

Mission Canyon Association
MINUTES
June 5, 2018, 7:30 p.m.

1. Call to order & introductions at 7:30 by President Hutterer
Members present: Karl Hutterer, Erika Sharghi, Alex Feldwinn, Darby Feldwinn, Ray Smith, Sandy Robertson, Richard Solomon, Hugh Twibell, Jean Yamamura, Jason Saltoun-Ebin, Laurie Guitteau, Kellam de Forest, Kevin Snow, Barbara Lindemann
Member absent: Laurie Dahl
Guest: Luke Swetland

2. Minutes of the May 1 meeting
M Smith, S Robertson, unanimously approved as read

3. Old Business
 - 3.1 Museum of Natural History update (Luke Swetland)
The summer show opened on Memorial Day in the auditorium, and the grand opening of refurbished exhibits was held on June 2; Puesta del Sol will be closed for resurfacing in the coming week; about 8 weeks of work remains on the back of the museum, and then work will be done.
 - 3.2 Botanic Garden update (Steve Windhager)
Reported to the Board by email and read by acting President Hutterer:
 - a) Our submittal to the County to modify our CUP (summary attached) was submitted May 15. This change request includes changing our construction phasing from 2 phases to 3 phases.
 - b) Initial design concepts for our horticultural building at the Garden. The Garden met with the MCA Architectural review board and later some of our immediate neighbors to begin getting feedback on our next building that the Garden will be taking on. If we can get approval to change the construction phasing, this building is likely more than 4 years off. If we cannot get our phasing changes we will need to begin construction within 2 years. I have been told by staff that they do not think the phasing change will be a problem. We showed two alternative designs to the MCA board and our neighbors and the unanimous option was to move forward with an option that places the horticulture building adjacent to our conservation center on the East side of Mission Canyon, in a partially buried building with our nursery options on top as a green roof of sorts. If there is time at the July MCA meeting, I would like to make a 5 minute presentation on this next construction project and solicit some feedback from the board.

3.3 Meeting with Das Williams May 22, 2018

Karl Hutterer reported: Present: Das Williams, Emilie Elzein, Ray Smith, Barbara Lindemann, Kevin Snow, Karl Hutterer

a. ADU exception for lower Mission Canyon:

Das reported that, contrary to earlier information from planning staff, the California law regarding ADUs does not provide for exceptions, even for areas covered by a community plan that predates the state law, until the county has passed relevant regulations. The County BoS session dealing with the regulation is scheduled for July 10.

b. Traffic restrictions for large vehicles at upper Mission Canyon Rd.:

Barbara reported that she had spoken to Gary Smart about moving the sign at las Canoas Rd. to below the junction of Mission Canyon and Tunnel Roads but that nothing has happened yet. Das texted a reminder immediately.

c. Parking enforcement on county roads:

Ray reported that at a meeting of the Fire Safe Council, he told the meeting about the traffic problems at Tunnel Road created by hikers and that the county's hiring of sheriffs who are patrolling the road and are authorized to write parking tickets is providing some relieve. Others at the meeting spoke up to say that they, too, had similar problems in their areas and are hoping that they also can get some parking enforcement. Das cautioned that only two sheriff's technicians have been authorized and hired so far and that these additional staff resources are not really enough to cover the whole county. The plan is that, eventually, ten more sheriff's technician positions may be created as a means to relieve some of the budget crunch by filling some of the open sworn officer positions with civilians.

d. Port-a-potty at Tunnel Road trailhead:

Barbara and Ray reported that the port-a-potty is working well and is well used. The monthly cost is about \$180 for the port-a-potty and about \$20-\$30 for the associated trash and recycling cans. Das is hoping that he can cover at least half that cost out of a budget allocation to his office.

e. Establishment of an HPWREN:

Ray reported that at the Fire Safe Council Battalion Chief Rob Hazard had discussed County Fire's interest in installing in Santa Barbara a new fire surveillance system, the High Performance Wireless Research and Education Network that has been tested and installed in San Diego. The system would consist of a set of high quality cameras, one on each peak (MCA has committed to paying for one of the cameras), and a small weather station on each power pole. The latter will record extreme wind

conditions and shut down the grid if winds exceed a threshold. Efforts are underway to get SoCal Edison to share in the cost of the system, and the question was raised whether the cost of the system could be covered as part of the judgment expected in the case against Edison in the Thomas Fire. Ray is hoping that the system might be active by the end of summer.

