

Mission Canyon Association
Minutes of the Board Meeting
February 4, 2003

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mission Canyon Association, a California corporation, was held at the McVeigh House at the Museum of Natural History on February 4, 2003, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Present were Ray Smith, Tim Steele, Randy Reetz, Charles De L'Arbre, Gillian Launie, Jenny Cushnie, Kathy Koury, Bob Maloy, David Lebell, Dorothy Vea and Nancy Bertelesen. Absent were Mark Carr, Tom Jacobs and Ralph Daniel. Paulina Conn also attended.

Ray Smith chaired the meeting. The minutes of the preceding meeting were approved, subject to correction of typographical errors. Gillian Launie's Treasurer's Report, including a Cash Flow Statement for CY 2002, was approved as submitted.



President Smith and Secretary Reetz presented Paulina Conn with a certificate evidencing her Honorary Directorship in the Association, given in "recognition of exceptional service to the land and people of Mission Canyon", in regard to her successful efforts to landmark the key elements of the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden.

April 22d is the date designated for our Annual Meeting, to be held again at the Natural History Museum -- possibly in the small lecture room, or else in a suitably configured Fleischman Auditorium. The consensus of the Board is to structure the presentation around several issues of interest to Mission Canyon residents: The proposed sewer extension; legalization of granny units and other now-illegal rentals, annexation to the City of Santa Barbara, the elimination of noxious land uses, possible architectural standards and guidelines (particularly in regard to McMansionization of the Canyon), fire safety, and, of course, the Botanic Garden.

Jennie Cushnie advised the Board that the City Fire Department is now weighing in on the fire risks that new projects might generate, as a factor to be considered in their approval or disapproval. The County may well consider a similar approach.

Dr. Smith advised that the Geography Department may be able to provide an intern and technical assistance in developing guidelines for the "size, bulk and scale" of new residences in the Canyon.

Mr. Reetz updated on the progress of the proposed new Mission Garden, saying that he had in hand four possible plans, including plans featuring fountains and trees. Tom Nelson's very professional design, including a tree and



grading work, and a contribution from an Atlanta-based garden designer featuring a fountain (with a solar powered pump?) captured the Board's interest.

Tim Steele reported on the Penfield & Smith meeting on the feasibility of extending sewers into Service Area 12. Area 12 is the so-called "maintenance area" in the Upper Tunnel Road area which is presently served by septic systems. As presently conceived, Area 12 would be divided into four districts – the southern section up to Chip Marsh's house; the mid-Tunnel area up to Holly Road; the Upper Tunnel area up to and around Orange Grove; and the western section including the 1165 Tunnel Road community. Before initiating the study, public outreach efforts will be made and residents will be offered a chance to input their views. Tim Steele noted that the sewer extension for the Botanic Garden expansion, to be financed by the Garden, will involve lines with a capacity to meet only the Garden's needs, and neighbors would not be able to piggyback on to the Garden's extension.

Dr. Smith reported on the mountain bike discussions. The Tunnel Trail has been identified as the most hazardous mixture of hikers, bikers and equestrians, even to the point where horseback riders are now avoiding Tunnel Trail altogether. A survey will be conducted to determine the seriousness of the mountain biking problem, with hikers and others being asked to relate their experiences on the trail.

Dr. Smith spoke with Abe Leider, the planner assigned to the Botanic Garden's pending CUP application. Abe says that he has heard nothing from the Garden, but expects a resumption of dialog by April of this year.

The Board also considered and discussed the following topics of interest:

- The County's apparently sincere effort to correct the egregious land use violations by Philip Mira, on his property at 1091 Palomino Road. (Reetz)
- The gaping hole left by Cox Cable at the Tunnel / Mission Canyon intersection, created when Cox decided to place its switcher box elsewhere (Steele).
- The night sky phenomena now occurring in Mission Canyon (Smith).
- Promotion of memberships through ads and solicitations (Maloy, Del'Arbre).
- The Fire Safe Council's request for funding for an additional chipper. (Cushnie)
- The recent requests by Mission Canyon landowners for our ABR's approval of new garages, and the often overlooked problem with turnarounds being eliminated. Mr. Steele commented that applicants should be pre-advised that garages cannot replace turn-around areas, and thus save themselves time and expense in pursuing developments that will not be approved.
- Mr. Reetz advised that the next Newsletter edition will be presented prior to the next Board meeting.

The meeting adjourned early at 9:00 pm. The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, March 4th, 2003 at 7:30 pm.

Randy Reetz, Secretary