

Mission Canyon Association
MINUTES
July 7, 7:30 p.m.

Minutes by Laurie Guitteau

1. Meeting called to order by Jason Saltoun-Ebin:
 - 1.1 Board Members Present: Alex Feldwinn, Darby Feldwinn, Erika Sharghi, Hugh Twibell, Jason Saltoun-Ebin, , Kellum de Forest, Kevin Snow, Laurie Guitteau, Nancy Weiss, Ray Smith, Sandy Robertson, and Seldon Edner
 - 1.2 Board Members Absent: Jean Yamamura
 - 1.3 Guests: Luke Swetland, Steve Windhager, Rondi Guthrie, Jenny McGee, Jason Carson, Hazem Gabr, Teresa Escobar, Barbara Lindeman, Mark Chytilo, Kadie McShirley

2. Minutes of June meeting approved
 - 1st: Ray Smith
 - 2nd: Selden Edner
 - All approved

3. Treasurer's report approved (Erika)

We started with \$57,146.19 and ended with \$ 51,170.80. We receive \$1534 from Membership and Donations. We spent \$7,513.18 on Membership Mailing, PO Box renewal, Vegetation Chipping, Utilities, Supplies (see attached Treasurer's Report)

 - 1st: Erika Sharghi
 - 2nd: Ray Smith
 - All approved

4. Old Business
 - 4.1 Museum of Natural History update (Luke)

Luke stated that the Museum is two weeks behind SBBG and has profited from their experiences in reopening. After beginning with visits exclusively to members, outdoor spaces only will open July 8 to the general public Wednesdays through Sundays from 11:00 to 3:00 with reservations available online.
 - 4.2 Botanic Garden update (Steve)

Non-members have been allowed entrance to the SBBG for two weeks, though it was not advertised. On July 8 the Garden will officially open to the general public. Instead of reservations, the parking lot will be monitored. If too many people try to come to the Gardens the monitor will be turn them away before the get out of their car. Members only are allowed in from 9-10 Friday through Tuesday. Entrance for non-members is capped at 80; up to an additional 20 member can enter the Gardens for a max cap of 100 people.

On July 17, a member/neighbor gate on Tunnel Rd will be opened with signage explaining the requirements for entrance. This will be monitored carefully before opening other neighbor entrances.
 - 4.3 Meeting with Das Williams
No report

4.4 Efforts to add Verizon service to Canyon (Sandy)

Sandy Robertson reported that a letter has been sent to the Board of the Botanic Garden explaining the proposed site for a Verizon cell tower. The Board will meet with the Verizon representatives. Steve warned that there are still serious concerns among his staff.

4.5 Heritage Trail Association (Erika)

No report because they did not have a meeting

4.6 Insurance update (Nancy)

Reported there will be a Town Hall with Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara on July 8.

5. New Business

5.1 Update from SCE on next steps.

See attached SCE Presentation. During the presentation, the following questions were raised:

- Several members questioned how the guzzler truck actually functions and how dust would be controlled.
- Tree injury and future mortality was also raised as an issue. Would SCE use County guidelines if any trees did need to be replaced in the future?
- A commitment to the non-smoking requirement and enforcement was given.
- Many questions were raised about traffic control during the trail closures. Closures are expected to be limited to Monday through Friday, though some weekend closures may be required.
- It was suggested that enforcement personnel be placed in the area where potential hikers park to remind them that the trail is closed before they get out of their cars to try to mitigate anger that often is taken out on residents near the trailhead.

Construction is expected to take 40 days. SCE hopes to complete it by mid to late October, but no date has been set for construction to begin due to pending permits.

6. Additional Committee Reports

6.1 Mission Canyon Brush Cleanup (Ray)

All work is completed and paid for.

6.2 Newsletter (Jean)

No report

6.3 Architectural Design Review (Hugh)

Hugh reported problems with many large homes proposed in the Heights. Hugh works with helping residents direct their comments and concerns to Santa Barbara's Board of Architectural Review and the Planning Department, which finally seem to be responding to MCA's BAR input.

6.4 Parking & Traffic (Jason)

No report

6.5 Land Use Committee (Kevin)

Kevin noted continued questions and complaints about short-term rentals in MC. The rules state that they are allowed only where the owner is in residence, but there is much confusion and little enforcement. Enforcement is complaint driven so we need to encourage people to complain when appropriate. This topic was suggested for future newsletter.

6.6 Membership (Laurie)

No report

6.7 Fire Committee (Ray)

Selden noted that Santa Barbara City has a tax that funds the brush abatement program in the city and wondered why MC did not since the City does surround MC. The history of failed attempts at instituting a tax was briefly cited. Using our dues to pay for the chipping program is the current solution, but a tax would be ideal and is something that should be investigated.

6.8 Website (Alex)

No report

6.9 Tunnel Trail (Nancy)

The Balancing Project ideas emailed earlier (see attached copy) to the Board by the committee working with SCE were discussed. Marc Chytilo explained the concept. Darby proposed that installation of a compostable toilet near the water tower be submitted as a balancing project. Because of the lateness of the hour, Ray moved that the working group continue to work on balancing projects. The motion was seconded and passed.

1st: Ray Smith

2nd: Darby Feldwinn

All approved

Next Board Meeting: August 4, 2020 (The August 4th meeting was cancelled. Next meeting on Sept. 1, 2020)