

Mission Canyon Association
Minutes of Board Meeting
October 2, 2007
7:30 p.m.

Present: Dick Axelrod, Nancy Bertelson, Jenny Cushnie, Laurie Guitteau, Kathy Koury, Milt Roselinsky, Ray Smith, Tim Steele, Jean Yamamura

Absent: Ann Marshall, Dorothy Veal, Ralph Daniel, Tom Jacobs, Bill McCullough

Guests: Mary Allcott, Marc Chytilo, Paulina Conn, Kellam de Forest, Fran Galt, Nancy Johnson, Bob Muller

The meeting was called to order by President Tim Steele at 7:40 p.m.

The Minutes of the September Meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report tabled till next meeting.

Ray Smith reported that McPac meeting attendance dropped off after first couple of meetings. Now working on Specific Plan. Would like MCA's help in organizing a meeting in February to get community input on critical issues in Specific Plan. McPac members will write articles for MCA January newsletter to raise interest on possible meeting topics, such as no parking on Montrose, second residential units, a fire assessment zone, how to maintain a rural ambiance and still have wide fire roads. McPac wants to know what the community's objectives are, and then develop goals and timelines.

Debate on having county print and mail or share costs. Ray and Jenny Cushnie will check with county on costs. Newsletter would ask for RSVP and topic interest.

Kathy Koury will review postal permit application. MCA mostly does education.

September's McPac meetings have featured local experts on disaster planning, emergencies, fire, zoning, city planners, transportation, etc. Planning ahead advised on problems like how to rebuild within the rules after a disaster because county will feel the need to accommodate those who have lost their homes. Next meetings are on flood control, drainage, biological controls, sewers, etc. All info on McPac website.

Nancy Johnson reported that tentative Terrace appeal date is November 6. Asked to have *Noticias* Winter 2004/Spring 2005 entered into minutes, "A Garden for All Time, The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden," by Mary Carroll [a history of SBBG from rock quarry to 2004]. Garden is appealing Historic Landmarks Advisory Commission decisions to Board of Supervisors. Appeal to Planning Commissioners would have been about the Substantial Conformity Determination.

Kellam de Forest states next HLAC meeting on October 8, 9:30 a.m., Supervisors Conference Room, 4th floor, will discuss terrace again.

Other Terrace-related documents are on MCA's website. Will add Kellam's letter to *News-Press*. Garden attorney Battles' letter has photos not on website.

Pauline Conn notes 24 acres out of 65 were landmarked. Botanic Garden is for native California plants, and the Mediterranean plants should not be in landmarked portion. Asks MCA to write a letter supporting historic design concepts. She would have appealed paving if she'd known the county counsel who found the paving outside the historic design aspects had not yet passed the bar. No baseline species plan in landmarking documents. No cultural landscaping analysis either.

Kellam notes that in the city, structures are landmarked with a report by the applicant prepared by someone from the city's list of historians. County has no similar procedure for landscape. A community member nominated the Garden for landmark status. Enters Garden's drawing of terrace into minutes.

Francine Galt has been reading letters between Mildred Bliss (whose mother helped found SBBG) and Beatrice Farrand (who designed garden) and they said the original garden should not be changed.

Milt Roselinsky makes motion to write letter to Board of Supervisors supporting HLAC's determinations of September 10 per its unofficial minutes. Laurie Guitteau seconds. Debate discusses Garden's lack of regard for historic status of areas, including Gane house. Motion carried. Milt writing initial draft.

Milt Roselinsky, who lives above where water line is being installed on Mission Canyon Road, says lanes are closed more often than they are open, flagmen are lax and wait 10 minutes for cars to pile up before allowing them through, no radios, very rough patches, cars are waiting near moving heavy equipment. Roadwork not conforming to agreement. Does not bode well for Vital Mission Plan project. Is documenting current conditions.

Marc Chytilo says he worked with Garden to develop project conditions. Dangers inherent in box canyon. Previous work had disrupted mail and trash service, caused serious inconvenience, felt personal threat due to fire season and closed road. Current permit says one lane open. Only open every 10 minutes. Alex Tuttle inspected and said couldn't do project without closing road. Permit said road would close a few times a day.

Tim Steele adds he has been by to check and saw no flagmen.

Jenny Cushnie adds that MCA supported road hydrant work and met with Fire Dept. to make sure it would be safe, even though residents wanted the work to take place after fire season. The conditions MCA had supported have changed. It is no longer safe.

Nancy Johnson replies inspectors and Alex Tuttle have inspected repeatedly. All in compliance. Flagmen should always be there. 1450 feet total, 800 done so far. Will finish by Friday if no rocks and no red flag. Trenching from Las Canoas Road to fire hydrant with involve city testing. Meeting with road engineers tomorrow. Planning to move traffic through parking lot or over road above when possible. Will let MCA know about plans and will ask for roller to compact asphalt. May involve more crews. City says an 8-inch main will meet commercial flows. Six hydrants going in now. More on Hanson property later.

Nancy says road is open sometimes.

Marc points out permit says it should only be closed sometimes. Also feels Native American monitoring is inadequate. Four total hours.

Nancy apologizes for inconvenience.

Jenny states the inconvenience is not the problem. The problem is safety.

Jenny reports 2006 grant is completed. \$36 left over, probably being returned. Resident on Tornoe Road complains of \$20,000 in tree damage due to limbs pruned beyond 10-foot public right-of-way. Ray and Jenny will talk to him. Will now use APN to determine owners who need notification of grant work being done on their properties.

Tim reports 2007 grant work being done on upper Mission Canyon Road at sharp bend before top. Splitting costs with neighbors. Part of fire plan fire break.

Kathy notes deer food, like elderberry, should not be cleared.

Expert costs associated with DEIR discussed. Many comments to county. Even Garden thought DEIR should be recirculated. Jenny recalls Nancy Johnson saying the fire plan in the DEIR was the wrong one. After some debate on which experts to pay and whether enough funds existed, Ray suggests paying all experts out of reserves except biologist since MCA has no "biology" committee, Laurie seconds, all vote aye.

Meeting ends 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by Jean Yamamura, acting secretary