

Mission Canyon Association
MINUTES
February 7, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

1. Meeting called to order by President Karl Hutterer.
 - 1.1. Board Members Present: Karl Hutterer, Erika Sharghi, Ray Smith, Sandy Robertson, Hugh Twibell, Laurie Dahl, Kevin Snow, Kellam de Forest, Alex Feldwinn, Darby Feldwinn
 - 1.2. Board Members Absent: Richard Solomon, Barbara Lindemann, Laurie Guitteau, Jean Yamamura, Jason Saltoun-Ebin
 - 1.3. Guests: Steve Windhager, Tim Owens
2. Minutes of the January 3 meeting — approved as presented.
3. Treasurer's report (Read on January, April, July, October), Ray Smith. No report this month.
4. Old Business

4.1 Museum of Natural History update (Luke Swetland). Luke Swetland was absent but he emailed a brief report to Karl. Karl summarizes that there is nothing new to report with the Museum this month — business as usual.

4.2 Botanic Garden update (Steve Windhager). The Garden has submitted for changes to the CUP. This is based on meetings that they had with community members over the past year to discuss the proposed changes and get input from community members. The Garden has completed all of the preliminary studies requested by the County and they have applied for the CUP changes. Steve has a redline version of the CUP changes that the Garden is requesting if anyone is commissioning right now. Also, the Garden has opted out of putting the new Verizon cell phone tower or transmitter on their property. They received too much negative feedback from community members, so they opted out.

4.3 Meeting with Das Williams on February 27th, 1 pm. This is the first regularly scheduled meeting for the MCA with Das Williams. Agenda items for this meeting include (1) Requesting that the County work with the City to create a relief (bathroom) station for hikers, (2) Discussing the sheriff meter maid to police parking on Tunnel Rd.. Jeremy (Salud's assistant) set this up before he left, but no meter maids have started working yet.
Darby informs everyone that there is currently a port-a-potty at the trailhead, and Ray reports that it is still there (from its previous use for a construction project) because it has a flat tire. Steve mentions that the County has approved regulations for composting toilets, which are available at a price of \$30,000 for a single unit. The Garden is considering putting one on its property. The County might be per-

sueded to pay for one to put at the Tunnel Rd. trailhead, if the City would allow it on their property. Steve understands that the maintenance is very infrequent — he knows of one at a San Francisco-area park that has been there for two years and hasn't yet needed maintenance.

4.4 Sheriff's Tech. Before he left for Washington DC, Jeremy (Salud's assistant) arranged for the sheriff meter maids to police parking on Tunnel Rd.. No meter maids have started working yet. If they haven't started by our scheduled meeting with Das Williams on Feb 27, Karl and Ray will bring it up.

4.5 Mutt Mitts (Ray). The new mutt mitt box is in and neighbors are giving positive feedback about it.

5. New Business

5.1 Dues for 2017 (Laurie Guitteau). Laurie G has to send out the annual MCA Dues Notice soon. She sends out a list of MCA accomplishments over the past year along with the dues notice, in order to justify the dues. She would like our input on additional accomplishments to add to this notice. The Board's suggested additions are as follows:

(1) Add information about how we are working with the Architectural Review Board to implement the Mission Canyon Community Plan and Design Review Guidelines; (2) Add information about our donations to the Museum and the Garden; (3) Add information about the sheriff's technician that we got to police parking on Tunnel Rd.; (4) Discuss the Annual Meeting that we host, and the speakers who attended last year; (5) Several board members concur that we should leave off any information about the Mission Heritage Trail Association; (6) Add information about the chipping (Ray said he will get more information on this topic); (7) Add information about how we worked with the County Supervisor about parking and safety throughout the Canyon; (8) Add information about how we are working to get someone from the Arts Department to have an office that is permanently situated in the historic building in Rocky Nook Park.

5.2 Proposed sale of buildable lots on East Alamar. Karl was contacted by someone with questions about 3 lots that are for sale at the top of Alamar. They are not in the MCA jurisdiction, but are just adjacent to it. It is 33 acres total, with a large house and an equestrian facility, and the property is offered for sale in total or divided into three parcels. Each parcel is zoned A1, which means that a custom house can be built on each land. Buyers would have to build a road and extend the utilities. It is City land. Tim Owens, who lives on Ben Lomond Drive, is present at the meeting. He says that he is the one who brought this issue to Karl's attention, and reports as follows: He and his neighbors who live on Ben Lomond Drive have the following concerns: Impediment of the neighbors' views, adjacency to the City water reservoir, and sewer issues. There is also a substantial

equestrian property on the land. Tim reports that in 2004 the owner attempted to subdivide it into 24 lots, but that plan was rejected by the City. He thought that it might be something for the Santa Barbara Land Trust to look at, if the MCA brought it to the SB Land Trust's attention. Karl and Tim discuss that the land is very steep (possibly 35-40 degrees), and Hugh mentions that he believes that the City won't let you build on land steeper than 30 degrees. Kellam discusses that it might be possible to make an egress out of Mission Canyon on this property. Ray wrote a similar email on this topic, discuss egress through this property via Palomino Rd.. Ray thinks that there is a County easement on the west side of Palomino Rd., that might allow for an easement if someone buys the property and builds a road. Another issue that Tim is concerned about is the "public view corridor" issue, if the buyers proposed building houses on top of the hill. Hugh reports that the City has a special "hillside division" that is very restrictive. Ray suggests that we have our Land Use Committee keep track of what is happening with the land, and then we can have input if we chose as things progress. Kevin (Chair of the Land Use Committee) and Tim will work together on doing research on this issue.