f. MCA position regarding the proposed Mission Bridge study:

We discussed with Das that both members of the MCA board and residents of the canyon hold a diversity of opinions about the nature and severity of traffic problems in the corridor across Mission Bridge, whether something should be done about them, and whether the historic bridge is truly untouchable in any possible changes to the corridor. Das reported that he has been lobbied heavily by both sides.

3.4 Letter to Botanic Garden re cell tower No report.

3.5 Brush Cleanup Fire crews are delayed in completing the work because they were on a fire call. They will complete the work when they can. In the turn out area just below the Y intersection of Mission Canyon Rd. and Tunnel Rd. someone has been dumping material that cannot be chipped: rocks, grasses, lumber, big tree trucks, palm trees. No one knows if canyon residents are responsible for this dumping. The MCA will have to pay to have the material hauled to the dump. Next year: specify that people have to put material in their own driveways, so that they can be held responsible for what is there.

3.6 Mission Heritage Trail Association

Erika Sharghi reported: Noozhark has a good report on the May 22 City Council meeting when the council voted to select the engineering group to study what can be done with the Mission Canyon historic bridge and to proceed with the contract. There will be many opportunities for community input as options are presented. County is in partnership with the City in the effort to investigate problems and as solutions are recommended. Richard Solomon expressed concern that the city engineer, Rob Dayton, has said that he thinks the curve is dangerously tight, and that this will predispose the final decision, out weighing public opinion. Lively discussion ensued.

Richard recommended that we have a full Board discussion about the bridge sometime in the fall.

4.7 Coalition to Preserve Mission Canyon No representatives. Expect a report in July.

4. New Business

4.1 Increase in City of SB water and sewage rates

Tim Owen emailed the Board about his concerns about the Santa Barbara City's proposal for increased rates for sewage and water; and Marborg's significant rate increase. Karl recommended that we talk with someone in the City for

accurate information about how rates are set and what the rates are. Karl and Jason will invite someone to speak to our Board.

5. Additional Committee Reports (as needed)

5.1 Mission Canyon Brush Cleanup and Chipping (Ray Smith) See above.

5.2 Newsletter (Jean Yamamura)

5.3 Architectural Design Review (Hugh Twibell)

The committee reviewed the proposed building for the Botanic Garden that will provide offices for maintenance crew, storage, and classroom. The building will be underground, with greenhouse on the top, all that will be visible.

Expressed some concerns to Steve about a window that would reflect light at night.

5.4 Parking & Traffic (Barbara Lindemann)

County Traffic Engineer Gary Smart has ordered new signs to be posted at the stop sign at the Y intersection. Under the stop sign on Mission Canyon Rd., the current sign that says, "look for left turning cars," will be replaced with, "Oncoming traffic does not stop." On Mission Canyon Rd. below the intersection, the current sign that says, "oversized trucks not recommended on Las Canoas Rd. will be replaced with a sign to the effect that, "oversized trucks not recommended beyond this point."

Supervisor Williams has drawn from his office budget to deposit \$1,020 in the MCA account, to contribute toward the cost of the porta potty in the parking area along upper Tunnel Rd., used especially by hikers on the public trail. That amounts to \$85 a month for 12 months.

5.5 Land Use Committee (Kevin Snow)

5.6 Membership (Laurie Guitteau)

5.7 Fire Committee (Ray Smith)

Fire service has gotten a pool of cap and trade money. Jean and Selden Edner started working on a grant application for brush abatement in Mission Canyon. The deadline for this year's application just ended, but they could be prepared for next year. They are also working on an appendix as an update to the Mission Canyon Wild Fire Protection Plan.

5.8 Web site (Alex Feldwinn)

Minutes taken by Barbara Lindemann.

Next Board Meeting: July 3, 2018, MacVeagh House