase for someone like her who lives in a 3 bedroom apartment

### North Mesa:

- Cory asked if anyone had questions.
- Jana clarified that in the timeline, bringing the discussion to ARCHAC falls under the category of the week of October 16, updating all stakeholders.
- Cory stated the main issue for North Mesa relocates that has been different than West Mesa relocates and past relocates is that North Mesa residents have had to move from the cheapest units to something more expensive.
- Cory asked where housing was in the timeline.
  - Jana responded they still had to sit down and talk with the residents.
  - Mayra asked if it was possible for them to keep the same rental rates.
  - Jana answered residents requested to be grandfathered for the remaining of their stay with housing.
  - Mayra asked if it was feasible and if housing would be losing money.
  - Jana stated residents would lose money as they live there and pay for it. At some point it impacts the whole community.
  - Cory stated housing will be negotiating with residents of concern and will be working with ARCHAC. ARCHAC will have to make the tough decision and decide what is fair for the entire community.
  - Jana clarified they committed to applying the resolution to all those who have been relocated based on the construction project.
  - Cory asked if it will go to every one or just North Mesa. It has to be fair to everyone, to those who are relocating and to those who will have to pay for it.
- Anindita asked if the relocated resident have expressed an interest to a preferred community and if they have been compensated.

- Bob responded that those who have moved have selected their preferred housing and they are paying for the current community rate. He stated anything that is approved would have to be retroactive and based on the plan it will apply to those that have moved, are moving and will move as a result of the construction project.
- Anindita asked how housing verified the residents were current residents from the forms filled out.
  - Jana responded there was a cross check on all 600 signatures.
  - Anindita asked how.
  - Jana responded it was a comparison with our roster.
  - Bob explained housing looked at their system and if they weren't on there, housing assumed they were elsewhere.
  - Burgundy asked if that was negating partners.
  - Jana responded it wasn't negating anyone, it didn't mean that family members or those that have moved didn't matter. Housing was just evaluating for information sake.
  - Bob stated in most case partners are listed.
  - Jana stated the title was North Mesa Residents and housing didn't know what that meant in that setting.
  - Burgundy stated they had reached out to those residents who had already moved. They were proud of the amount of signatures they received. She stated they tried to be as legitimate as possible.
- Rosie stated Mark had invited the member of ARCHAC to attend the upcoming community meeting so they were aware.
  - Jana asked which meeting and clarified they have set a series of community meetings that are separate from the North Mesa Meeting. She also clarified the community meetings are about different topics during the course of the year. The community meetings have been assigned with dates and times. The meeting specific to North Mesa residents hasn't been scheduled as residents were asked for availability.
  - Bob stated housing will try to provide no less than 30 day notice of meetings.
- Cory asked if there are any other questions.
- Burgundy asked if the marketing research Bob was discussing at the previous North mesa meeting was available.
  - Bob clarified it was on the website and he could point it out to her.
  - Jana clarified the report is created quarterly to compare to the outside market.
  - Bob clarified the information he was referring to was the information based on other off campus communities and their rates and general amenities.
  - Burgundy would like to have access to the report.

### Upcoming topics

- Jana referenced the ideas that Mark had emailed everyone for the upcoming meetings.
- Cory stated ARCHAC would tackle the budgets ahead of time.
- Jana clarified the committee can start talking about value of amenities, space, master bedroom vs not.

Meeting adjourned around 11:03 AM. Next meeting will be on Friday 10/6/17 at 10 AM at the Barrett room.