

Mission Canyon Association
Minutes of Board Meeting
April 3, 2007
7:30 p.m.

Present: Nancy Bertelsen (8:30), Jenny Cushnie, Ralph Daniel, Ann Goff, Tom Jacobs, Bill McCullough, Milt Roselinsky, Ginger Sledge, Ray Smith, Tim Steele, Dorothy Vea

Absent: Kathy Koury, Jean Yamamura.

Guests: Kellan de Forest, Nancy Johnson (SBBG), Randy Wade,

The meeting was called to order by President Tim Steele.

The Board approved the Minutes of the March meeting.

Bill McCullough presented the Treasurer's Report. He explained the handouts and stated that both accounts are healthy. The Board approved the Treasurer's Report.

The Board discussed the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden development and the correspondence between the Garden and Mission Canyon Association. Questions about fencing were answered by Nancy Johnson of the Garden. Good discussion followed. She stated that the chain link fence is permitted, and was the only fencing financially possible with wildlife portals. She stated that the Garden is open to design considerations and is open to readdressing the fencing issue. The timing is good because the Garden has just received a grant for removal of vegetation, and the fencing issue can be addressed at the same time.

The Board discussed water pressure and hydrant testing that has gone on in the past few weeks. Ray Smith and Tim Gill will meet with the City next week regarding pressure in the upper Canyon.

The Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, April 10 at 5:30 in Fleishmann Auditorium. Ralph Daniel has secured a caterer and is drafting the Agenda. Board members will obtain water and coffee and bring cookies and brownies. The Board discussed the Agenda. The County Fire Department will give a short slide presentation on Defensible Space. Ralph will pitch for recruiting for the Board and Committees. An update on the Grants will be presented. Guest Randy Wade, and Board Member Ginger Sledge requested help in opposing development of properties that concern them. The Board voted to provide an open mike (for five minutes each) at the end of the Annual Meeting to those who have taken the time to come to the Board in advance.

Nancy Bertelsen introduced the recent notice of sewer rate increase and a hearing on May 1. She feels this is an excessive burden on county homeowners. Marty Wilder is the point of contact. Tim Steele stated that he would look into it.

Jenny Cushnie requested payment of \$75 from the general fund for rent to the Presbyterian Church for the Workshop on Fire to be held April 14, 2007.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting will be May 1, 2007.

Submitted by,

Ann M. Goff
Board Secretary

**MISSION CANYON ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING
FLEISHMANN AUDITORIUM
APRIL 10, 2007
7:00 p.m.**

After the Social Hour, President Tim Steele opened the meeting by welcoming all canyon residents who have shown interest by coming to the meeting. He introduced the officers of the Board of Directors. Vice President Ralph Daniels noted the vacancies on committees and suggested opportunities for service within MCA. Dorothy Vea was re-elected to a three-year term on the Board.

Upcoming Events to be noted include:

April 14 – Mission Canyon Fire Prevention Workshop

May 1 – Board of Supervisors Hearing on Mission Canyon Sewer District Rate Increase

May 12 – Santa Barbara Botanic Garden “BioBlitz” Community Day

June 16 – Mission Canyon Brush Clean Up Day

Tim introduced First District Supervisor Salud Carbajal who thanked MCA for the leadership it provides in fire safety and planning. Salud introduced the members of the county Mission Canyon Planning Advisory Committee – Ray Smith, Kevin Snow, Amanda Delucia, Suzanne Foley, Ann Cavalli, Jacqueline, Hynes, Barbara Lindemann, Jenny Cushnie, and Randy Reetz.

Also introduced were Planning and Development Staff Director Derek Johnson and Ed Schneider, Executive Director of the Botanic Garden.

Deputy Chief Tom Franklin of Santa Barbara County Fire Department noted that Mission Canyon Association is the most engaged group in the county in fire

prevention. He noted that on a hot, windy day, it's always going to be bad. Wind is the key. There are new rules about the 100 foot defensible space clearance. While it is a year-round requirement, inspections will start in June.

Jenny Cushnie spoke about the U.S. Forestry Grant Program and the brush clearing on Tunnel, Mission Canyon and Cheltenham Roads. MCA has a new grant and the Botanical Garden has just received one as well, so more clearing will be done. Response of neighborhood has been wonderful.

Milt Roselinsky related that he applied but was turned down for a grant to provide a web cam at the top of the ridge to provide weather data and a view of the canyon. It would provide early warning, possible view of smoke plumes, etc. He is hopeful that alternate funding may be provided or another grant will be received.

Ray Smith reported on MCPAC, which has been invested by the county with the responsibility for advising on the Mission Canyon Design Guidelines, as well as updating the 1984 Specific Plan. A timeline appears on the County of Santa Barbara Planning Department website and all meetings are open to the public. He encouraged everyone to air their observations and opinions in the work product and attend the meetings.

Doug Singleterry of Santa Barbara Botanic Garden gave a slide presentation on the proposed expansion of the Garden.

Mark Chatillo, an environmental advocate, representing Friends of Mission Canyon, gave a presentation in opposition to the scope of the Garden's expansion project. He expressed concerns about lighting, fencing, grading and the 10-year construction period.

Suzan Christiansen spoke about a project at 561 Mountain Drive in the Jorgenson Ranch Subdivision (not within the Canyon). Her concern is construction of multiple structures on a land locked lot and the impact on traffic on Foothill Road.

Nancy Johnson of the Botanical Garden announced that the Garden will be testing a Warning Siren this summer.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Annual Meeting will be April 2008.

Submitted by,

Ann M. Goff
Board Secretary