5.3 Fire Protection issues and updates (Ray). The Fire Safe Council has been very active and Ray has the following report: The Mountain Area Condition Committee (MACC) is attending to make a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). When the MCA did one, we got a lot of flack from the EDF. There was a critical question as to whether you had to do an environmental impact report when you write the CWPP or when you finally have money to implement the plan. The consensus was that it is the latter — you can write your CWPP, and then once you have money you can do your environmental impact study. The County said that our CWPP set up the procedure for how CWPP's should be created and approved, and that is the procedure that the MACC will need to follow. The Fire Safe Council agreed to support the MACC in their CWPP. That is where this issue stands right now.

The Fire Safe Council discussed a new fire and emergency detection system. SB and SLO County are working in support of a multi-hazard resource public safety system, which is a network with detection poles and cameras that can be inputted with information about seismic activity, fire activity, and weather information to predict the pattern of fires. It has been in place in San Diego for several years, through at least half a dozen fires, and has been very successful. The fire sniffers that we had put in place in the County are no longer functional. The County and the Office Of Emergency Services never received the data from the fire sniffers. The County is now focused on the multi-hazard system instead. Ray is trying to get a hold of the County employee in charge of this matter. Ray wants to know if we would like him to give a presentation to the MCA Board. Ray will also inquire about how much the detection poles (which operate the system) cost. This would either be owned and operated by County Fire or the Office Of Emergency

Management — Ray is not sure which one. Karl suggests that someone consider going to San Diego to see the system and a network report, before the MCA considers investing in it. Several Board members express interest in having a presentation from the County employee in charge of this plan.

Ray said that the CWPP needs updating every 3-4 years. Our CWPP was started in 2008, and finalized in 2011. When Montecito did theirs, they hired fire experts (Geo Elements in Utah) to do it. Ray contacted Geo Elements and they told him to look at what pieces are missing from our CWPP (that are present in the Montecito CWPP), and they can give us an update on what it would cost to update ours.

Ray has been talking with Rob Hazard. One year ago Rob got a grant that paid for brush clearance and chipping along the roads in the Canyon. This was possible largely because we had a CWPP in place. Ray asked him how we could create a sustainable brush clearance activity, similar to last year, where residents put their brush along the road on a certain day and the County comes and chips it and clears it. Rob suggests a ‘Memo of Understanding’ with the County, where the County agrees to cover some of it because of the \$137 annual fee that Mission Canyon residents pay to the County. Rob will provide an estimated annual cost for this ‘brush clearance day’ to Ray, which he will present to the Board. Several Board members are in favor of an annual, reliable brush clearance day.

5.4 Looking ahead to 2017. At the last meeting we discussed things the MCA wants to do proactively this year. Ray suggested looking at the Mission Canyon Community Plan to discuss open items, which he and Barbara did in the interim since last month’s meeting. Today Ray, Kevin, and Karl met with Daniel Cleman from County Long-Range Planning on this issue as well. Mr. Cleman explained the particularities of the County budget for Long-Range Planning, which ends up with about 27% for discretionary new items. Mr. Cleman said that three items that they might propose to the Planning Commission for this discretionary spending are: marijuana regulation and land use issues; new housing density laws from the state that fall to Long-Range Planning; the County hasn’t conducted a circulation element (traffic and parking) since 1980, so a new one is warranted. Our MCCC has several open issues to do with circulation elements, and ingress and egress into the Canyon. Mr. Cleman suggested that we write a letter to Long-Range Planning with our suggestions for this discretionary spending, and we submit the letter before the April hearing with the Planning Commission. He also said it would be useful for us to attend the April hearing and articulate our concerns to the Planning Commission. Karl said that the issue of the Mission Canyon corridor and widening the bridge was not discussed.

Alex asks if MCA has any interest in supporting the cell phone tower in the Botanic Garden. Steve said that he would have to take that issue to his Board, stating that the MCA is requesting that a cell phone tower be placed in the Garden, on top of an existing building. Verizon said that they could put small cells

(in lieu of an actual tower) on the new Garden building. Some discussion ensues about the survey that the MCA conducted about a cell phone tower last year, and about the pros and cons of having a cell tower in the Canyon.

6. Additional Committee Reports (as needed)

6.1 Mission Heritage Trail Association/Safe Passage (Erika Sharghi)

6.2 Mission Canyon Brush Cleanup and Chipping (Ray Smith)

6.3 MCA web cam

6.4 Newsletter (Jean Yamamura)

6.5 Architectural Design Review (Hugh Twibell)

6.6 Parking & Traffic (Barbara Lindemann)

6.7 Land Use Committee (Kevin Snow)

6.8 Membership (Laurie Guitteau)

6.9 Fire Committee (Ray Smith)

6.10 Web site (Alex Feldwinn)

Next Board Meeting: March 7, 2017, 7:30 pm, MacVeagh House, Natural History Museum