

Mission Canyon Association
MINUTES
March 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, Laurie Dahl, Alex Feldwinn, Darby Feldwinn, Richard Solomon, Barbara Lindemann, Laurie Guitteau, Jason Saltoun-Ebin, Kevin Snow
 - 1.2. Board Members Absent: Jean Yamamura, Hugh Twibell, Sandy Robertson, Kellam de Forest
 - 1.3. Guests: Steve Windhager, Luke Swetland
2. Minutes of the February 7 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).** Business as usual. Great visitation. No issues.
 - 4.2 Botanic Garden update (Steve Windhager).** The Beer Garden event is this month on March 25. It is already sold out.
The Garden is in the final stages of getting approval for the horticultural garage on a site near Las Canoas.
Steve met with several neighbors on Mission Canyon Road who are bothered by a light coming out of the Pritzlaff Conservation Center at night. Steve is working with them to find a solution.
Finally, the Garden recently submitted their Annual Report to the County, and it is available for anyone who would like to peruse it.
Also, congratulations to the Garden on being awarded 'Santa Barbara Water Heroes'.
 - 4.3 Meeting with Das Williams on February 27th, 1 pm (Karl).** The Exec Board had their first regular meeting with Das Williams. Karl, Barbara, Laurie G, and Ray attended.
Das agreed to attend the MCA's annual meeting in April. He also suggested that the Fire Chief attend the annual meeting.
The Exec Board asked Das about the sheriff's technician (approved in last year's County budget as a new position) to monitor parking on Tunnel Rd. The technician has not been hired, and Das thought it was highly unlikely that the technician will be. The County budget is struggling this year, so this is a likely cut. Das said that he would try to argue in favor of it, but it is unlikely. Ray suggests that we forward the letter from Hugh Twibell re the recent fire on Tunnel Rd. to Das Williams, in support of our need for a technician.

The Exec Board discussed the issue of parking on Tunnel Rd with Das, to make sure that he is aware. They also discussed residents' concerns with hikers, and a possible portapotty at the trail head. They did not discuss a composting toilet. Ray also gave Das a briefing on the polyphagous shot hole borer. Das is very concerned about the location services on cell phones, in the context of emergency services. He said that the way the calls are routed, the emergency services people often get incorrect locations. Das wants to instigate a major restructuring of the call system. There are currently seven different locations for dispatchers, and they can't see each other. They are hoping to model the new system after Ventura.

4.4 Proposed sale of buildable lots on East Alamar (Jason). 902 and 905 E. Alamar are currently in escrow. Those are the properties with the big unfinished house, and the adjacent parcel. There are still 30 more acres for sale. There are issues with the certificate of compliance for the remaining acres, regarding whether or not the existing build able portions could be further subdivided, and how this would impact land stability, views, drainage, etc. A neighbor is working diligently with the City to resolve these issues. Karl will contact the Santa Barbara Land Trust regarding this parcel, and their potential interest in it.

4.5 County Fire chipping program (Ray). Rob Hazard is trying to get a memo of understanding with the MCA where the MCA would pay every year to get the fire department to do the brush clearance.

5. New Business

5.1 Appointment of new Secretary

5.2 Annual meeting April 4, 2017 at 6:30pm. Das Williams and Fire Chief Peterson will be in attendance. Also a local arborist will attend to discuss bugs. Several Board members are up for election this year - Darby, Alex, Barbara, Richard, and Kevin, so we will hold an election at the meeting.

On a separate note, the Dues letter is going out this week. Laurie G will send out a postcard for the annual meeting too.

Laurie G is preparing the quarterly newsletter, and Karl suggests that we have Sarah York write up a short blurb about the new Arts office that is going into the Rocky Nook cottage.

5.3 Meeting with County ARB re Architectural Design Review

(Kevin/Richard). Kevin and Richard are meeting with the BAR on March 17 to discuss the County's misinterpretation of our Mission Canyon Design Guidelines. They suggest including information about the Guidelines in our quarterly newsletter.

There is also concern about the garage conversion on Cheltenham, and whether there will be adequate parking if the garage is converted.

5.4 Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer (Ray). These are bugs that are attacking trees in the Canyon. They bore into the bark and also open the trees to fungus, which ultimately kills the trees. If you have a contaminated tree, there is a specific way to get rid of it so that it doesn't spread to other trees in the neighborhood. They suspect that this is spreading because of fire wood being transferred around the County.

5.5 Central Coast Alert System (Ray). The Central Coast Alert System is moving forward. Ray is meeting with interested parties, including a UCSB participant and the Radio Club, to discuss it at the location on the Mesa.

5.6 MCA Liability Insurance (Ray). The insurance is for our monthly and annual meetings. It is \$700 a year.

6. Additional Committee Reports (as needed)

6.1 Mission Heritage Trail Association/Safe Passage (Erika Sharghi). The MHTA sent out an email for annual dues. The MCA contributed in prior years. The institutional membership fee is \$500 for membership and Board representation. There is a motion for the MCA to renew our membership. The Board votes unanimously to renew our institutional membership. Last year institutional members included the three neighborhood associations (Mission Canyon, Riviera, Upper East), the Museum of National History, the Women's Club, the Mission, and Mt Calvary.

Erica reads an article that she wrote detailing the current status of the bridge rehabilitation program, and the MHTA's impact therein. She also points out a link that shows the current plans for the bridge design, which she will forward to the Board.

Erica presents a document that she drafted entitled "Finding Common Ground Between Organizations" regarding an attempt to find shared ideas / solutions between the MHTA and the Coalition. In terms of current agreed-upon action items, a member of the MHTA will contact the Parks Department regarding removing the chain link fence.

The MHTA is also doing a walkabout with Das Williams on April 6.

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). We have cancelled the Dynamic DNS weather system.

6.11 The recent car fire on Tunnel Rd (Hugh / Barbara). Hugh sent an email regarding the recent car fire on Tunnel Rd that blocked Tunnel Rd for 45 minutes. Hugh wants us to contact the County about the safety concerns inherent in this issue. Various solutions are discussed, but the consensus is that we really need the sheriff's technician to police parking at the trail. Ray points out that the Mission Canyon Community Plan offers several proposed solutions to the parking problem. We will forward information about the car fire incident to Das. One year ago the MCA put out 200 mutt mitts per month — today we are putting out 400 mutt mitts per week. Traffic on the trail appears to have radically increased. Karl will also send information to Das about the mutt mitt statistics, car statistics, and portapotty suggestion.

Next Board Meeting: April 4, 2017, 6:30 pm (Annual Meeting), Natural History Museum