

**Mission Canyon Association**  
**MINUTES**  
**3/1/22, 7:30 p.m.**

**Minutes by Alex Feldwinn**

1. Call to order & introductions (Jason Saltoun-Ebin)
  - 1.1. Board Members Present: Alex Feldwinn, Darby Feldwinn, Erika Sharghi, Hugh Twibell, Jason Saltoun-Ebin, Kevin Snow, and Ray Smith
  - 1.2. Board Members Absent: Jean Yamamura, Laurie Guitteau, Nancy Weiss, and Seldon Edner
  - 1.3. Guests: Steve Windhager, and Kadie McShirley

2. Minutes
  - 1st: Darby
  - 2nd: Kevin
  - All approved

3. County Update: Supervisor Das Williams/Kadie McShirley

Das will have monthly meetings with SCE which start this month.  
SCE sounds like they want to meet with MCA or the working group because they think there has been miscommunications.

The DA was looking into the illegal grading at 1100 tunnel and decided to turn it over to CDFW (California Department of Fish and Wildlife) because of the environmentally sensitive habitat that is being affected.

4. Museum of Natural History Update: Luke Swetland

*"We remain open 6 days per week – Wed. through Mon.,  
10:00– 5:00.*

*As in January, we have a quiet level of attendance during  
the week and average attendance on weekends.*

*School group visits are on site 2 – 3 mornings per week.*

*SBCC Astronomy students on site 4 evenings/week.*

*Star Parties are starting up again, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat of month,  
7:00-10:00 pm*

*March 21 – 25 Spring Break Camps*

*The Museum also signed on in support of the Cal Trout  
effort*

*After six months of repair and the installation of a new second floor exhibit, the Sea Center re-opens March 11 to members and March 12 to the public”*

5. Botanic Garden Update: Steve Windhager

Virtual Conservation Symposium on Saturday 10 am to 2:30 pm – “After the Fires”

<https://www.sbbg.org/classes-events/lectures-symposia/ninth-annual-santa-barbara-botanic-garden-conservation-symposium>

Back country is underway again. Worked out issues with the county. All permits should be in next week and are working on normal maintenance issues. Opening in early June to the public. The permits are only for an electrical line, composting toilet, and shed and these have not been started.

The neighbors are cornered with gate closure and trying to find a way to scan cards so that people with a membership can get in.

Also working on time ticketing. Want to have this in place by March. This means that if you are not a member you will need to have reservations in advance.

They had their busiest January and February ever.

Calfire got a 5 million dollar RMWV grant and the Garden is going to get some of this money for a study. A company called Signal will be distributing funds. The funding can only be done on private land so will most likely start at the Garden. The project is to make an “oak break” by planting oak trees, that will allow for higher biodiversity but also allow for a lower fuel risk. This will provide shades which will cut down on grasses and cool the fire down which will protect homes. Currently they are in the planning stage of the oak break. The Garden thinks for this to be viable they have to do this from acorns but they will also have to add other native plants while the trees grow. It will take the trees 20 -25 year to grow in and form the break. The Garden will also be looking for areas in higher elevation areas to try out as well. There will be a need for more money in about a year.

6. Treasurer’s report (if needed): Erika Sharghi

CD got renewed.

7. New Business

7.1. Renewal of State Farm general liability coverage

General liability coverage is due on april 2nd. Last year we paid \$500 but it was discounted because of COVID. Now back to what it was the year before.

Motion to renew coverage for another year at a cost of \$811.

1st: Erika

2nd: Ray

All approved

7.2. Annual meeting

Meet at the Garden, have an optional walk to the new Children's Garden, then have the meeting with a possible guest speaker. Start at 5:15 (right after the Garden closes) and then the meeting can start at 6:15 April 26 or May 3 would be the potential date. Need to think about snacks.

8. Committee Reports

8.1. Mission Canyon Brush Cleanup and Chipping: Ray Smith

- N/A

8.2. Newsletter (Jean Yamamura)

- N/A

8.3. Architectural Design Review: Hugh Twibell

- Two projects are coming up on Friday. Hugh has drawings for only one of them. It has been harder to get drawings from the county since they went to digital files.

8.4. Parking & Traffic: Jason Saltoun-Ebin

- No parking or traffic complaints lately
- Did not follow up yet on reducing the speed limits in the Canyon especially Mission Canyon Road below Foothill. Jason and Erica will set up a separate meeting with Gary Smart (county) to look into this.

8.5. Land Use Committee: Kevin Snow

- N/A

8.6. Membership: Jason Saltoun-Ebin

- Jason will coordinate with Lauria and take over as the chair of this committee

8.7. Fire Committee: Ray Smith and Selden Edner

- The FireSafe Council has been working on a grant. The county thinks the whole front county should be dealt with in the same way so this might change when we do the chipping.
- If we get certified as a "firewise community" (not sure who certifies this but it might be County Fire) then it can lower personal insurance rates. We need to have regional priority plans and education plans. The grants will also help with this. Which we are already doing. The people at the Trout Club have already done this so we are asking them for help so that we can do this for Mission Canyon.
- Hopefully Selden will take over the chair of this community as Ray starts to step down.

8.8. Website: Alex Feldwinn

- N/A

8.9. Tunnel Trail Working Group: Nancy Weiss/Selden Edner

- We are still waiting for an appeal date, to hear about the funding agreement and see SCE's latest version of the Creek Habitat Restoration Plan.

8.10. MHTA/Historic Bridge Update

- N/A

Next Board Meeting: 7:30 pm on April 5, 2022, via Zoom