

**Mission Canyon Association**  
Minutes of the Board Meeting  
October 1st, 2002

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mission Canyon Association, a California corporation, was held at the McVeigh House at the Museum of Natural History on October 1st, 2002, a crisp and clear evening in the Canyon, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Present were Ray Smith, Tim Steele, Randy Reetz, Gillian Launie, Jenny Cushnie, Dorothy Vea, Mark Carr, Bob Maloy, Kathy Koury. Absent were Nancy Bertelesen, Ralph Daniels (in Dallas), David Lebell and Tom Jacobs. Also in attendance were: Cerena and Jim Childress of SafeTrails ([www.safetrails.net](http://www.safetrails.net)), and Tony Biegen of the local Sierra Club, and local resident Vicky Blum, spouse of our board member, Davis Lebell.



*Jim Childress*

Ray Smith chaired the meeting. Gillian Launie's Treasurer's Report was approved as submitted. Payment of \$400 to Ray Smith, as part of the total \$828 charge for the brush dumpster, was approved for payment. The possible problem of commercial gardeners using the dumpster will need to be addressed, if the dumpster program is continued. Membership in and payment of two years' annual dues (\$25 a year, \$50 total) to the Allied Neighborhood Association was approved.



*Cerena Childress  
SafeTrails*

The Safetrails representatives presented their case for better controls over mountain bikers on the local trails. A rather shocking video clip of mountain bikers tearing down Tunnel Trail dramatically illustrated their point. The matter is under consideration by the Forest service, the County and City. It was requested that our Association become a voice in support of better controls – possibly separate trails for the bikers. The matter was taken under advisement. Ray Smith noted that not all mountain bikers are kamikazes.

Vicky Blum presented her case on behalf of the No on Recall Campaign, opposing the ballot measure to recall Third District Supervisor Gail Marshall. This painful bit of political guerrilla warfare does affect Mission Canyon and its residents, as Ms. Blum made abundantly clear. However, recognizing that not all Canyon residents are of one mind on the issue, and being mindful that our Association does not ordinarily take political positions, our Board declined to take any public stance.



However, Ms. Blum's request for use of our mailing list was approved, provided that the mailing is not accompanied by an implication that our Association endorses the campaign.

The following agenda items were considered and acted upon, as noted:

- The Allied Neighborhood Association is hosting a discussion session on the Neighborhood Preservation Ordinance at the First Presbyterian Church on October 2d. Attendance would be worthwhile.
- The Board will hold a "strategic planning session" on November 16<sup>th</sup>, to discuss and set agenda priorities for the Association. Time and place TBA.
- Mr. Reetz' request for a hearing on the alleged land use violations at 2751 Foothill Road was approved for the next scheduled Board meeting. Notice in the format presented by Mr. Reetz shall be given to the landowners.
- Ray Smith read a letter from the County Public Works department re: the possible sewer extensions into the Upper Tunnel Road area. Dr. Smith noted that the cost of the studies and reports appears to have been shifted to the residents, contrary to our prior understandings.
- Dr. Smith noted that Creek Spirit, the creation of Patti Jacquemain along Tunnel Road near Andante Road, is a very pleasant mini-park, and that we should consider it for future MCA functions, although parking does appear to be a problem.
- Tim Steele reported on the meeting held Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, with 12 members of the engineering crews at Cal Trans, regarding the improvements along Foothill Road. Tim stated that due to budgetary constraints – only \$2.7 million is available from Cal Trans, and the County is not cost-sharing this project – the project has been scaled back. The ditches on the south side of Foothill between the t-intersection and Mindy Rosenblatt's house (the flame gated property) will not be graded over (possible Chumash elements here), although the culverts and collector grates along the north side of Foothill remain in the plans. The bike paths will not be hard-surfaced. The width of foothill will be unchanged. Four telephone poles will be relocated – three along the "Indian ditch" and one at the Glen Albyn intersection.
- Dr. Smith reported that Abe Leider will be the new planner responsible for the Botanic Garden, succeeding Ms. Schmitt, who succeeded Jean Pare.
- The Management Plan for Mission Canyon has been deferred for action until CY 2004. The consensus of our Board is that the MCA should take a proactive, leadership role in updating our Specific Plan, perhaps by adopting

a localized community plan or set of architectural standards that would be applicable to our Canyon. This is an appropriate topic for our November strategic planning session.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm. The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, November 5 (Election Day), 2002 at 7:30 pm.

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Randy Reetz, Secretary