

Mission Canyon Association

Meeting of the Board of Directors - December 4, 2012

1. Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by President Barbara Lindemann

Board Members **Present:** Laurie Guitteau, Alex Feldwinn, Darby Feldwinn, Tom Jacobs, Barbara Lindemann, Kevin Snow, Richard Solomon, Ray Smith, Hugh Twibell, Jean Yamamura.

Board Members **Absent:** Dick Axilrod, Ralph Daniel, Susan Davidson, Kellam de Forest, Alastair Winn, **Guests:** Karl Hutterer (SBMNH), Steve Windhager (SBBG)

2. Minutes of the November 6, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously

3. Treasurer's report approved unanimously

4. Old Business

4.1 Botanic Garden Update. Steve Windhager gave an update on the progress of the Botanic Garden. The Garden has been meeting with various committees to discuss the draft Cultural Landscape Master Plan (CLMP). These meetings, were in preparation for meeting with the Southern Board of Architectural Review (SBAR) on 8 Dec. and the County Historic Landmarks Advisory Commission (CHLAC) scheduled for 10 December. Steve noted that Susan Van Atta had done a marvelous job in putting the CLMP together.

4.2 Tom Jacobs gave a brief report of the Garden's meeting with the MCA Architectural Design Review Committee (ADRC). He noted that the Garden has made an important effort to reduce the height of proposed buildings on the ridge to the east of Mission Canyon Road which will substantially lower the building profiles on the ridge.

Tom also reported that he has secured new volunteers to serve on the ADRC prior to his retiring from the MCA Board. New ADRC member are: Hugh Twibell, Dwight Gregory and Victor Schumacher. Continuing members are: Joyce McCullough and Dan Upton. The Board commended Tom for his long, professional and outstanding service on our Board and the ADRC.

4.3 Karl Hutterer provided attendance tables, previously requested, for the Museum. He noted that the report provides the rationale for why it took so long to compile the report. It required considerable research to make the

report internally consistent and to make sure that the Museum could provide a rationale behind the numbers and for the report to provide a basis for future discussion.

4.4 Laurie Guitteau gave an update on the MCA Fire Safe Council grant. She reported that matching funds for the grant has been very successful. She met with Ann Marx (City Fire) regarding Tunnel Trailhead, and much to her joy, she reported that the California Conservation Corps (CCC) would be available for clearance of the areas following the goats. The CCC crews will also work to remove and treat the “castor bean forest” above Palomino Road as well as remove brush and debris thrown down from above (“ball park” price about \$11,000). Also she noted that the Palomino neighbors have been very cooperative in this work. Fire folk at Station 15 will check the status of Mission Canyon’s evacuation corridors and report if further work needs to be done. They have also been “watering” the goats. Nancy Keltner’s property, and work thereon, was discussed and a decision with respect to this will be decided at a later date.

Laurie also reported that the FSC grant money had been “frozen” until next January. The Goats 4-Hire folk have done their work in a timely and professional manner. It was moved, 2nd and passed unanimously that the MCA pay the goat-folk (roughly \$8,000) for the work they have already done from our reserve funds. This was done with the grand expectation that the FSC will repay us when their funds are unfrozen.

Tom Jacobs suggested that we need to get some press releases out on all the grant related work that MCA has been doing.

The Board also commended the outstanding work that Laurie and Owen Guitteau have been doing managing our fire grant.

4.5 Ray reported on the Webcam, noting that there was no new news.

4.6 With respect to the MCA Website, Alex said he would make sure that the latest version of our By-Laws are available on the site. Also the membership of both the Board and the ADRC will need to be updated.

4.7 Tom reported on the progress of the Safe Passage project. The group is in an information gathering stage; e.g. generating maps, undergrounding for utilities, etc. It is anticipated that there will be workshops to discuss the project in the spring. The Cal Trans grant to the County will not begin until next spring and will run for a year. The current goal is to keep solutions “off the table” so as to keep disagreements out of the process. Working to move forward in an anti-confrontational manner. Eventually the Safe Passage folk will do some serious fundraising

4.8 Ray reported that the term of office for the Mission Canyon Planning Advisory Committee (MCPAC), which was due to expire at the

end of this year, was extended by the Board of Supervisors for one year or until the Community Plan is adopted, whichever comes first. The purpose of keeping the MCPAC active is to allow committee participation as needed through the plan adoption process.

In the meantime, the revised draft EIR is undergoing administrative draft review by the City of Santa Barbara. County folk anticipate that the draft, as well as the traffic and evacuation reports from Fehr & Peers, will be made public early next year.

4.9 Jean reported that the proposed thank-you letter to City Fire Chief had been composed and sent.

5. New Business

5.1 It was moved, 2nd and voted unanimously to elect Hugh Twibell and James Madison to fill vacancies on the MCA Board. MCA Board of Directors as of December, 2012 are:

Elected 2012: Kevin Snow, Barbara Lindemann, Richard Solomon, Hugh Twibell, James Madison

Elected 2011: Darby Feldwinn, Alex Feldwinn, Ralph Daniels, Alastair Winn, Susan Davidson

Elected 2010: Dick Axelrod, Jean Yamamura, Laurie Guitteau, Kellam DeForest, Ray Smith

5.2 Laurie Guitteau was appointed as the new chairperson for the Fire Committee.

5.3 Jean presented the issue of the State Responsibility Area (SRA) fees and the accompanying Jarvis suit. The issue was briefly discussed. Before our Board takes a position, Jean & Ray agreed to do some home work regarding this issue and to report back to our Board at the next meeting.

5.4 Insurance coverage for the Board was discussed. A new question was raised. Does, or should, our insurance include the ADRC? Jean will discuss this with our agent and report back

6. Additional Committee Reports (as needed)

6.1 Fire Committee (see above)

6.2 Newsletter Committee (Jean Yamamura)

Jean reported that there may be a newsletter in January. We need to let folk know of subject, or help to pick a subject, for the newsletter. Ray agreed to check with the County to see if progress on the MCCP and related traffic & evacuation reports would be ready to report on.

6.3 Architectural Design Review (Tom Jacobs – see above)

6.4 Parking & Traffic (Ralph Daniel)

6.5 Land Use Committee (Kevin)

6.6 Membership (Laurie Guitteau)

Laurie reported that we have 363 members this year. Many give donations, in addition to their dues. She noted it was time to send a dues letter out in January.

6.7 Botanic Garden Advisory Committee (Darby Feldwinn)

6.8 Garden Whys Committee (Susan)

6.9 Natural History Museum Committee (Ray)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Smith,
Secretary

Next regular meeting Jan. 8, 2012, 7:30 pm
MacVeagh House, Natural History Museum