

Mission Canyon Association
Minutes of the Board Meeting
May 6, 2003

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 May 6, 2003, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Present were Ray Smith, Tim Steele, Randy Reetz, Tom Jacobs, Charles Del'Arbre, Mark Carr, Bob Maloy, Ralph Daniel, Jenny Cushnie and Nancy Bertelesen. Absent were: Dorothy Veal (ill), Kathy Koury (in Carpinteria on I Madonnari business) and David Lebell. Gillian Launie, has resigned and hence did not attend. Paulina Conn, honorary director, and Bob Muller, a Las Encinas Road resident, also attended this meeting.

Ray Smith chaired the meeting. The minutes of the preceding meeting were approved. Randy Reetz' Treasurer's Report was also approved.

The Board discussed the annual meeting held April 22d. The panel format, with an array of high-ranking public officials and community personages, appeared to work quite well. The session touched on a broad range of issues, and interesting, useful information developed on several fronts. All directors up for re-election were re-elected at the annual meeting for new terms. It was noted that a vacancy existed on the Board, and Ms. Pma Trgenza, a Tunnel Road and Santa Barbara resident for the past 30 years, a specialist in fire issues, was elected to fill this vacancy in accordance with our By-laws.

The Board re-elected the following officers: Ray Smith, President (receiving an advance excused absence for two months later this year); Tim Steele, Vice President; and Randy Reetz, Secretary-Treasurer.

The Board discussed the upcoming Brush Clearance day, now set for May 31st (Saturday), this year to be held in the Woman's Club parking lot to avoid the traffic / parking problems at the Mission Canyon Road turnout. Key man, Dan Upton, will again operate the backhoe/loader. The Board approved Jenny Cushnie's proposal for liability insurance coverage, subject to her obtaining a reasonable quote for coverage. [Note: this has now been done and an insurance binder issued for the event.]

The Board passed upon the following additional items:

- The annexation issue will be on our agenda in upcoming meetings, it being the sense of the Board that Mission Canyon should have in place land use regulations tailored to the Canyon's special problems, prior to canvassing our members pro

and con on the annexation issue. Should annexation be approved, we could expect that the City would leave in place the land use policies previously established under County rule. This is a complex issue, and will require considerable work and study in the months to come.

- The sewer report from Penfield & Smith, and the County-wide report from Questa Engineering were discussed. Directors Maloy, Daniel and Del'Arbre will endeavor to hold a meeting with Marsh, Halstead, and other interested parties (possibly Rick Merrifield, Interim Director of County Environmental Health) to evaluate these reports and discuss further course of action.
- The use of electric busses was discussed. Directors Maloy and Daniel opined that electric busses may not be suitable for the Mission Canyon terrain.
- The Botanic Garden's deferral until June 2003 for reactivation of its pending CUP application.
- A peace accord may be at hand between the downhill bikers and the hiking public, according to Ray Smith, a participant in the summit talks.
- Mr. Reetz will work with the Membership Committee in the effort to increase membership in our Association.
- Tom Jacobs is now chair of the MCA Board of Architectural Review.
- Tim Steele reported on the latest developments on Foothill Road improvements – specifically, that the power poles may be moved all to the north side of Foothill, and in a cost-saving measure, the existing culverts under private driveways would remain in place.

An extensive discussion ensued regarding alternative exit routes from Mission Canyon during wildfires or other emergencies. Directors Daniel, Steele and Maloy have identified three possible routes, dismissing the Cheltenham-Tornoe connection as being unworkable (there's a house in the way). The three routes would be:

1. The Koonce route westerly from Holly Road, which is now vehicle-ready;
2. The Las Canoas – Mountain Drive connection, also apparently vehicle-ready and already informally approved by the private homeowners;
3. The Palomino Road – Alamar Canyon connection, which appears to be missing a vital span at the Palomino Road end. Daniel / Steele will explore potential links via the County right-of-way, or across the Mira property, or across the private lands above the Mira property.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm. The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, June 3d, 2003 at 7:30 pm.

Randy Reetz, Secretary