

**Mission Canyon Association**  
**MINUTES**  
**10/5/2021, 7:30 p.m.**

**Minutes by Jean**

1. Call to order & introductions (Jason Saltoun-Ebin)
  - 1.1. Board Members Present: Alex Feldwinn, Darby Feldwinn, Erika Sharghi, Hugh Twibell, Jason Saltoun-Ebin, Jean Yamamura, Nancy Weiss, Ray Smith, and Seldon Edner
  - 1.2. Board Members Absent: Kevin Snow and Laurie Guittea
  - 1.3. Guests: Luke Swetland, Steve Windhager, Peter Kornbluth (Citizens for Fire Safety), Kadie McShirly, Matthew Kay, Alan Ebenstien, Lorie Kelly, Matthew Kay (Citizens for Fire Safety)
  
2. Minutes of September Meeting Approved
  - 1<sup>st</sup>: Hugh Twible
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Erika SharghiAll approved
  
3. County Update: Supervisor Das Williams/Kadie McShirley  
N/A
  
4. Museum of Natural History Update: Luke Swetland
  - Repairs to the bridge are complete and the HVAC project is almost done.
  - School groups started coming back
  - Weekend attendance is good
  - They are doing an art show and sale for the next 5 days.
  - Tribal Arts in december
  - Sea center still closed for repairs
  
5. Botanic Garden Update: Steve Windhager
  - Hoping to bump CUP to 130,000 for 2021
    - Steve/SBBG Asking for a letter of support from MCA
  
  - MCA will put a letter of support for raising the attendance for 2021 to 130,000
    - Ray Smith put forth the motion
    - 2nd Hugh Twibell
    - Motion approved
  
6. Treasurer's report (if needed): Erika Sharghi  
We started with \$47,563 and ended with \$52,267.29 . We received \$190 from membership and donations. We spent \$5,503.15 on communications, insurance, trash/recycling/porta potty, vegetation management, and web hosting.
  - 1<sup>st</sup>: Ray Smith
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Darby FeldwinnAll approved

- Paypal transaction costs rose Aug 2nd to 3.49% +49 cents (from 2.9 +30 cents)
- Union bank will be acquired by US Bank
- Move to a new bank? Decided to wait until another meeting
- Ray may the request to purchase more Mutt Mitts for \$260, approved

## 7. New Business

### Coalition presentation. (Alan "Lanni" Ebenstein)

- He was happy that the City Council voted to do nothing to bridge
- He wanted everyone to know that there is no malice to the other side and wants to work with one another to see project moving forward
- Three steps and will reach out to mission heritage trail association
- Will reach out to fred sweeney explicitly
- Short term: improve mount drive intersection which include biking and walking
  - Bridge approve pedestrian access and make ADA
  - Better stripping
  - Crosswalk needs to be restriped
  - Put in a blinking light for pedestrians
- Intermediate 1-5 years
  - Improve easter side pedestrian bridge, might not be attached to current bridge
  - Screening/painting of the pipe
- Long 5-10 years
  - Improve the bridge and debris basin
  - Add debris basins
  - Develop a west side pedestrian access that does not move mission canyon road or move any walls
  - Do not want to move Mission Canyon Road because of the deed of Rocky Nook Park says we might not be able to change what land is used for
- This area (mission, natural history museum, and gardens) is so valuable it should get international recognition like unesco and it would take at least 5 years. Some coalition members are working on this.
- They want better treatment of the reservoir ruins. They feel that there is nothing like this west of the Mississippi and north of Mexico city. Want to take away barbed wire and chain link fences.
- Want to work with others to find solutions.

### 7.1. Seminary Proposal

- Matthew and Peter oppose this and are helping raise community support
- Read in the press that there was a plan to develop a high density facility at the old seminary
- Decided to organize as fire prevention, problems with evacuation and emergency access
- The facility is a good idea in the wrong location

- Hope for a broad-based opposition to this project
- Talked to city council briefly in public comments but he felt that they felt they did not hear them
- Put fliers on mailboxes
- This group is known as “Citizens for Foothill Fire Safety”
- There is a ticking clock on this because the deposit on the property has only 32 days left
- The property is in the city district 4.
- For more questions contact Matthew Kay [cffscontact@gmail.com](mailto:cffscontact@gmail.com)
- Das’s office is aware of the situation and they know that it might be better if there is more transportation and services by this facility.
- Other concerns from the board. How will they evacuate 200 people if there is a fire? Will there be vehicles on site? Can people leave the property
- In 1962 the county offered a conditional use permit and the CUP (was for 80 full time students and a 40 staff). Within a year it was annexed into the city. By ~1988 the seminary was closed but still owned by the archdiocese and they would have retreats there for students and couples. Around 2015 the archdiocese sold to “Access Rehabilitation” (proposed: 40 patients and 24 staff) the residence did oppose it and the city supported this use. Then it went into foreclosure, likely because they would have to bring it up to code. Then owned by a bank in Texas. They have been doing work on the property and have been adding fire sprinklers and might be replacing windows. Probably trying to get it up to code. Now they want 200 mentally ill homeless and an untold number of staff.
- Their position: good idea, bad location.
- Would like to request the county to do an evacuation study because they will have to evacuate over county land. Asked Kadie to look into this as well.

## 8. Committee Reports

### 8.1. Mission Canyon Brush Cleanup and Chipping: Ray Smith

- Fire Safe council are working to make a strategic plan
- Want a regional wildfire mitigation plan that will bring all of the community wildfire plans together to get a comprehensive report.
- Want to be a “FireWise Community” this could help to lower insurance rates for people in the community
- Fire Safe Council and County Fire are working on securing grant money for fuel removal

### 8.2. Newsletter (Jean Yamamura)

- If you have suggestions for the newsletter send them to Jean.

### 8.3. Architectural Design Review: Hugh Twibell

- Got a set of plans for a house on montrose; looks pretty good.

### 8.4. Parking & Traffic: Jason Saltoun-Ebin

- Pretty quiet, got a letter from the county, someone from Cheltingham put up a no parking sign in front of their house and they sent them a letter that they need to remove it.

- 8.5. Land Use Committee: Kevin Snow
  - N/A
- 8.6. Membership: Laurie Guitteau
  - N/A
- 8.7. Fire Committee: Ray Smith and Selden Edner
  - N/A
- 8.8. Website: Alex Feldwinn
  - N/A
- 8.9. Tunnel Trail Working Group: Nancy Weiss/Selden Edner
  - Mitigation projects offered by SCE: some trailhead improvement, larger turnaround, and road ways. All project would help circulation
  - SCE got permits
  - Trying to figure out how to work with SCE and how to hold them accountable and not sure if they are being a good partner.
  - Friends of Mission Canyon has also gotten involved in the issue.
- 8.10. MHTA/Historic Bridge Update
  - Thanked those that went on the “walk-about”

Board went into executive committee meeting

Ray made a motion:

MCA will file an appeal against SCE permit for the Goleta Santa Barbara road repair project to try to force SCE to do a full environmental review of both their road project and the restoration project to make sure that all impacts are mitigated (habitat, visual, water quality, recreational). We will give the executive board the ability to distribute up to \$7,000 to be used for the filing fee and technical consultants.

2nd Jason

Next Board Meeting: 7:30 pm on November 2, 2021, via Zoom