

**Mission Canyon Association**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors**  
**June 2, 2015, 7:30 p.m.**

1. Call to order & introductions
2. Board Members Present: Richard Axilrod, Alex Feldwinn, Darby Feldwinn, Kellam de Forest, Barbara Lindemann, James Madison, Ray Smith, Kevin Snow, Alastair Winn, Karl Hutterer  
Board Members Absent: Richard Solomon, Hugh Twibell, Jean Yamamura  
Guests: Luke Swetland, Steve Windhager, Jay Higgins & Drain Bon (Verizon), City Fire Man (name?), Larry Thompson
3. Minutes of the Mar. 3, 2015, April 7, 2015 and April 29, 2014 meetings  
Accepted as written
4. Treasurer's report (Read on January, April, July, October), Jean Yamamura
5. Old Business
  - 4.1 Museum of Natural History update (Luke Swetland)  
Luke announced a special exhibit, Largest Shark that Ever Lived. Also, the Wine Festival is scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> June. He reported that all events are under control.
  - 4.2 Botanic Garden update (Steve Windhager)  
Steve reported that they would be going to the Historic Landmarks Advisory Commission on 10 June. The County HLAC will review and provide comments on the proposed redesign of the homeowner's demonstration garden and modification of the pavers throughout the historic area of the Garden. The Garden is seeking input from HLAC prior to finalizing their plans. And construction is moving on the new Horticulture Building and he is offering tours of the construction for anyone interested (after 4pm).  
Steve also reported that he is heading the submission of a proposal, "Oak Woodland Restoration for a Fire-Wise Wildland Urban Interface", to be submitted to Cal Fire by the end of June. This proposal is a collaboration between Steve Windhager, Ph.D. (Executive Director, SBBG), Max Moritz, Ph.D. (UC cooperative Extension, Ecosystem Science Division, Environmental Science, Policy, & Management Department, UC Berkeley), Ray Smith, Ph.D. (Chair, Fire Committee, MCA and Prof. Emeritus, UCSB), and Lisa Stratton, Ph.D. (Director of Ecosystem Management, Cheadle Center for Biodiversity & Ecological Restoration, UCSB).
6. New Business
  - 6.1 Jay Higgins from Verizon, gave a discussion on the various methods available for achieving better cell phone reception in Mission Canyon. Verizon guests also included, Drain Bon (radio engineer) and a fireperson from City Fire Department. A critical reason for working to enhance service for voice and data within the Canyon is that emergency services (Fire, Sheriff, Medical Response, etc.) are

relying on comprehensive cellular coverage to allow 911 system services that will require additional (better) coverage and bandwidth. Jay Higgins noted there are two ways to achieve these improvements: 1) add small repeaters & power supplies to a number of existing (brown) utility poles; 2) place a new tower within the Canyon. Option #1 is not very efficient and would lose cell service in wildfire if the poles were lost. Option #2 is touted as the superior option but the downside is that the cell tower has to be put somewhere. Verizon has approached the Garden for possible tower location. Steve is agreeable, as long as it is approved by the MCA Board, but he opined that he would not be particularly accepting of an artificial tree – as a cell tower – within the Garden. It was noted that Option #2 would be the preferred solution in case of an emergency. It was also noted that the permit time for approval of either solution would be roughly 2 to 3 years. Much discussion ensued and will be continued at a further date.

Ray was given homework to check with County Fire to see what priority they gave to enhancing cellular improvement within Mission Canyon.

5.2 Helicopter to be stationed in Santa Barbara, via private funding (Larry Thompson) Larry give an overview discussing the need for raising money to support a helicopter stationed within the county front country. The cost would be roughly \$1.2M/year. It was not clear how high a priority such an effort would be for County Fire or how such an effort would be integrated into their operations. Questions and discussion followed. Subsequently it was voted that Barbara would write a letter to Larry saying that we did not support such an effort at this time and until further specifics could be provided.

5.3 County Fire Department's brush clearing grant (Ray)

Ray reported that the brush clearing grant work was delayed because the Fire crews had responded to and were continuing to work on clearing the oil spill on our beaches. Brush related work should begin when the oil clearing is finished, presumably by the end of June or early July.

5.4 Election of officers (Nominations welcome)

President, Barbara Lindemann  
Vice President, Laurie Guitteau  
Treasurer, Jean Yamamura  
Secretary, Ray Smith

It was with great enthusiasm that members agreed that current officers would be stuck with these positions for yet another year.

5.5 Review committee assignments.

Committees and committee assignments were reviewed and discussed. Mission Canyon Association Committees for 2015 were assigned and are included as an attachment to these minutes.

5.6 April meeting with Supervisor Carbajal (Barbara)

Barbara reported on the April meeting with Supervisor Carbajal. It was noted that improvement of cellular service within the Canyon is an important issue (see discussion above). Our next meeting with Salud will take up, once again, the issue of illegal parking within the Canyon.

6. Additional Committee Reports (as needed)

- 6.1 Newsletter (Jean Yamamura, Laurie)
- 6.2 Architectural Design Review (Hugh Twibell)
- 6.3 Parking & Traffic (Dick Axilrod)
- Finance committee (James)
- 6.4 Land Use Committee (Kevin Snow)
- 6.5 Membership (Laurie)
- 6.6 Fire Committee (Ray, Laurie, Jean)
- 6.7 Botanic Garden Advisory Committee (Darby Feldwinn)
- not needed any more – SW -
- 6.8 Garden Whys Committee (Susan Davidson)  
resigning from the board
- 6.9 Natural History Museum Committee (Kevin)
- 6.10 Mission Heritage Trail Association (Alastair Winn, Karl Hutterer)
- 6.11 Web site (Alex Feldwinn)

Next meeting, July 7, 2014  
7:30 MacVeagh House  
Natural History Museum

Respectively Submitted

Ray Smith, Secretary