

Mission Canyon Association Minutes
January 8, 2019

1. Meeting called to order by President Jason Saltoun-Ebin

1.1 Board Members Present: Jason Saltoun-Ebin, Laurie Guitteau, Karl Hutterer, Alex Feldwinn, Darby Feldwinn, Sandy Robertson, Ray Smith, Jean Yamamura, Hugh Twibell, Barbara Lindemann,

1.2 Board Members Absent: Kellam de Forest, Erika Sharghi, Richard Solomon, Nancy Weiss, Kevin Snow

1.3 Guests: Steve Windhager, Dwayne Bonham

2. Minutes:

The minutes of the December 4, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved as presented; Laurie Guitteau moved, Ray Smith seconded.

3. Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Ray Smith presented the quarterly treasurer's report. The Association's accounts showed an end-of-year cash balance of \$34,560.46. This cash balance remained after Ray purchased a \$10,000 CD at the beginning of December. The board unanimously approved the report; Laurie Guitteau moved, Barbara Lindemann seconded.

5. New Business:

Sandy Robertson introduced Dwayne Bonham from Verizon for a renewed discussion of possible technical solutions to improving cell phone reception in the canyon. Dwayne had visited with the MCA board about 4-5 years ago to explore options for erecting a cell phone tower. None of several possibilities considered at the time proved feasible because of a diversity of concerns expressed by residents. Dwayne came to the meeting to discuss the possibility of installing equipment on existing utility poles.

Dwayne noted that Verizon remains interested in improving capacity and quality of reception of cell phone communication in the canyon and that the company is committed to work with communities to meet their needs, interests, and concerns. Regarding cell phone transmission equipment on power poles, Dwayne had several concerns: utility poles are flammable and too small to merit special protection during wild fires; equipment installed on poles needs battery backup in case of power shutdowns during wildfires or otherwise; and the capacity and quality of service provided by such equipment is inferior to that of regular cell towers. Thus, he considers equipment installed on power poles as a solution of last resort.

The conversation then turned to an extended renewed discussion of potential sites for cell towers in the canyon and the criteria for such sites. At the end, three options seemed to emerge: the site containing the water tank at the end of Tunnel Road, owned by the city's Water District; the staff parking lot above the Botanic Garden's Pritzlaff Conservation Center; and a lot owned Dan Meisel and protected by the

Land Trust for Santa Barbara County. Dwayne was asked to conduct a new survey of these and potentially other sites and return to the MCA board with a list ranking the sites according to how well they would meet Verizon's criteria. Sandy Robertson will be his contact with the MCA Board.

4. Old Business

4.1 Luke Swetland was not present but submitted a report about the Museum of Natural History. The museum's Fleischmann Auditorium will be closed from mid-February through November for much needed maintenance and repairs. Almost all the work will be in the interior, except for a termite tenting, a repainting of the exterior, and replacement of the end-of-life roof. A small area of the parking lot will be taken up by a construction trailer.

4.2 Steve Windhager reported on current activities at the Botanic Garden. The Garden's final proposal for revisions of its CUP is expected to be on the agenda of the Planning Commission meeting on February 27. Steve will alert the MCA board when the agenda is finalized.

4.3 There was no meeting with Das Williams in December, and none is scheduled during January.

4.4 Discussion with Verizon representative: reported under 'New Business' above.

4.5 Mission Heritage Trail Association: Karl reported that the Association has suspended regular monthly meetings and is focusing instead on providing timely and accurate information about issues and developments regarding the corridor to the community.

4.6 Undergrounding on power lines: no updates

4.7 Investment of some MCA funds: report under 'Treasurer's Report' (#3) above.

4.8 Car decals: Jean Yamamura reported that the decals are in design. They were given to MCA members many years ago when they could make a difference for residents seeking to go home during a fire alert. There was a discussion about what the purpose of the decals was and how to distribute them. It was decided that they should be distributed at the Annual Meeting as a recognition of members.

4.9 Annual Meeting: it was decided to hold the 2019 Annual meeting on May 30th at the Santa Barbara Woman's Club. The Woman's Club will charge a \$350 rental fee plus a refundable cleaning/damage deposit. Laura Capps has committed to speak about current environmental challenges in the context of

climate change; Rob Hazard from the Fire Department will speak about fire issues.

4.10 ADU at Arriba Way: Barbara reported that she has spoken to concerned neighbors. They have found that the application has significant faults and will challenge the permit on those grounds. She recommended that the details of the County's ADU policy for Mission Canyon be discussed at the next meeting with Supervisor Das Williams.

6. Other Committee Reports:

6.3 Architectural Design Review: Hugh Twibell reported briefly on plans for construction projects on Cheltenham and Puesta del Sol.

6.4 Parking and Traffic: there was a discussion about the status and plans for the replacement of a fence on the east side of lower Mission Canyon Rd.

6.7 Fire Committee: Ray reported that the camera purchased by MCA as part of the High Performance Wireless Research and Education Network coordinated by UCSB will be installed in the next couple of weeks.

Minutes prepared by Karl Hutterer
Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Lindemann, Secretary