

**MISSION CANYON ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**  
**OCTOBER 5, 2004**

A regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mission Canyon Association was held at the McVeigh House at the Museum of Natural History on October 5, 2004, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Present were Tim Steele, Randy Reetz, Ralph Daniel, Bob Maloy, Ray Smith, Pma Tregenza, Jenny Cushnie, Dorothy Veal, Tom Jacobs, Sandra Petersen, and Nancy Bertelsen. Absent directors were Kathy Koury, Mark Carr, Remo Ruccione (illness). Bill Menchen and Charles Del'Arbre. Nancy Johnson (Botanic Garden) also attended the meeting.

The minutes of the preceding Board meeting were approved as submitted. The Financial Report for the Quarter and YTD ending September 30, 2004 was also approved as submitted.

Tim Steele informed the Board that Salud Carbajal presented us with a so-called Mission Canyon Fire Plan, which appears to be a summary overview of fire hazards, risks, preparedness, action items and planning schemes for Mission Canyon. The template for this plan (suggesting that other communities in Santa Barbara are receiving similar packages) comes from Steve Hobbs, County Fire Vegetation Manager. Jenny and Ralph have done some preliminary work in fleshing out the template. The MCA Directors are invited to add additional information. However, the deadline for response is October 10<sup>th</sup>, which means that we may not have adequate time to develop a comprehensive, detailed Mission Canyon Fire Plan for Mr. Carbajal.

Discussion ensued about the Memory Lane Fire, caused by arcing power lines. Ray Smith will inquire and follow up as to how Southern California Edison can be encouraged or even compelled to check its power system in the Canyon, and correct potentially dangerous power line configurations wherever they may be found to exist.

The Board also discussed and took action upon the following items:

- Radio communications during a wildfire event are presently handled through Dispatch at the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's Dispatch will not issue evacuation orders. A merger of all Fire Departments within the County should be considered, so as to enhance communications during a wildfire emergency.

- Ralph Daniel inquired about liability insurance for the Directors. The cost would be, he suggests, \$1,500 a year, provided our Association engages in no hazardous activities. Ralph and Jenny will explore further the possible costs of such insurance coverage.
- Ralph Daniel suggested a plan whereby the owners of parcels in Mission Canyon, whereon brush and flammables have been allowed to collect, will be cited and even fined for Code violations. The Board, not having at hand the relevant County code or State statutes at hand, will consider this further after reviewing the current laws on brush clearance.

Nancy Johnson (Botanic Garden, Public Relations) informed the Board regarding the following issues:

- As an interim solution to the locked gates along Tunnel Road, Garden Members in good standing may obtain the combination to the locks securing the Tunnel Road access gates by calling Nancy at 682-4726 ext. 132.
- The Garden plans a Patrick Dougherty installation on the Meadow early next year. This is deemed highly desirable, since it will raise lots of money for the Garden. The traffic and parking problems are being addressed. [Who is Patrick Dougherty and what does he do? Think big. Think Big Bugs. Picture this in the Botanic Garden meadow:



The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm. The next scheduled monthly meeting of the Mission Canyon Association Board is Tuesday, November 2d (Election Day), 2004 at 7:30 pm.

---

Randy Reetz, Secretary