

Mission Canyon Association
Minutes
September 4, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:31 pm by President Barbara Lindemann

Board Members **Present:** Ralph Daniel, Susan Davidson, Alex Feldwinn, Darby Feldwinn, Laurie Guitteau, Tom Jacobs, Barbara Lindemann, Milt Roselinsky Kevin Snow, Richard Solomon, Ray Smith, Jean Yamamura, Alistair Winn

Board Members **Absent:** Dick Axilrod, Kellam de Forest,

Guests: Barbara Barker (SBMNH), Suzanne Elledge (SBMNH), Scott Schell (ATE)

Minutes of the August 7, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously

Treasurer's report (FSC Grant Budget Report) (Laurie Guitteau)

Grant money has arrived, work is scheduled, motion made and approved to move forward with the grant-related expenses.

Laurie reported that a major concern of the Goats4Hire-folk are unleashed dogs. She and Loraine are working on this, including: signs, email blast, neighbor education.

Old Business

4.1 Botanic Garden Update

Darby noted that the SBBG committee would be attending a Sept. 11 meeting at the Garden to learn about: cultural landscape plans, the full site landscape plans, and the modified building plans.

4.2 Museum of Natural History Update (Report from Museum Committee on Meeting on 8/30/12 with Museum folk – some committee members have already communicated to the Board by email.)

Richard reported that we were seeking attendance and traffic and related information that relates to baseline. Alistair noted that the museum is making a good effort to provide the information they have. Barbara L asked why it is so hard to get attendance figures. Barbara B responded that it takes a long time to come up with these data and some data are missing. That is, over the years not all attendance figures were recorded. It was agreed that the Museum would provide data it had, with the understanding that there are missing data.

A wandering discussion then ensued on the subject of MCR road classification. No definitive conclusions came from this discussion.

4.3 Webcam Update (Ralph & Ray): As last month, Ray needs to do some homework at UCSB to move this project forward.

4.4 Website Update (Alex): Web is being periodically updated. Committee membership has been updated. When accompanying information is available, the “goat video” will be linked. Also, information and links to “safe passage” will be updated.

4.5 Safe Passage (Tom, Alastair): Project continues to move forward. Tom reported that the Coast Coalition for Sustainable Transportation is approving of the project. Tours for folk that have not had a tour can be arranged.

4.6 MCPAC – MCCC draft EIR update (Ray): Concern remains that the RDEIR for the MCCC accurately reflect the impacts to traffic circulation, safety and fire evacuation from buildout under the Museum’s Master Plan. The Fehr & Peers Traffic & Circulation Study and their Evacuation Study should be available soon.

There was a brief discussion concerning Board (SBMNH) to Board (MCA) communication. Various alternatives were discussed and rejected. Tom suggested it would be best for one point person on each Board be given the duty for communication with their counterpart on the other board.

Grousing about the Museum’s delay of the MCCC DEIR elicited considerable passionate discussion. Suzanne repeated the Museum’s position that they wanted the MCCC to be “accurate”. Alex noted that the Museum’s comments on the DEIR showed that the Museum had a poor understanding of the MC community. Jean elaborated on that theme, suggesting the the Museum, while lawyerly correct, showed very poor judgment in creating a high level of disgust by disenfranchising folks whose homes had burned in the canyon.

After those who wished to speak did so, this “free and frank discussion” was called to a halt by President Lindemann.

New Business

5.1 State Responsibility Area fees (Jean)

This issue is slowly making it’s way (alphabetically) throughout the state.

Agreed have time to study the issue further (including getting a reading from the SB FSC at their next meeting) prior to any possible position by the MCA.

5.2 Report on meeting with Supervisor Carbajal (Barbara, Ray):

Noted that the MCA had written a letter of support for the Botanic Garden as requested by their Director.

Noted that MCA Museum Committee was scheduled to meet with folk from the SBMNH.

Laurie gave a brief summary of the status of our FSC Grant and asked for help in making sure that the goat folk do not get ticketed for parking at the Tunnel trailhead while minding their goats. And also asked County to investigate if there is a way to ensure dogs are kept on leash when passing the goat working area.

5.3 Susan reported that the Garden Committee has a new name and a new focus. The “Mission Canyon Garden-Whys* Committee” wants to create a dialog and strategies with homeowners to find healthy solutions for landscaping challenges while respecting individual choices and gardening styles. Fire safety, erosion prevention, privacy, water consumption, invasive plants, and conscientious brush removal are just a few of the issues the committee will consider. Committee includes “passionate gardeners”: Bruce Reed (SBBG staff), Fran Galt & Cass Ensberg. Contact Susan if you would like to serve on this committee. (* Don’t ask your secretary “whys”, I just record what I hear.)

6. Committee Reports (as needed)

Meeting adjourned at 8:59pm.

Next meeting: October 2, 2012 7:30 p.m. MacVeagh House, Natural History Museum

Ray Smith (secretary)