

**Mission Canyon Association**  
**MINUTES**  
**Annual Meeting - 5/10/22, 7:30 p.m.**

**Minutes by Darby 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, Jean Yamamura, Kevin Snow, Nancy Weiss, Ray Smith and Seldon Edner
  - 1.2. Board Members Absent:
  - 1.3. Annual Meeting Guests: ~100 people
  
2. Voting of Members
  - 1.1 Per bylaws, actions requiring a vote of the membership to be decided by a simple majority vote
  - 1.2 Election of Board of Directors is by voice vote
  
3. Election of Board of Directors
  - 3.1. Re-election of Board of Directors for 3-year term (May 2022-April 2025)
    - i. Hugh Twibell and Jean Yamamura
  - 3.2. Re-election of Officers for 1-year term (May 2022-April 2023)
    - i. President: Jason Saltoun-Ebin; Vice President: Nancy Weiss; Treasurer: Erika Sharghi; Secretary: Darby Feldwinn.

1<sup>st</sup>: Ray Smith  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Alex Feldwinn  
All approved
  
4. County Update: Supervisor Das Williams/Kadie McShirley
  - The Supervisor board is a very diverse board but they cooperate a lot.
  - Good fiscal stability.
  - Going to an all-electric fleet in the county
  - Creating an electric vehicle plan
  - New human trafficking position
  - There was \$2 million left over on this year's budget and each person got to pick how to spend it. Das gave it to the Mission Canyon sewer project.
  - Want to be able to have firefighters on site on windy days to put fires down faster.
  - Working on flaws in dispatch systems for fire and EMS
  - Right now they are redoing the ambulance contract. One problem right now, the fire people do not know the resources that the AMR have or how many are available or response times by region. This is a problem. Before renewing our contract with ARM, we will get another bid. This is coming from a conglomerate of local fire agencies. They hope this will allow them to deliver better services.
  - County is trying to set up more homeless shelters. They have been housing people in hotels and have bought a property in IV. Bought a Super 8 and will turn into section 8 housing. Trying to create a continuum of facilities. If they want to make a significant dent in homelessness, they need about 450 temporary housing spots.

Now they have one in Santa Barbara and Santa Maria. They have made a dent in South County but have more young people slipping in, in the North.

- SB9 by right, allows lot splits. They are planning on putting in an ordinance for this area (not sure what exactly this will be).
  - Asked about undergrounding utilities. If the company does this, your electric bill goes up. Williams is also our energy provider because he is on the board of CCA . Doesn't like buying carbon offsets. Prefers instead buying contracts with 13 renewable energy providers. Plants for 60% renewables by 2025 and 100% by 2030. This will be 10 years before the state requirements go into effect. Provides energy cheaper than SCE.
  - Plenty of renewable energy between 10-4. Some days this has been up to 100%. 4-9 pm this drops a lot.
  - County encourages the use of incentives to purchase electric cars or have ways to install hookups at your house.
5. Museum of Natural History Update: Luke Swetland
- Luke could not be here tonight. Amy Carpenter is his representative.
  - Butterflies alive will be opening soon.
  - Rare earth is a gem and meteor exhibit that will be in Fleishman Hall. Some specimens from UCSB and their collections.
  - Moved the curiosity lab to the back yard.
  - Curiosity lab and gem & mineral labs are closed while being worked on.
  - Many full and part time job openings, paid and volunteers.
6. Botanic Garden Update: Steve Windhager
- "Backcountry" will open on June 6th and Steve and his staff gave a tour, before the meeting, to many people.
7. Rob Hazard and Anne-Marie Parkinson (first employee of Fire Safe Council)
- Trying to work on a day to do the annual chipping
- Anne-Marie**
- Wants to get Mission Canyon into the firewise USA
  - It is free and benefits are prioritization of funds from grants . 2) insurance benefits
  - Application process starts by organizing a board of residents. If residents want to join the firewise committee they can. 2) Next step is planning what homes will be in the group. 3) Divestment of risk. What percent of homes have double paned roofs, metal roofs, etc. 4) Develop an action plan.
  - One thing that they thought about is to get AirB&B people to give out fire tips via the app.
  - Need to do one community education event per year.
  - Each household has to do 1 hour per year (raking leaves and clearing gutters)
  - Report how much vegetation has been removed from your community.
  - Time commitment: application 1 per year for committee.
  - People not on committee just need to report hours and come to education events.

- To learn more about Firewise check out our website:  
[sbfiresafecouncil.org/firewise-usa/](http://sbfiresafecouncil.org/firewise-usa/)  
 Or contact the SBCFSC Community Wildfire Resilience Project  
 Manager: Anne-Marie Parkinson  
[aparkinson@sbfiresafecouncil.org](mailto:aparkinson@sbfiresafecouncil.org)

## **Rob Hazard**

- Talked about defensible space
- Complicated because defensible space also goes onto neighbors properties and further complicated by some the trails.
- His dad fought the coyote fire.
- He responded to the Jesusita fire and was at the end of Mission Canyon Rd.
- When the fire was at Inspiration Point, they thought that they were going to be ok.
- On day 2 it was mostly out-of-towner firefighters because the people from here were resting.
- At 2 pm that day the fire blew up. They were on Jesita lane and it was crazy. Then on Montrose Place, crazy firefight, everything was on fire. But they managed to hold it. If they weren't able to hold the fire on Montrose, it would have been a huge problem when it got into Mission Canyon Heights. The secret to doing this is defensible space and home hardening.
- The forest will burn again. The chaparral helps because otherwise we would have grass fires every summer. We want chaparral but not near houses.
- We do not need to do controlled burns because the fires in the area have done this in a patch work way for us.
- They have put in a few fuel breaks above the homes.
- Defensible space: 100 ft of defensible space, key.
  - They have found what causes fires to burn down homes. During wind driven fires the structure was ok and then fire ignited at the base of the home which allowed fire to burn into the walls and then into the home. So, people are recommended to have a fire break out five feet from their houses, with no mulch, chips, bark, or anything flammable)
  - Do not spread bark around your house.
  - In wind chambers tests, they found that embers are swirling around the house and near the foundation around 5 feet they start concentrating.
  - All the stuff within five feet will catch fire and then it gets inside into the framing.
  - 30 - 100 feet, weed, rake dry grass, thin chaparral and oak trees.
- Home hardening
  - Look at the exterior of the home and fix anything that makes it fire prone.
  - Non combustible roof and siding, double paned windows.
  - No eves.
  - Makes your home resistant to embers and high intensity heat
  - If you have an attic put screens on vents
  - The main fire risk is sundowners pushing the fire down. There is not a huge fire risk when there is little or no wind.
- There was a lot of work done to remove fuel near the trailhead.
- Challenges with sprinklers, need to turn them on remotely. Firefighters would turn them off because the hydrants would be dry and they need the water pressure. So you would need to put in a tank to store water if you want to add sprinklers.
- Do not stay when there is a fire. Jesita fire there were firefighters that were caught and that was bad.

8. New Business
  - 8.1. N/A
9. Adjournment

Next Board Meeting: 7:30 pm on June 14, 2021, via Zoom